

WIRRAL COUNCIL

CABINET

12 MARCH 2015

SUBJECT:	PERIODIC REVIEW OF FEES FOR SCRAP METAL LICENSES
WARD AFFECTED:	ALL WARDS
REPORT OF:	STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION & ENVIRONMENT
CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDER	COUNCILLOR BERNIE MOONEY
KEY DECISION?	NO

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report requests Cabinet review and approve the schedule of fees for the administration and processing of applications under The Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 with effect from 1 April 2015.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 The Council are legally entitled to charge such a fee for licences that they consider reasonable with a view to recover the costs of administering the scheme and ensuring compliance.
- 2.2 Under the provisions of the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 the cost of a licence must be related to the cost of the licensing scheme itself. It is therefore appropriate for a local authority to recover their administrative and other associated costs.
- 2.3 Estimated costs to the Licensing Section of licensing Scrap Metal Dealers has previously been calculated as detailed in Appendix 1. A review of current costs has been undertaken and it has been identified that from January 2015 the licensing function will be subject to a 2.2% increase in staffing costs. Cabinet is therefore asked to approve an increase in the licensing fees for Scrap Metal Licences as detailed in Appendix 2 to reflect the increase in this cost of the administration.

3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

3.1 Fees that do not cover the costs of the administration of the Service can result in a reduction in staffing resources.

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 Maintaining the fees as they are which may not recover the staffing cost required to administer the Service.

5.0 CONSULTATION

5.1 There is no legal obligation to consult.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

6.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

7.1 There are cost implications to the Council in undertaking this legal duty and this is recognised in the legislation which gives provision for the Council to recover the costs of administering the scheme and to ensure compliance.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 Fees charged to applicants can be subject to legal challenge.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

No because there is no relevance to equality.

10.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no specific carbon reduction implications arising from this report.

11.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no implications arising out of this report.

12.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

12.1 That Cabinet agrees the fees for Scrap Metal Licences to be set as detailed in Appendix 2 of this report and for these fees to come into effect from 1 April 2015.

13.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

13.1 The Cabinet is required to approve Scrap Metal Fees.

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