



Please ask for Graham Ibberson  
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The Chair and Members of Appeals  
and Regulatory Committee

26 October 2021

Dear Councillor,

Please attend a meeting of the APPEALS AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE to be held on WEDNESDAY, 3 NOVEMBER 2021 at 10.00 am in Council Chamber, Town Hall, Chesterfield, the agenda for which is set out below.

AGENDA

Part 1(Public Information)

1. Declarations of Members' and Officers' Interests relating to items on the agenda
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes (Pages 3 - 6)
4. Review of Licence and Registration Fees 2022/23 (A000) (Pages 7 - 14)

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Graham Ibberson".

Local Government and Regulatory Law Manager and Monitoring Officer



## **APPEALS AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, 17th March, 2021**

Present:-

Councillor A Murphy (Chair)

Councillors	Perkins	Councillors	Marriott
	Bellamy		Miles
	Bingham		Perry
	G Falconer		Rayner
	Flood		Redihough
	P Innes		Rogers

\*Matters dealt with under the Delegation Scheme

**25 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' AND OFFICERS' INTERESTS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

No declarations of interest were received.

**26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor S Niblock.

**27 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Appeals and Regulatory Committee held on 24 February, 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**28 REVIEW OF LICENCE AND REGISTRATION FEES 2021/22 (A000)**

Pursuant to Minute No. 10 (Appeals and Regulatory Committee), the Licensing Manager presented a report on representations received during the consultation on the proposed increase in taxi fees and charges from 1 April, 2021.

It was noted that the Appeals and Regulatory Committee, at its meeting on 25 November, 2020, had approved the proposed 3% increase in taxi fees and charges, subject to the outcome of consultation. A copy of the report considered by the Committee on 25 November, 2020, including a summary of the current and the proposed fees and charges and a comparison of fees charged by other Derbyshire authorities, was attached at Appendix I to the current report.

Seven representations had been received to the consultation, and these were attached at Appendix II to the current report.

It was noted that whilst the Covid-19 pandemic had resulted in financial difficulty for the taxi trade, the Council had, since the representations had been received, offered grants to licensed drivers under the delegated grant scheme, and that the fees and charges had not been increased since April, 2019.

**\* RESOLVED –**

That the proposed 3% increase in taxi fees and charges be approved with effect from 1 April, 2021.

**29 TAXI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (A000)**

Pursuant to Minute No. 8 (Appeals and Regulatory Committee), Councillor Caulfield, Chair of the Taxi Consultative Committee, and the Licensing Manager presented a report on the responses received from members of the Taxi Consultative Committee and relevant officers and partners as part of the recent review of whether there continued to be a role for the Committee and to determine the best practical approach for the future of the Committee.

It was noted that the Appeals and Regulatory Committee had considered the Taxi Consultative Committee's Annual Report for 2019/20 (a copy of which was attached at Appendix A to the current report) at its meeting on 25 November, 2020, including reference to the proposed review of the future role of the Committee.

A summary of the responses received to the recent review was attached at Appendix B to the current report. It was noted that whilst effective communication between the licensing section and the trade had successfully dealt with any issues since the last meeting of the Taxi

Consultative Committee in July, 2020, concerns had been raised that the Covid-19 pandemic had disrupted the normal working of the trade and that there may be opportunity for increased engagement with the trade, and with other partners such as the Police and the Highways Authority, again as recovery from the pandemic continued.

Members expressed their appreciation of the good communications established between the licensing section and the taxi trade and of the contribution of the taxi trade in respect of community safety issues and particularly enabling support to be provided to communities during the pandemic. It was therefore proposed that, in order to seek to develop a purposeful and meaningful consultative body, the future role and function of the Taxi Consultative Committee be further reviewed during the next three months whilst the scheduled meetings of the Committee were suspended and the appointment of the three trade representatives were temporarily extended beyond May, 2021.

**\* RESOLVED**

- (1) That the meetings of the Taxi Consultative Committee scheduled in April and July, 2021 be suspended.
- (2) That the appointment of the three trade representatives who had been involved in the Committee over the last two years and who had responded to the recent review be extended for a temporary period of six months from May, 2021.
- (3) That a further review of the future role and function of the Taxi Consultative Committee be undertaken during the next three months in order to seek to develop a purposeful and meaningful consultative body, and that the conclusions of the review be reported to the Appeals and Regulatory Committee.

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## FOR PUBLICATION

### REVIEW OF LICENCE AND REGISTRATION FEES 2022/23 (A000)

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MEETING: APPEALS AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE

DATE: 3 NOVEMBER 2021

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 2022/23.

#### 2.0 **BACKGROUND**

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

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

- Private Hire and Hackney Carriage fees;
- Scrap Metal collectors and sites;
- Miscellaneous licensing fees.

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

2.4 Fees under the Gambling Act and for sexual entertainment venues are considered by the Licensing committee.

2.5 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.

### 3.0 **SCOPE**

- 3.1 Council policy is to request an increase of 3%, but a 5% 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 2021/22 and the proposed increase; the figures have been rounded up or down to assist with cash handling.
- 3.2 At present these budgets have averaged out to the point where there is a slight deficit on the taxi budget and no material subsidy either way on the others. A 5% increase will maintain that position.

### 4.0 **EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS**

- 4.1 In December 2019 members decided to retain the limit of 110 hackney carriages. The committee also decided to commission another unmet demand survey in 2022, the survey to be funded by hackney carriage licence holders, for which licence holders are charged £10 at each six-month renewal.
- 4.2 The consumable licensing items are subject to price changes by our supplier. Appendix A shows the costs recharged on the current stock but prices will be adjusted when suppliers alter the costs to us.
- 4.3 Appendix B shows the comparison of taxi and private hire fees within Derbyshire but does not indicate what increase, if any, those authorities are proposing.

### 5.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 A 5% increase will enable the council to provide these services as close to cost neutral as possible.

### 6.0 **RECOMMENDATION**

- 6.1 Approval is given to a 5% increase in fees and charges from 1 April 2021.

<b>DRIVERS</b>			
<b>Licence type</b>	<b>Current fee</b>	<b>With 5% increase (rounded)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Application	217	228	
Renewal	217	228	
Application pack	68	71	
Knowledge test	52	55	
DBS disclosure	28	29	
Badge holder	4	4	At cost from supplier
Replacement badge	4	4	At cost from supplier
Lanyard	1	1	At cost from supplier
Dashboard badge holder	1	1	At cost from supplier
<b>VEHICLE</b>			
New application - Private Hire	155	163	
New Application - Hackney Carriage	155	163	No new applications anticipated due to limit set on hackney licences
Vehicle change	40	42	
Vehicle detail change	35	37	
Hackney survey fee	10	10	Tri-annual survey paid on licence renewal.
Renewal Private Hire	108	113	
Hackney Renewal	108	113	
Executive hire new application	70	72	
Executive hire renewal	63	66	
Front plate	9	9	At cost from supplier
Rear plate	9	9	At cost from supplier
Transfer	14	15	
Change of details	14	15	
Duplicates	1	1	Reduction in fee

<b>OTHER</b>			
Flexi plate front	3	3	At cost from supplier
Flexi-plate rear	5	5	At cost from supplier
<b>Licence type</b>	<b>Current fee</b>	<b>Rounded fee +5%</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Key/button set	2	2	At cost from supplier
Extension brackets	8	8	At cost from supplier
Q/L pouch	2	2	At cost from supplier
Back rear bracket	7	7	At cost from supplier
Back rear bracket kit	2	2	At cost from supplier
2XQ/L replacements	2	2	At cost from supplier
Dash pouch	2	2	At cost from supplier
Dash card	2	2	At cost from supplier
ABO signs	5	5	At cost from supplier
Security key	25p	25p	At cost from supplier
High bond pad	2	2	At cost from supplier
<b>OPERATORS</b>			
<b>Fee</b>	<b>681</b>	<b>715</b>	5 year licence
plus per vehicle	30	32	
vehicle test	60	60	Not CBC income
Retest – within 10 days	15	15	Not CBC income
Retest – after 10 days	35	35	Not CBC income
Limousine test	25	25	Not CBC income
<b>Scrap Metal</b>			
<b>Licence Type</b>	<b>Current fee</b>	<b>Rounded fee for +5%</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Site licence (3 yearly licence)	<b>450</b>	<b>473</b>	
Collectors licence (3 yearly licence)	<b>188</b>	<b>197</b>	
Addition of new site	<b>225</b>	<b>236</b>	
Change of site manager	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	

Add person to a site licence who has not previously been checked.	<b>73</b>	<b>77</b>	
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2022-23: Comparison of proposed fees with other Derbyshire authorities.

At the time of writing it is not known if other authorities plan to increase their fees.

Authority	Private Hire / Hackney Drivers Licence 3 years	Hackney Vehicle Licence	Private Hire Vehicle Licence
Amber Valley	£223	£338 (renewal) – 1 year £409 (new) – 1 year	£293.50 (renewal) – 1 year £409 (new) – 1 year
Bolsover	£180	£ 92 – 6 months	£92 – 6 months
<b>Chesterfield</b>	<b>£217</b>	<b>£155 new, £108 renewal 6 monthly</b>	<b>£155 new, £108 renewal 6 monthly</b>
Derby City	£289	£169 new & renewal – 12 months (Vehicles over 5 years old to be licensed every 6 months)	£83 new & renewal – 12 months (Vehicles over 5 years old to be licensed every 6 months)
Derbyshire Dales	£189	£351 – 12 months Includes annual & 6 monthly inspection	£351 – 12 months Includes annual & 6 monthly inspection
Erewash	£203	£325 – 12 months (includes 2 vehicle inspections per year) £260 – 12 months for low emission vehicle	£325 – 12 months (includes 2 vehicle inspections per year) £260 – 12 months for low emission vehicle
High Peak	£225	£180 – 12 months	£180 - 12 months
North East	£180	£92 - 6 months	£92 – 6 months

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