

Committee: Council

Date:

Title: Proposed 2025/26 Licence Fees for Hackney
Carriage and Private Hire Drivers, Vehicles
and Operators

Tuesday,
25 February 2025

Lead Councillor Alex Armstrong,

Member: Chair of the Licensing and Environmental
Health Committee

Report Jamie Livermore, Senior Licensing &

Author: Compliance Officer, 01799 510326

Summary

1.1. At the Licensing & Environmental Health Committee of 21 January 2025, Members resolved to refer the approval of the proposed licence fees to full Council following the end of the consultation period.

Recommendations

2.1. It is recommended that Council approve the fees proposed in Appendix 1 to take effect from 1 April 2025.

Financial Implications

3.1. The Local Authority is required to review its fees and charges as part of its annual budget setting process. In accordance with both legislation and guidance, it is appropriate for fees and charges associated with the Licensing regime to be set as cost-recoverable.

Background Papers

4.1.

A – [Licensing & Environmental Health Committee 03 October 2024 Taxi Licence Fee Report](#)

B – [Licensing & Environmental Health Committee 21 January 2025 Taxi Licence Fee Report](#)

C – Local Government Association Guidance on locally set Licence fees (Dec 2023) [LGA guidance on locally set licensing fees | Local Government Association](#)

D – S70 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 [Local Government \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1976 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#)

Appendices:

- 1 –** Proposed taxi licence fees from April 2025
- 2 –** Responses and objections received from the public consultation

Impact

5.1.

Communication/Consultation	Statute requires notice of proposed changes to be published in at least one local newspaper for a period of at least 28 days.
Community Safety	None
Equalities	Any changes in fees must be communicated to all existing licence holders, and consultation on any proposed changes will be conducted with interested parties and the wider public to ensure there is an opportunity to contribute to any such decision.
Health and Safety	None

Human Rights/Legal Implications	The Local Authority is permitted to charge a reasonable fee for the grant of a licence with the view to recovering the costs of the issue, administration and supervision of such licences.
Sustainability	None
Ward-specific impacts	None
Workforce/Workplace	None

Situation

6.1. This report outlines the steps taken since the initial presentation of the taxi licence fee proposals at the Licensing & Environmental Health Committee meeting of the 3 October 2024, and to refer the approval of the fees to Council following the Licensing & Environmental Health Committee meeting of the 21 January 2025. Members may wish to refer to both reports, hyperlinked as **Background Paper A** and **B** respectively.

6.2. A table comparing the proposed fees alongside the existing fees is shown in **Appendix 1**, along with illustrations and explanations of the costs and income, and the reserve movements including forecasts of the current and next financial year. The licensing reserve holds the income that pays for the cost of work required in future years of Driver and Operator licences, which are generally issued for 3- and 5-year durations respectively

6.3. A public consultation ran for a period of 28 days – Thursday 7 November 2024 to Thursday 5 December 2024 - in line with statutory requirements and was advertised in the Dunmow Broadcast and Saffron Walden Reporter, the Council's website and through email correspondence to all existing licence holders.

6.4. A total of three objections were received to the proposed fees, all from licensed drivers. **Appendix 2** shows those comments and subsequent responses by Officers.

6.5. Members are advised to refer to **Appendices 1 and 2** for further information and clarification on Licence fee setting from the Local Government Association and Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 respectively.