

# RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

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Dear Councillor

The next meeting of the **LICENSING COMMITTEE** is at **6.30pm** on **TUESDAY, 27 NOVEMBER 2012** in the **TOWN HALL, CHURCH STREET, CLITHEROE.**

I do hope you will be there.

Yours sincerely

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

To: Committee Members (Copy for information to all other members of the Council)  
Directors  
Press

## AGENDA

### Part I – items of business to be discussed in public

1. Apologies for absence.
- ✓ 2. Minutes of the meeting held on 4 September 2012 – copy enclosed.
3. Declarations of Interest (if any).
4. Public Participation (if any).

### FOR DECISION

- ✓ 5. Fees and Charges – report of Chief Executive – copy enclosed.
- ✓ 6. Review of the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy – Gambling – report of Chief Executive – copy enclosed.

### FOR INFORMATION

None.

### Part II - items of business **not** to be discussed in public

None

# RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO LICENSING COMMITTEE

DECISION

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: TUESDAY, 27 NOVEMBER 2011  
title: ANNUAL FEES AND CHARGES – HACKNEY AND PRIVATE HIRE LICENCES  
submitted by: LEGAL SERVICES MANAGER  
principal author: DIANE RICE

## 1 PURPOSE

1.1 To determine the annual fees for hackney carriage and private hire vehicle licences.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives -        }
  - Corporate Priorities -         }
  - Other Considerations -        }
- The Council aims to be a well-managed Council providing efficient services based on identified customer needs. The fees charged for licences fund part of that service, and should reflect the costs incurred whilst being set at a reasonable level for licence holders.

## 2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Council has power to charge for licences, subject to statutory provisions which both give rise to the power to charge and specify the way the charge for certain licences has to be calculated.

2.2 The relevant provisions are contained in the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

2.3 Section 53(2) is the relevant provision for:

- driver's licences for hackney carriages;
- drivers licences for private hire vehicles.

2.4 Section 70 is the relevant provision for:

- hackney carriage vehicle licences;
- private hire vehicle licences;
- private hire operator's licences.

2.5 Changes to the licence fees in respect of hackney carriage vehicles, private hire vehicles and private hire operator licences must be advertised in one newspaper, circulated in the local area 28 days before the change in charges takes effect.

2.6 The legislation provides that the fees should be set at a level which provides "such a fee as they consider reasonable with a view to recovering the costs of issue and administration". This is the basis upon which the fees were reviewed when the fee structure was last altered. There is no evidence to suggest the structure needs to be reviewed at this point provided increased costs are reflected in an inflation based uplift.

2.7 The Committee has, since it took responsibility for hackney and private hire licences, considered fees and charges at its final meeting of the financial year. However, in

order to synchronise fee setting with the budget process, the decision by Committee has been brought forward, however the implementation date remains 1 April 2012.

2.8 The current fees for each type of licence are set out below:

<b><u>TAXI LICENSING CHARGES</u></b>	
PRIVATE HIRE & HACKNEY CARRIAGE	2012 from 1 April
	£
Driver's Renewal/Annual Licence	54.00
Temporary/Six month Licence	27.00
Replacement Driver's Badge	11.00
Vehicle Licences:	
ANNUAL – Up to 3 years old	151.00
6 MONTHS – Over 3 years but not exceeding 7 years	80.00
4 MONTHS – Over 7 years	57.50
Discount on previous Licence (1/12 <sup>th</sup> annual)	12.60 one full month
Transfer on Licence ownership	22.00
New or replacement: Plates Brackets	At cost plus 10% admin
Private Hire Operators Licence (From 1 December to 30 November) per annum for 5 vehicles or fewer, thereafter £10.50 per vehicle	140.00
Log books (100 sheets) each	1.45
Knowledge test – first one free then written	7.00
Driven	14.00

### 3 ISSUES

3.1 In recent years licence fees have generally been uplifted annually in line with inflation. The Council is recommending uplifting the fees by reference to inflation (based on 3%) the annual fees (rounded up or down as most appropriate) for 2012 from 1 April would be as follows:

<b><u>TAXI LICENSING CHARGES</u></b>	
PRIVATE HIRE & HACKNEY CARRIAGE	2013 from 1 April
	£
Driver's Renewal/Annual Licence	55.40
Temporary/Six month Licence	27.70
Replacement Driver's Badge	11.30
Vehicle Licences:	
ANNUAL – Up to 3 years old	154.80
6 MONTHS – Over 3 years but not exceeding 7 years	82.00

4 MONTHS – Over 7 years	58.40
Discount on previous Licence (1/12 <sup>th</sup> annual)	12.90 one full month
Transfer on Licence ownership	22.60
New or replacement: Plates Brackets	At cost plus 10% admin
Private Hire Operators Licence (From 1 December to 30 November) per annum for 5 vehicles or fewer, thereafter £11.75 per vehicle	143.50
Log books (100 sheets) each	1.50
Knowledge test – first one free - paper - in person	7.20 14.40

#### 4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – Committee must set fees at a level which reflects the Council's costs, however any surplus could be used to fund improvements to services and/or enforcement.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – N/A
- Political – N/A
- Reputation – N/A
- Equality and Diversity – N/A

#### 5 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

5.1 Agree to set the current fees with effect from 1 April 2013, as shown at Table 2.

DIANE RICE  
HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

MARSHAL SCOTT  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

For further information please ask for Diane Rice, extension 4418.

DER/EL/271112/LICENSING

# RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO LICENSING COMMITTEE

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Agenda Item No.

meeting date: 27 NOVEMBER 2012  
 title: REVISION OF GAMBLING ACT STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES  
 submitted by: HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES  
 principal author: DIANE RICE

## 1 PURPOSE

1.1 To inform Committee of the requirement to review the Council's licensing Statement of Principles on gambling as required by the Gambling Act 2005 and seek Committees' views about amendment of the statement, as attached at Appendix 1 to form the basis of consultation.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives -        }
  - Corporate Priorities -         }
  - Other Considerations -        }
- The Council seeks to be a well-managed Council; review of the policies, which guide the Council when making decisions, contributes to this objective.

## 2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Council considered its current Statement of Principles on 17 November 2009 (at Licensing Committee) and it was subsequently approved by Full Council.

## 3 ISSUES

3.1 The Gambling Act 2005 gave the Council responsibility for licensing a variety of types of premises for example betting offices and betting arcades. There are very few premises in the Council's area which hold such licences, however, many premises licensed under the Licensing Act 2003 also hold permits under the Act for gaming machines.

3.2 The Act requires Councils to have a gambling statement of principles and to publish the Statement every three years and review it from time to time.

3.3 There have been no representations about the Council's statement since its inception. However, Members are asked to consider the statement (attached as Appendix 1), in order that any changes Members wish to make to the statement can be included in the statement prior to the consultation. If necessary, the statement can then be revised by Full Council to reflect consultation responses.

3.4 If the draft statement is approved by Committee the parties referred to in the draft statement will be consulted, with responses requested on or before the 31 January 2013. Thereafter the draft will be referred to Full Council for approval.

## 4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – N/A

- Technical, Environmental and Legal – Requirement to keep the statement under review is a statutory requirement.
- Political – N/A
- Reputation – N/A
- Equality and Diversity – N/A

**5 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

5.1 Consider the statement attached at Appendix 1.

5.2 Approve the statement and the proposals for consultation set out at 3.4 above.

DIANE RICE  
HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

MARSHAL SCOTT  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

For further information please ask for Diane Rice, extension 4418.

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