



Committee: LICENSING COMMITTEE
Date: THURSDAY, 8 JUNE 2023
Venue: MORECAMBE TOWN HALL
Time: 1.00 P.M.

A G E N D A

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Appointment of Vice-Chair**

To appoint a Vice-Chair for the duration of the 2023/24 municipal year

3. **Minutes**

Minutes of meeting held on 16 March, 2023 (previously circulated).

4. **Items of Urgent Business authorised by the Chair**

5. **Declarations of Interest**

To receive declarations by Councillors of interests in respect of items on this Agenda.

Councillors are reminded that, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011, they are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests which have not already been declared in the Council's Register of Interests. (It is a criminal offence not to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest either in the Register or at the meeting).

Whilst not a legal requirement, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9 and in the interests of clarity and transparency, Councillors should declare any disclosable pecuniary interests which they have already declared in the Register, at this point in the meeting.

In accordance with Part B Section 2 of the Code of Conduct, Councillors are required to declare the existence and nature of any other interests as defined in paragraphs 8(1) or 9(2) of the Code of Conduct.

Matters for Decision

6. **Vehicle Operation (Pages 4 - 11)**

Report of the Licensing Officer

Exclusion of the Press and Public

7. **Exempt Item**

The Committee is recommended to pass the following recommendation in relation to the following item:

“That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the ground that it could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information, as defined in paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A of that Act.”

Councillors are reminded that, whilst the following item has been marked as exempt, it is for the Committee to decide whether or not to consider it in private or in public. In making the decision, Councillors should consider the relevant paragraph of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, and also whether the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. In considering their discretion, Councillors should also be mindful of the advice of Council officers.

8. **Existing Dual Drivers Licence Holder** (Pages 12 - 67)

Report of the Licensing Officer

The press and public will be readmitted to the meeting at this point

9. **Licensing Fees and Charges 2023/24** (Pages 68 - 84)

Report of the Licensing Manager

10. **Chairs of Licensing Sub-Committees** (Pages 85 - 86)

Report of the Licensing Manager

11. **Taxi and Private Hire Working Group - Review and Appointment** (Pages 87 - 88)

Report of the Licensing Manager

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

(i) Membership

Councillors Sally Maddocks (Chair), Gerry Blaikie, Martin Bottoms, Phil Bradley, Claire Cozler, Andrew Gardiner, Erin Hall, Tim Hamilton-Cox, Shelagh McGregor and Margaret Pattison

(ii) Queries regarding this Agenda

Please contact Democratic Services - email democracy@lancaster.gov.uk.

(iii) Changes to Membership, or apologies

Please contact Democratic Support, telephone 582000, or alternatively email democracy@lancaster.gov.uk.

MARK DAVIES,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE,
TOWN HALL,
DALTON SQUARE,
LANCASTER, LA1 1PJ

Published 31 May, 2023.

LICENSING COMMITTEE**Vehicle Operation - May 2023****Thursday 8th June 2023****Report of Licensing Officer****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To inform the committee of the outcome from the recent unannounced checks carried out jointly with Licensing Enforcement Officers and DVSA on Licensed Hackney Carriages and Private Hire vehicles operating in Lancaster and Morecambe.

This report is public.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. The Committee is asked to note the outcome of the operation.**

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The undertaking of vehicle compliance and safety checks on licenced Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles is conducted from time to time, usually as a joint initiative with other agencies. The purpose of the checks is to determine whether the vehicle complies with the Councils standards for licensed vehicles and to assess road worthiness.

1.2 For the checks conducted on the 3rd May 2023 it was decided that no notice period would be given and therefore all vehicle inspections were carried out unannounced.

2.0 Purpose and extent of the vehicle checks

2.1 The operation was conducted in partnership with DVSA. The drivers of the vehicles were instructed on the day by Private Hire Operators, the Licensing Admin Team and Police Officers to attend the inspections carried out on the rear carpark of Morecambe Town Hall. Initially we planned to host the vehicle operation at Salt Ayre in Lancaster which is a central location. However, Salt Ayre have become busier since the previous vehicle operation was conducted and therefore our operation may have caused issues with customer parking.

Photographs of the layout of the Vehicle Operation at Morecambe Town Hall can be seen at Appendix 1 of the report.

2.2 The Licensing Officers carried out checks to assess compliance with the appropriate Council standards for licensed vehicles whilst the DVSA inspectors focussed on the mechanical roadworthiness of vehicles.

2.3 All vehicles that were either not operating on the day or due to time constraint could not attend are to be followed up and subject to inspection in the coming weeks.

3.0 Summary outcome

3.1 Summary of the main outcome from the operation.

Summary inspection results

- 83 individual vehicle inspections were carried out
- 30 Hackney Carriages and 53 Private Hire Vehicles checked
- Licensing staff issued 11 defect notices & 3 suspension notices
- DVSA issued 3 prohibition notices.

The majority of defects issued were in relation to the poor condition of door signs, expired fire extinguishers and damage to vehicle body work. A handful of vehicles were suspended due to more serious defects including illegal tyres. DVSA issued 3 x prohibition notices due to tyres being below the legal limit and an indicator not working.

At the time of writing this report of the 11 defect notices issued, only 3 defects are outstanding, and all suspensions have been lifted.

4.0 Feedback

4.1 Licensing Officers have received feedback from the DVSA Officer in attendance during the multiagency vehicle operation. **The feedback from the DVSA Officer can be located at Appendix 2 of the report.**

4.2 Licensing Officers requested feedback from a handful of licensed drivers in attendance on the day of the Vehicle Operation. **The feedback received from the licensed drivers can be located at Appendix 3 of the report.**

5.0 Conclusions

5.1 Licensing Officers and DVSA felt that by conducting the operation without prior notice to the trade provides more realistic results and contrary to what may be expected, significant complaints were not received from licensed drivers or operators at the time of the operation or in the days that followed. It was felt that had notice been given, the more serious defects such as illegal tyres, would not have been found.

- 4.2 It has been recognised by Officers that the next Vehicle Operation that is planned needs to be in a Central location to increase the number of inspections that are carried out on the day.
- 4.3 In addition to the vehicle operation that has been carried out, Licensing Officers are planning to carry out an operation for Private Hire Operators. This will involve Operators attending Morecambe Town Hall and presenting their operator records as required by their licence conditions. Officers will take this opportunity to provide supporting documents and advice/guidance to Operators that will assist them in being compliant. The outcome of the Operator Operation will be presented to Members within the Annual report in April 2024.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)

None

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial Services have been consulted and there are no financial implications.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Any person aggrieved by a condition attached to a licence has the right of appeal to the Magistrates Court.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

Contact Officer: Miss Sarah Jones

Telephone: 01524 582766

E-mail: sljones@lancaster.gov.uk

Ref: SLJ/VehicleOp

APPENDIX 1







APPENDIX 2

Vehicle Operation Feedback from DVSA Officer:

From: Wilson, Tony

Sent: Monday, May 15, 2023 10:17 AM

To: Jones, Sarah Louise

Subject: RE: Multiagency Vehicle Operation

Hi Sarah

Re Taxi operation 03 May 2023.

Overall, I thought that it was a well run and organised operation. The nice weather and staff helped. The location was not as originally planned and therefore I felt that it did have a negative effect on the operation. A central location would have probably meant more vehicles being inspected, although I think we did a pretty good job with the number of taxis that came.

The first 2 taxis inspected were issued with immediate prohibition notices. One had a tyre below the legal limit and the other a 19-plate taxi had 2 illegal front tyres.

A third taxi was issued with an immediate prohibition notice for an indicator not working.

It was a benefit only letting the taxi operator know that we were holding a check on the day. However, as the day went on, I did notice a significant number of taxis coming in that had had new tyres fitted.

The lack of Police presence probably had a negative effect as they can often pick up those reluctant to be inspected.

Regards

Tony Wilson | Vehicle Examiner

Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency

APPENDIX 3

Trade Feedback on Vehicle Operation

Leon Harpley' Vehicle Proprietor provided the following feedback: "It worked well on the day and was very quick". "I was happy to attend and the location worked well for me".

Steve Parker, Vehicle Proprietor provided the following feedback: "All good". "It was fine". "No problems and I was happy with how things worked out".

Collin Pye, Vehicle Proprietor provided the following feedback: "Location was good". "I was in and out." "The only thing that could be better next time is that my first aid kit and fire extinguisher was checked by Licensing Officers first then DVSA". "Rather than two lots of checks being completed it should just be one check".

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Licensing Committee**Licensing Fees and Charges 2023/24
– Consultation Responses****8 June 2023****Report of Licensing Manager****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of the report is for members of Licensing Committee to consider consultation responses regarding proposed licensing fees and charges, and set animal, miscellaneous and hackney carriage/private hire licensing fees and charges for 2023/24.

This report is public.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) Members are requested to consider the responses received as part of the public consultation, and;**
- (2) Set fees and charges for taxi/private hire licensing, animal related licences and all other miscellaneous licences administered by the licensing function of the Council. (Eg. Scrap metal/Tattoo/Street Cafes/Second hand dealers/SEVs).**

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This report is concerned with the setting of licence fees for the following licences.

- Driver, Vehicle and Operator Licences (Taxi and Private Hire)
- Transfer of Ownership and Change of Vehicle Licences
- Scrap Metal Dealers (Mobile and Site)
- Street Cafes
- Skin Piercing Registration (Personal and Premises)
- Sexual Entertainment Venues
- Sex Shops
- Boatman and Pleasure boats
- Second-hand goods dealer/Market trader
- Animal-related licences

The setting of such fees is a non-executive function and is therefore a matter for this Committee.

1.2 Licensing fees for taxi/private hire, animal and miscellaneous licensing are considered and set under the following legislation.

- Local Government Miscellaneous Provision Act 1976

- Local Government Miscellaneous Provision Act 1982
- Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013
- Highways Act 1980
- County of Lancashire Act 1984
- Public Health Acts amended Act 1907
- The Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018

2.0 Background

2.1 The Council's Fees & Charges Policy states that when setting discretionary charges, the general aim is to cover the cost of the service, accurately reflecting the full cost of provision including recharges. However, fees must be reasonable and proportionate. The fees and charges policy in relation to licensing fees offers a standard of good practice, although it is not legally binding on Licensing Committee.

2.2 It is also a requirement of the Council's fees & charges policy that fees be reviewed annually to ensure that costs are appropriately recovered. It is not lawful however, for the council to seek to make a profit from licence fees that are within its discretion.

2.3 Licensing fees have remained consistent with those set in 2019, when a full review of the service fees and charges were determined by the then, Licensing Regulatory Committee. The coronavirus pandemic followed in March 2020, during this time and to assist business recovery, fees set by Lancaster City Council were frozen, therefore no review of licensing fees and charges has been undertaken since 2019.

2.4 A full and detailed review of the current fee-setting framework has been undertaken by the Licensing Manager and Service Finance Officer. Including, time monitoring exercises, scrutiny of previous year(s) data and analysis of potential anomalies in projected figures and subsequent income.

2.5 Updated fees reflecting the review were proposed and considered by Licensing Committee in March 2023.

It was agreed "That licensing and miscellaneous licence fees would be increased, not by the recommended amount, but by 20% (to the nearest pound) now; and to affect a further increase in the following year with a view to achieving full cost recovery in 24/25, accepting that the fee increases may again be above inflation. The reason for the two-stage increase is to smooth the impact on the trade." and

"That the Committee approve the new licensing fees for animal-related licences as detailed in the review". (full cost recovery)

2.6 The proposed fees were advertised as required by s70 of Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1976 as part of a public and trade consultation. For completeness/transparency of process all fees subject to change were advertised as part of the consultation.

The advert was placed in the Lancaster Guardian, at both Morecambe and Lancaster Town Hall, Lancaster City Council website, additionally members of the licensed trade were invited to make comments on the proposed fees.

A copy of the consultation advert is attached at **Appendix 1**.

3.0 Consultation Responses

3.1 During the consultation period 10 responses were received, all from licensed hackney carriage or private hire drivers/operators. Each response raised an objection to the proposed increase in licensing fees.

Consultation responses are attached at **Appendix 2**.

3.2 In summary, those raising an objection to the fee increase felt that increasing the fees by 20% was too much and that it would have a negative impact on the licensed trade. Currently, there is a shortage of licensed drivers, increasing fees would further exacerbate the issue. Further comments are noted regarding poor levels of service and problems in contacting the licensing service.

3.3 No responses to the consultation were received from any miscellaneous, animal related licence holder or any other persons.

4.0 Options

The options available to members are twofold:

- i. To set fees and charges to allow for full cost recovery as proposed by the Animal Licensing Manager and Finance Officer for animal related licences.
- ii. Increase miscellaneous/taxi related fees by 20% as proposed, set out in **Appendix 1**, with a view to achieving full cost recovery by 2024/25.
- iii. Upon consideration of the consultation responses, members may wish to amend/maintain any licence fee as appropriate.

6.0 Conclusion

6.1 Licensing fees have been frozen since 2019/20, current fees and charges do not reflect the cost of running the licensing service. If current fees are maintained, the service would continue to run at a significant loss. The review and proposed increase in fees are necessary to balance the budget and cost of service delivery by 2024/25.

6.2 It is important to acknowledge the consultation responses and concerns of the those making representation. It has been widely reported that numbers of drivers both locally are nationally have reduced significantly, it is part of the licensing workplan for 2023/24 to increase driver numbers and work with internal/external partners to promote the profession. Furthermore, the private hire and hackney carriage licensing policy (adopted by this committee in April 2022) will be reviewed in the coming months, application standards will be reviewed as part of this process.

6.3 It is suggested by those making representation that the proposed fees do not represent the level of service expected by licence holders. It is important to highlight that the licensing service is not solely funded by taxi/PH and miscellaneous licence fees, the scope is wide and the workload ever increasing. Licence fees are set on a cost recovery basis, with the fee payable accounted for the time taken to process and administer each individual licence.

6.4 Members are requested to provide full and detailed reasons for their decision.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing):

None.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Legal Services have been consulted and have no adverse comments to make regarding the content of the report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Licensing fees have been frozen since 2019/20, The volume of licences also dropped over that period, but costs have continued to rise, consequently the Licensing function has been running at an average deficit of circa £80K pa over the period 2020/21 to 2022/23. It is not proposed to seek to recover the losses from previous years but set fees with a view to achieving full cost recovery. At present the fees for Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005 are set nationally so we are unable to recover any potential losses on these.

The fee income for the current year will be reviewed as part of the closure of accounts and the Council's usual monitoring arrangements with any significant variances being reported as appropriate.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Licensing Committee March 2023

- Proposed Licensing Fees 23/24
- Review of Licensing Fees for Animal-related Licensing

Contact Officer: Jennifer Curtis

Telephone: 01524 582732

Email: jcurtis@lancaster.gov.uk

Ref: FEES23/24

LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976

PROPOSED VARIATION OF FEES FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE AND OPERATORS' LICENCES 2023/24

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Section 70(3)(a) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1976 that Lancaster City Council has determined to vary the fees chargeable for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle and Operators' Licences. (Such proposed fees are in excess of the amount chargeable with notification under Section 70(2) of the above Act).

Type of Licence	Current Cost	Revised Cost
Hackney Carriage Licence (annual)	£219.00	£263.00
Hackney Carriage Licence (6 monthly)	£110.00	£132.00
Hackney Carriage Licence (4 monthly)	£73.00	£88.00
Private Hire Vehicle Licence (annual)	£150.00	£180.00
Private Hire Vehicle Licence (6 monthly)	£75.00	£90.00
Private Hire Vehicle Licence (4 monthly)	£50.00	£60.00
Private Hire Operator Licence	Annual / 5year	Annual / 5 year
1 Vehicle	£125.00 / £536.00	£150.00 / £643.00
2-10 Vehicles	£171.00 / £664.00	£205.00 / £797.00
11-25 Vehicles	£225.00 / £887.00	£270.00 / £1064.00
26 Vehicles and over	£313.00 / £1275.00	£376.00 / £1530.00

ANIMAL WELFARE (LICENSING OF ACTIVITIES INVOLVING ANIMALS) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2018 (under section 13 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006)

The effect of these regulations is to put in place a licensing regime to control licensable activities.

PROPOSED VARIATION OF FEES FOR ANIMAL RELATED LICENCES 2023/24.

This is the first review of the licence fees since their introduction and for transparency Lancaster City Council has determined to vary the fees chargeable as tabled below.

New Licence application

Type of Licence	Period in Years	Part A	Part B	Current Cost	Revised Cost
A- Selling Animals	1	£263.70	£101.80	£248.80	£365.50
HB-Home Boarding	1	£263.70	£101.80	£233.00	£365.50
DD-Dog Daycare	1	£263.70	£101.80	£233.00	£365.50
AB-Animal Boarding	1	£263.70	£101.80	£264.50	£365.50
B-Breeding Dogs	1	£274.20	£101.80	£264.50	£376.00
D-Dangerous Wild Animals	1	£284.80	£46.80	£247.00	£331.50
H-Hiring Horses	1	£263.70	£101.80	£280.20	£365.50
A- Selling Animals	2	£327.00	£203.50	£342.90	£530.50
HB-Home Boarding	2	£326.90	£203.60	£327.10	£530.50

DD-Dog Daycare	2	£326.90	£203.60	£327.10	£530.50
AB-Animal Boarding	2	£326.90	£203.60	£374.30	£530.50
B-Breeding Dogs	2	£316.40	£203.60	£358.60	£520.00
H-Hiring Horses	2	£348.00	£195.70	£405.80	£543.70
B-Breeding Dogs	3	£358.70	£305.40	£452.70	£664.10
E-Exhibiting Animals	3	£348.00	£238.80	£436.90	£586.80
Operating a Zoo	4			£657.60	£1,039.00

Renewal application

Type of Licence	Period in Years	Part A	Part B	Current Cost	Revised Cost
A- Selling Animals	1	£196.90	£101.80	£193.70	£298.70
HB-Home Boarding	1	£175.80	£101.80	£193.70	£277.60
DD-Dog Daycare	1	£175.80	£101.80	£193.70	£277.60
AB-Animal Boarding	1	£196.90	£101.80	£209.40	£298.70
B-Breeding Dogs	1	£196.90	£101.80	£209.40	£298.70
H-Hiring Horses	1	£218.00	£101.80	£225.20	£319.80
D-Dangerous Wild Animals	1	£239.10	£67.90	£254.40	£306.90
A- Selling Animals	2	£239.00	£203.50	£289.60	£442.60
HB-Home Boarding	2	£217.90	£203.60	£289.60	£421.50
DD-Dog Daycare	2	£217.90	£203.60	£289.60	£421.50
AB-Animal Boarding	2	£260.10	£203.60	£321.10	£463.70
B-Breeding Dogs	2	£239.10	£203.60	£305.40	£442.60
H-Hiring Horses	2	£302.40	£203.60	£375.40	£505.90
A- Selling Animals	3	£281.30	£292.80	£376.00	£574.10
HB-Home Boarding	3	£260.20	£305.40	£385.60	£565.50
DD-Dog Daycare	3	£260.20	£305.40	£385.60	£565.50
AB-Animal Boarding	3	£323.50	£305.40	£432.80	£628.80
B-Breeding Dogs	3	£281.20	£305.40	£391.70	£586.60
E-Exhibiting Animals	3	£260.20	£305.40	£376.00	£565.50
H-Hiring Horses	3	£386.80	£305.40	£493.20	£692.20
Operating a Zoo	6			£802.00	£1,191.00

Miscellaneous Fees

Request	Current Cost	Revised Cost
Pre-inspection visit (on request)	N/A	£150.00
Appeal against a rating	£117.20	£150.00
Re-inspection	£62.90	£90.00
Variation of a Licence	£31.50	£40.00

Any objection to this proposed variation must be made in writing by Thursday 27th April 2023 to the Licensing Manager at the address given below.

Licensing
Morecambe Town Hall
Marine Road
Morecambe
LA4 5AF

Alternatively, via email: licensing@lancaster.gov.uk

A copy of this notice and all associated licensing fees subject to change will be on display until Thursday 27th April 2023 at both Morecambe and Lancaster Town Hall and will be open to the public inspection without payment at all reasonable hours.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 March 2023 01:51
To: licensing
Subject: Fee increase

Categories: [REDACTED]

This email is from an external email address

Do not click any links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.
Never disclose your password to anyone.

I would like to object to the proposal to increase fees by 20%

As a licensed taxi driver I feel we are not getting the service we deserve from the licensing dept as we seem to be doing most off the paperwork impossible to get anyone to answer the telephone and a lack of officers working at night

While I accept this is not the fault of staff more down to government cuts the extra cost should not be down to us taxi drivers

The trade cannot afford these constant extra fees that the council keep enforcing top signs extra stickers new first aid kits etc and now a 20%increase in fees it's getting so bad many of us feel we won't be in the trade much longer

Thank you

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 March 2023 21:06
To: licensing
Subject: Increase in fees 2023/24

Categories: [REDACTED]

This email is from an external email address

Do not click any links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.
Never disclose your password to anyone.

After the last 3 years, where self employed taxi/private hire drivers have struggled financially due to the actions of central government, enforced by your department, I think it inconceivable that state employees/councillors would consider increasing our financial burden.

We have already seen increases in our council tax for diminishing returns.

The authorities seem intent on making this job more untenable. Taxi ranks disappear with no consultation. Lancashire County Council highways behave like a totalitarian entity, spending millions on average speed cameras yet the roads are in a disgraceful state.

Taxi ranks are parked on by all and sundry and the authorities (Police, LCC) do nothing.

Traffic around Lancaster is being made purposely worse to enable the next stage of tax and ridiculous anti car legislation.

All that seems important to our feckless councillors and their full time officials is raising revenue, and the ever increasing tightening of the noose of control.



From: [Redacted]
Sent: 30 March 2023 18:42
To: licensing
Subject: Licence fees 2013/2014

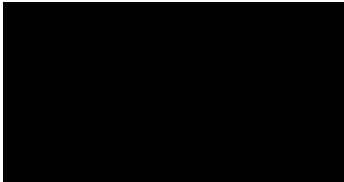
Categories: [Redacted]

This email is from an external email address Do not click any links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Never disclose your password to anyone.

I would like to object to the increase as I cannot see any justification We pay for a service and we are not receiving a service in fact it's very poor

Kind regards



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 March 2023 20:55
To: licensing
Subject: Licensing fees 2023/2024

Categories: [REDACTED]

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Good evening

I am sending this email as I strongly oppose with the licensing fees going up by the vast amount your proposing I fully understand things have gone up everywhere but I feel to increase our fees by this amount seems very unfair. This is by no means a dig at the licensing team but I feel I need to put my point across over the years it's now seems impossible to speak to anyone over the phone emails are hopefully replied to in 5 days we also now do all our own paperwork & submit it online so I find it hard to understand why the fees are increasing by the vast amount your proposing.

We now seem to be doing more for less & the working together seems to be totally lost.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 April 2023 11:29
To: licensing
Subject: objection to fees

Categories: [REDACTED]

This email is from an external email address

Do not click any links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.
Never disclose your password to anyone.

Good morning

I would like to object to the fees increase of 20% I think it's a lot to increase the fees. Especially with the cost of live at the moment the cost of everything has increased insurance fuel maintenance there is not as much work at night because people can't afford to go out.

We trying ringing licencing to get no answer send an email to get one back saying that someone will be in touch in 5 days.

I would also like to ask what is happening with top sign as my meter fitter will not fit them?? and they have to be calibrated to the meter

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 March 2023 14:33
To: licensing
Subject: Proposed rises in charges.

Categories: [REDACTED]

This email is from an external email address

Do not click any links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.
Never disclose your password to anyone.

I strongly disagree with the new proposed charge increases. Bearing in mind that people's finances are stretched and the lack of both private hire and hackney drivers at the moment, I feel the increase is too high. From my quick calculation it appears to be almost a 20% increase. This increase will not entice new drivers to the trade and may deter current drivers too, especially after the COVID impact.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 17 April 2023 16:28
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Reminder - Licensing Fees Consultation

This email is from an external email address
Do not click any links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.
Never disclose your password to anyone.

Absolutely shocking increase in prices. How can the council justify these amounts, for what ?

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

On Mon, 17 Apr 2023 at 10:51, Curtis, Jennifer

[REDACTED]

Good Morning,

Lancaster City Councils Licensing Committee recently reviewed all fees and charges relating to Taxi/PH, Animal and Miscellaneous Licensing (Tattooing/Scrap Metal/Street Cafés etc).

You can find the report and minutes relating to Licensing Fees on the Councils website [Agenda for Licensing Committee on Thursday, 16th March 2023, 1.00 p.m. - Lancaster City Council.](#)

Please find attached the proposed Licensing Fees for 2023/24, any objection to the proposed variation must be made in writing by Thursday 27th April 2023 to the Licensing Manager at the address given below.

Licensing

Morecambe Town Hall

Marine Road

Morecambe

LA4 5AF

[REDACTED]

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 17 April 2023 11:19
To: licensing
Subject: Re: Reminder - Licensing Fees Consultation
Attachments: Proposed Fees 23.24 - Licensing Committee.doc
Categories: [REDACTED]

This email is from an external email address
Do not click any links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.
Never disclose your password to anyone.

Dear All

Firstly I would like to object in the strongest possible terms to any increase in fees. The delivery of the service has been on a downwards spiral and is exacerbated by phone tying a message on your phone stating there isn't anybody available to answer the phone. There has been a huge reduction in the number of both drivers and vehicles but an increase in manpower. I understand the service is running in deficit but surely when there are less licenses to issue then one cuts ones cloth accordingly. Please could you arrange to forward me the last 5 years accounts for the department.

Lastly could somebody please explain why my email address has been shared with all the other people to whom this email has been sent and vice versa. I believe this constitutes a breach of GDPR regulations.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Good Morning,
Lancaster City Councils Licensing Committee recently reviewed all fees and charges relating to Taxi/PH, Animal and Miscellaneous Licensing (Tattooing/Scrap Metal/Street Cafés etc).
You can find the report and minutes relating to Licensing Fees on the Councils website [Agenda for Licensing Committee on Thursday, 16th March 2023, 1.00 p.m. - Lancaster City Council](#).
Please find attached the proposed Licensing Fees for 2023/24, any objection to the proposed variation must be made in writing by Thursday 27th April 2023 to the Licensing Manager at the address given below.

Licensing
Morecambe Town Hall
Marine Road
Morecambe
LA4 5AF
Alternatively, via email: [REDACTED]
Many thanks,
Jen

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 April 2023 09:44
To: licensing
Subject: Re: Licensing Fees 2023/24 - Consultation (2)

Categories: [REDACTED]

This email is from an external email address

Do not click any links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.
Never disclose your password to anyone.

Good morning

I would like to object to the licensing fees increase. I feel that 20% is very high in comparison to the tariffs in effect at the moment. Also with the decrease in custom we are being penalised in all aspects.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

On 30 Mar 2023, at 13:36, licensing [REDACTED]

Good afternoon ,

As you may be aware, Licensing Committee recently reviewed all fees and charges relating to Taxi/PH, Animal and Miscellaneous Licensing (Tattooing/Scrap Metal/Street Cafés etc). You can find the report and minutes relating to Licensing Fees on the Councils website [Agenda for Licensing Committee on Thursday, 16th March 2023, 1.00 p.m. - Lancaster City Council](#). Please find attached the proposed Licensing Fees for 2023/24, any objection to the proposed variation must be made in writing by Thursday 27th April 2023 to the Licensing Manager at the address given below.

Licensing
Morecambe Town Hall
Marine Road
Morecambe
LA4 5AF

Alternatively, via email: [REDACTED]
Many thanks,

[REDACTED] Licensing Manager | Directorate for Communities and the Environment | Public Protection | Lancaster City Council | Morecambe Town Hall | Marine Road East | Morecambe | LA4 5AF

✉: licensing@lancaster.gov.uk | ☎: 01524 582033 | 🌐: www.lancaster.gov.uk

<image001.jpg>
<image002.jpg>

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 April 2023 10:37
To: licensing
Subject: Re: Licensing Fees 2023/24 - Consultation
Attachments: image002.jpg

Categories: [REDACTED]

This email is from an external email address

Do not click any links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Never disclose your password to anyone.

After picking myself up off the floor I finally realised this wasn't an April Fool Joke. Is it possible to explain to me how you have come to this ridiculous increase. In some cases this is well above 20% way above inflation. Every time the council want money in they seem to whack it on the Taxi & Private Hire trade. No wonder people are leaving this industry. Also we are doing more of the administration side of it . And getting hold of a licensing officer is almost impossible.

Thank you.

On Thu, 30 Mar 2023, 13:36 licensing, [REDACTED] wrote:

Good afternoon ,

As you may be aware, Licensing Committee recently reviewed all fees and charges relating to Taxi/PH, Animal and Miscellaneous Licensing (Tattooing/Scrap Metal/Street Cafés etc).

You can find the report and minutes relating to Licensing Fees on the Councils website [Agenda for Licensing Committee on Thursday, 16th March 2023, 1.00 p.m. - Lancaster City Council](#).

Please find attached the proposed Licensing Fees for 2023/24, any objection to the proposed variation must be made in writing by Thursday 27th April 2023 to the Licensing Manager at the address given below.

Licensing

Morecambe Town Hall

Marine Road

Morecambe

LA4 5AF

Alternatively, via email: [REDACTED]

Many thanks,

Jen

[REDACTED] **Licensing Manager** | Directorate for Communities and the Environment | Public Protection | Lancaster City Council | Morecambe Town Hall | Marine Road East | Morecambe | LA4 5AF

LICENSING COMMITTEE

Chairs of Licensing Sub-Committees

8 June 2023

Report of the Licensing Manager

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To enable the Committee to make arrangements for the chairing of Licensing Sub-Committees during the forthcoming municipal year.

This report is public.

Recommendation

- (1) **That the Committee appoints, for the municipal year 2023/24, the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Licensing Committee and two further Councillors, who are members of the Licensing Committee, to act as Chairs of the ad hoc Sub-Committees established to hear individual applications under the Licensing Act 2003 and the Gambling Act 2005.**

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The procedure for establishing sub-committees to deal with hearings under the Licensing Act 2003 was agreed at the former Licensing Act Committee's meeting on the 14th February 2005.
- 1.2 Each Sub-Committee must comprise three members of the Licensing Committee. The Sub-Committees are convened by the Democratic Services Manager, as and when required, from the Licensing Committee's ten members.

2.0 Proposal Details

- 2.1 The Committee is requested to appoint the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Licensing Committee and two further Councillors, who are members of the Licensing Committee, to act as Chairs of the ad hoc Sub-Committees.

3.0 Details of Consultation

- 3.1 None

4.0 Options and Options Analysis (including risk assessment)

- 4.1 There is a need for the Licensing Committee to appoint Sub-Committee Chairs to chair the ad hoc Licensing Sub-Committee hearings.

5.0 Conclusion

- 5.1 The Committee is recommended to appoint its Chair, Vice-Chair and two further Councillors, who are members of the Licensing Committee, to act as Chairs of the ad hoc Sub-Committee hearings.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT**(including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)**

None.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) has made provision for special responsibility allowances to be paid to each Sub-Committee Chair, in addition to the special responsibility allowance that is paid to the Chair of the Committee, and the budgetary provision reflects this. The fact that a Councillor is only entitled to receive one special responsibility allowance means that it is impossible to estimate the actual budget cost in advance, and generally gives leeway within the budgetary provision.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The proposal is in accordance with the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003, which provides for the establishment of one or more Sub-Committees consisting of two members of the Committee, but makes no further provision as to how this should be arranged.

OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**Human Resources:**

None

Information Services:

None

Property:

None

Open Spaces:

None

S151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS

None.

MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

None.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

Contact Officer: Jennifer Curtis**Telephone:** 01524 582732**E-mail:** jcurtis@lancaster.gov.uk**Ref:** JC/Sub23

LICENSING COMMITTEE

Taxi and Private Hire Working Group – Review and Appointment

8 June 2023

Report of the Licensing Manager

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The taxi and private hire working group, a recognised group tasked with addressing issues affecting the local trade requires further membership following changes with appointments to Licensing Committee.

This report is public.

Recommendations.

- (1) **That the Committee appoint at least three members of Licensing Committee to attend and contribute to the taxi working party.**
- (2) **The chair of Licensing Committee has historically attended and chaired the taxi working party meetings.**

Report

- 1.1 It was approved at a meeting of the former Licensing Regulatory Committee on 31st August 2017 to establish a taxi and private hire working party.
- 1.2 The taxi and private hire working group was designed to bring together individuals, including elected members, stakeholders and Council Officers who possess the relevant knowledge and skills of the subject area, who will act collectively to undertake assigned tasks and activities to achieve the project's objectives; in this case ensuring the continued review, development and improvement of the Council's taxi and private hire services.
- 1.3 The make-up of the taxi working party was agreed as follows.
 - At least 3 Councillors (including Chair of Licensing Committee)
 - Licensing Manager
 - Licensing Enforcement Officer(s)
 - 1 x Private Hire representatives
 - 1 x Hackney Carriage representatives
- 1.5 Due to limited numbers of the licensed trade expressing an interest in representing the trade /contributing to the meeting, it was agreed that all those expressing an interest could attend. It included 1 private hire operator, 4 licensed drivers (private hire and hackney carriage).
- 1.6 All those previously attending will be invited to contribute, furthermore expressions of interests will be sought for appointed representatives of the licensed trade. It is important that the views of the majority are considered when discussing matters

affecting the local trade. It imperative that members know what weight to place on the views of those attending.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT (including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)	
None	
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	
None	
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
None	
OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
Human Resources:	
None	
Information Services:	
None	
Property:	
None	
Open Spaces:	
None	
S151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS	
None.	
MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS	
None.	
BACKGROUND PAPERS	Contact Officer: Jennifer Curtis
None	Telephone: 01524 582732
	E-mail: jcurtis@lancaster.gov.uk
	Ref: JC