

## **FOR PUBLICATION**

### **REVIEW OF LICENCE AND REGISTRATION FEES 2016/17 (A000)**

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MEETING:	APPEALS AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE
DATE:	6 JANUARY 2016
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 2016/17.

#### **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:
- Animal welfare at premises providing accommodation for breeding or the sale of animals;
  - Businesses carrying out skin or body piercing, electrolysis, tattooing or acupuncture. Businesses who offer skin piercing services are required to be registered with the Council but this is a one-off payment;
  - 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 In line with advice on council policy a 3% increase is suggested for all fees and charges. A summary of proposed fees is provided at Appendix A which sets out the fees and charges that were agreed for this financial year and the proposed increases for 2016/17. The figures have been rounded up or down to assist with cash handling.
- 3.3 At present these budgets have averaged out to the point where there is no material subsidy either way. A 3% increase will maintain that position.

### 4.0 **EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS**

- 4.1 On 12 February 2014 this committee decided to retain the limit of 110 hackney carriages. The committee also decided to commission another unmet demand survey in 2016, 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 fees within Derbyshire for this year but does not indicate what increase, if any, those authorities are proposing.

## 5.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 A 3 % increase will enable the council to provide these services as close to cost neutral as possible.

## 6.0 **RECOMMENDATION**

6.1 From 01/04/16 a 3% increase in fees and charges is approved.

For further information on this report contact Trevor Durham, Licensing Manager, on (34)5203.