

# WIRRAL COUNCIL

## LICENSING HEALTH AND SAFETY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

12 MARCH 2014

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>PERIODIC REVIEW OF LICENSING FEES FOR TAXIS AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES</b>
<b>WARD AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL WARDS</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION &amp; ENVIRONMENT</b>
<b>KEY DECISION?</b>	<b>NO</b>

### 1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 The purpose of this report is for Members of the Licensing Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee to review and approve the licence fees in respect of Hackney Carriage, Private Hire and Operators Licences with effect from 1 April 2014.

### 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 the issue and administration of the licence.

2.2 Under the provisions of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 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 The fees for Hackney Carriage, Private Hire and Operators Licences must be reviewed on an annual basis to determine whether the income received for the previous year has been in line with the cost of delivering the service.

2.4 The fees for the forthcoming year must take into account the current budget which projects a small surplus of income over expenditure of £2,660.

2.5 Members are advised that should there be a significant surplus or deficit then the fees should be adjusted accordingly to reflect these circumstances through a decrease or increase accordingly.

2.6 In view of the current projected balance Members are asked to approve that the current fees remain unchanged as set out in Appendix 1.

### 3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

3.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

### 4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 There is no provision for other options to be considered.

## **5.0 CONSULTATION**

5.1 There is no legal obligation to consult in the implementation of this legislation.

## **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 A decision of the Committee may 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 Planning implications arising out of this report.

## **12.0 RECOMMENDATION/S**

12.1 That Members of the Licensing Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee review and approve the licence fees as set out in Appendix 1 in respect of Hackney Carriage, Private Hire and Operators Licences with effect from 1 April 2014.

## **13.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

13.1 It is a statutory requirement for this Committee to review and approve the licence fees.

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