

REVIEW OF LICENCE AND REGISTRATION FEES 2024/5

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MEETING: LICENSING COMMITTEE

DATE: 29 NOVEMBER 2023

REPORT BY: LICENSING MANAGER

WARDS: ALL

COMMUNITY FORUMS: ALL

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**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To seek approval for revised licence and registration fees for 2024/25.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

Approval is given to an increase in fees and charges as outlined in Appendix A from 1 April 2024.

**3.0 BACKGROUND**

3.1 In accordance with the Council's financial regulations it is necessary for all fees to be annually reviewed.

3.2 The services relate to the regulation, control and administration of the following areas:

- Gambling Act 2005
- Sexual Entertainment Venues – Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982

3.3 For the Gambling Act, central government set a ceiling for fees and charges, these are outlined at Appendix A.

3.4 Fees for the Licensing Act 2003 are set nationally and cannot be altered by the Council.

3.5 Members are reminded that these are statutory services and as such are not subject to market forces. The Council has discretion about the setting of fees. Members are able to increase the fee for a sexual entertainment venue.

3.6 Inflation is currently running at approximately 7%, these increases are in line with that figure.

#### 4.0 **SCOPE**

4.1 An increase is required for all fees and charges in the current circumstances. A summary of proposed fees is provided at Appendix A, which sets out the fees and charges that were agreed in 2023/24 and the proposed increase; the figures have been rounded up or down to assist with cash handling.

4.2 Legal precedents dictate that licensing authorities should not make a profit from the delivery of these services.

#### 5.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 At present these budgets have averaged out to where there is a growing deficit, an increase in line with those proposed at Appendix A will move them closer to being cost-neutral.

#### 6.0 **RECOMMENDATION**

6.1 Approval is given to an increase in fees and charges, as outlined in Appendix A, from 1 April 2024.

Further information on this report can be obtained from the licensing manager,  
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