

**TO: LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE  
9 JANUARY 2014**

---

**FEES AND CHARGES 2014-2015  
Chief Officer: Environment and Public Protection**

**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 Each service area is required to review the fees and charges it levies on behalf of the Council as part of the budget process. At its meeting on 10 October 2013 the Committee agreed certain fees which require a period of consultation in accordance with the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.
- 1.2 The consultation has been conducted and the Committee is required to consider any representations received and to set fees to be applied from 1 April 2014.

**2 RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 That the Committee considers any representations made and sets the fees to be applied to any new or renewed licence starting from 1 April 2014.**

**3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 3.1 The recommendations recognise restrictions placed by statute and the need for consideration of representations before a final decision is made.

**4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 4.1 If there are no representations then the fees agreed on the 10 October 2013 will be included with all other fees and charges and be put forward for public consultation by the Council.

**5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 5.1 Fees charged for the licensing of hackney carriages, home to school vehicles and private hire vehicles and operators are required by section 70 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 to be advertised and any representations considered by the Committee prior to any final setting of those fees.
- 5.2 A notice in accordance with the legal provisions was placed within the Bracknell and Wokingham Times published on 5 December 2013. In addition a notice was placed on the noticeboard within Customer Services at Time Square. The closing date for representations was 2 January 2014. This notice is attached as Annex A.
- 5.3 Any representations received will be presented on the evening of the Committee meeting and may be supported through public speaking.

**6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS**

Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 The legal provisions are contained within the report.

Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 For planning purposes it has been assumed that income from fees and charges will increase in line with the Council's general inflation forecasts i.e. averaging 2.5% over the three year planning period. General inflation is expected to be 2.5% for 2014/15.

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.3 There are no direct consequences in this report for any group.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.4 There are no issues to consider.

**7 CONSULTATION**

Principal Groups Consulted

- 7.1 Members of the public and the taxi trade were consulted through an advertisement in the local paper as legally required. In addition a notice with the same content as the advertisement was displayed in a prominent position within the Customer Services area of Time Square.

Method of Consultation

- 7.2 See paragraphs 5.2 and 7.1.

Representations Received

- 7.3 At the time of writing the report no representations had been received.

Background Papers

Fees and Charges 2014-2015 - Licensing and Safety Committee – 10 October 2013

Contact for further information

Robert Sexton

Head of Regulatory Services

01344 352580

[robert.sexton@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:robert.sexton@bracknell-forest.gov.uk)