

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

LICENSING COMMITTEE

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976 &
TOWN POLICE CLAUSES ACT 1847**

**HACKNEY CARRIAGE & PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE
FEES AND PROCESS**

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To revise the licence fee for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Licences as a result changes to the way in which applications are processed.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Hackney carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Licences are issued in accordance with the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 and the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 respectively.
- 2.2 Section 47 and 48 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 states that both Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Drivers Licences shall be suitable in design and appearance and that vehicles should be fit, safe and comfortable for their intended use.
- 2.3 In order to determine that a vehicle is fit, safe and comfortable, vehicles are tested and inspected. The test for the vehicle is carried out by the Council's Fleet Services and inspected by the Licensing Team. Following the test and inspection a Certificate of Compliance is issued. The fee for the test and inspection is taken by the Licensing Team, who control the booking and administrative process.
- 2.4 It is proposed to change the booking and administrative process, splitting the test from the inspection. It is proposed that instead of the Licensing Staff booking all tests- proprietors will book directly with Fleet Services. The fee for the test will be paid at this time. Once tested, the proprietor will produce the complete Certificate of Compliance to the Licensing Team with the payment for the licence.

- 2.5 The revised process will result in a more efficient process and provide more flexibility for both the proprietors and Fleet Services.
- 2.6 As a result of the change in process, it is proposed to split the licence fee from the test fee. As a result, all the fees for hackney carriage and private hire vehicles will be reduced by £40.00- the cost charged to the Licensing Team for each test. The revised fees will be as identified in Table 1.

Licence Type	Grant	Renewal	Supplementary
HC Vehicle under 1 Year Old	£182	£225	N/A
HC Vehicle over 1 Year Old	£225	£225	£49
PH Vehicle under 1 Year Old	£176	£210	N/A
PH Vehicle over 1 year old	£210	£210	£49
Table 1			

- 2.7 As a result of the changes, all tests will be booked and paid for directly to Fleet Services.

3. **OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 3.1 Option 1 – To retain current process and methods of payment, including the current fees.
- 3.2 Option 2 – To approve the proposed changes including the revised fees.

4. **ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

- 4.1 Option 1 –. Maintaining the current process and fees will potentially mean that the current system will be unsustainable with current resources. .
- 4.2 Option 2 – The revised process will be more efficient and still protect the public who use licensed vehicles.

5. **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)**

5.1 Financial

5.1.1 The revised fee structure reflects the changes to the administrative process- which will result in the service being more efficient.

5.1.2 It is proposed that the fees for the licenses be as per Table 1.

5.2 Staffing

5.2.1 There are no staffing implications arising from this report.

5.3 Property and IT

5.3.1 There are no property or IT implications arising from this report.

6. **OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 - CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)**

6.1 Statutory

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976
Town Police Clauses Act 1847

6.2 Environmental and Other

6.2.1 There are no environmental or other implications arising from this report.

6.3 Section 17 Crime and Disorder

6.3.1 There are no Crime and Disorder implications arising from this report.

7. **OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION**

7.1 Consultation has been carried out with trade representatives, who are in agreement with the three year licences and the proposed phased approach.

8. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 That the Committee agrees Option 2 at paragraph 3.2 changing the fees to enable the revised process to be implemented.

DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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Date: 2 April 2012

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report – N/a