

TO: LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE
24 October 2019

FEES AND CHARGES
(Public Protection Manager)

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

Fees and charges relating to licences and registrations are based on cost recovery, and should they not reflect the cost of providing the service, there is a risk of generating a surplus or deficit.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Committee resolves to recommend the fees to Council subject to:

1. Consideration of the outcomes of the statutory consultation on fees relating to Taxi and Private Vehicles and Private Hire Operators Fees.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 This report sets out the Fees and Charges which are to be proposed to and considered by the Joint Public Protection Committee.

Each service area is required to review the fees and charges it levies on behalf of the Council as part of the budget process. **Annex A** details the relevant information from report to be considered by The Joint Protection Committee for 2020/21. The fees include a new structure for those proposed under The Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations, the new licensing regime.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 It is open to Members to propose an alternative approach to fee setting.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 The Joint Public Protection Committee is required by the Inter-Authority Agreement that set up the Public Protection Partnership shared service to recommend a draft set of fees and charges to each of the member Councils.

It is noted that a significant number of fees within the licensing field are set by Government regulation and cannot therefore be changed by the Council. The full list is shown in **Annex B**.

As a matter of principle, all fees and charges should be set on the basis of full cost recovery. Also aligning fees across the 3 Local Authorities is proposed where appropriate, including a proposed single fee structure for hackney carriage and private hire. **Annex C** shows an example of the new and renewal for Private Hire Operator fees as well as the dispensation fees. **Annex D** shows an example of the proposed fees calculation for Boarding Establishments combined dogs and cats.

Unrestricted

In respect of all discretionary fees and the hourly rate, an inflationary % rise has been applied. This inflationary rise will balance the increase in cost of service provision such as the cost of living salary rise.

The Committee has discretion to round the proposed fees to the nearest whole pound should they so resolve.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

6.1 The relevant legal provisions are contained within the body of the report

Borough Treasurer

6.2 The financial implications are included within the body of the report.

Equalities Impact Assessment

6.3 There are no implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

6.4 There are no implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

7 CONSULTATION

Statutory consultation on Taxi and Private Hire Vehicles and Private Hire Operators will be conducted following the decisions of this Committee.

Background Papers

None

Contact for further information:

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