
REPORT TO:	ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICE COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 9
DATE OF MEETING:	21st JANUARY 2021	CATEGORY: DELEGATED/ RECOMMENDED
REPORT FROM:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE	OPEN/EXEMPT PARAGRAPH NO:
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	NIGEL MARSTON 01283 595 716 nigel.marston@southderbyshire.gov.uk	DOC:
SUBJECT:	REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE FEES	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE:

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 That the proposed fees for private hire drivers, vehicles and operators are approved.
- 1.2 That the fees take effect from 1st March 2021

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 Recent case law relating to fees for the taxi and private hire licensing regime has clarified what costs can be included in each type of fee therefore a review of the private hire fees has been carried out to ensure compliance with the legislation and relevant case law. In addition, as the private hire licensing function must operate on a cost recovery basis, the deficit and/or profit from 2019/2020 has been included in the relevant fees except private hire operator fees.
- 3.2 With regards to private hire operators, there was one set fee for an operator's licence regardless of the actual size of the company therefore it is proposed to amend the fees in line with the number of vehicles operated by an operator to reflect the true cost to the Licensing Authority.
- 3.3 Currently, there is a fee for a one year and three-year licence for private hire driver's licence therefore it is proposed to introduce a two year licence fee.
- 3.4 Members will recall that the following fees were approved at the November meeting of E & DS Committee:

Type of Licence	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
Private Hire Driver: One year Two year Three year	£98 - £180	£150 £235 £331
Private Hire Vehicle	£273	£215
Private Hire Operator	£495	0-5 cars - £382 6-20 cars - £505 21-50 cars - £684 50 plus cars - £893

- 3.4 The Council advertised the reviewed fees in a local newspaper and at the Council Offices for a period of 28 days from 1st December 2020 as required by the 1976 Act. A copy of the notice is attached as Appendix 1.
- 3.5 A total of 3 written objections and one petition to the proposed fees were received. These are attached as Appendix 2 and Appendix 3
- 3.6 As objections were received then the Council need to consider the objections. Once the objections have been considered there are 2 options available. These are to modify the fees in light of the objections received or introduce the fees as originally proposed within 2 months of the original date. The original date being 5th January 2021.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications to the Council.
- 4.2 There are financial implications to some of the private hire licensing trade.

5. Corporate Implications

Employment Implications

- 5.1 None

Legal Implications

- 5.2 None

Corporate Plan Implications

- 5.3 These proposals will continue to demonstrate to members of the public that the Council takes the private hire licensing seriously in accordance with legislation and

case law which contributes to the value of taking pride in our place and striving for excellence in all we do.

Risk Impact

5.4 None

6. Community Impact

Consultation

6.1 Consultation has taken place with the trade. All driver's operator's and proprietors were written to in relation to the proposed fees.

Equality and Diversity Impact

6.2 None

Social Value Impact

6.3 The proposals will protect all residents in South Derbyshire from subsidising the private hire licensing regime.

Environmental Sustainability

6.4 None

6. Background Papers

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976