
REPORT TO:	ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 9
DATE OF MEETING:	15th AUGUST 2019	CATEGORY: DELEGATED/ RECOMMENDED
REPORT FROM:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE	OPEN/EXEMPT PARAGRAPH NO:
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	EMMA McHUGH 01283 595 716 emma.mchugh@south-derbys.gov.uk	DOC:
SUBJECT:	KNOWLEDGE TEST – INCREASE OF FEE	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE:

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 That the proposed fee for a knowledge test is approved to come into effect on 20th September 2019.

2. Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To provide Members with the necessary information to be able to give full consideration to the recommendation contained in paragraph 1.1 of this report.

3. Detail

- 3.1 All new applicants are required to undertake the Council's knowledge test as part of their application to be a private hire driver. The test covers local knowledge, licensing legislation, the Highway Code, the Council's policy and conditions and the writing of a receipt. From 1st July 2019, the knowledge test includes a basic numeracy element.
- 3.2 The test was last updated in 2014. A review has been carried out of the knowledge test and the options available in conducting the test. As a consequence, a decision has been made to move to a computer-based testing and marking platform enabling the Licensing Department to deliver an enhanced and more robust driver test that is administratively simpler, more efficient and more effective. The new knowledge test is being provided by an external provider. The current test is paper based with a limited number of papers available; the new online test randomly selects questions from a bank of questions ensuring that each is unique.
- 3.3 Under the Local Government (Miscellaneous) Provisions Act 1976, the Council may demand and recover such a fee as they consider reasonable with a view to recovering the costs of issue and administration of granting a private hire driver's

licence. The current fee is £27. It is proposed that the new fee for a knowledge test is £38.40 including VAT.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications to the Council.

5. Corporate Implications

- 5.1 These proposals will continue to demonstrate to members of the public that the Council takes the protection of local residents, children, and vulnerable adults from the potential harms of private hire licensing seriously, which contributes to the theme of safety and security.

6. Background Papers

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976