

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE**ORIGINATING SECTION: PUBLIC PROTECTION SERVICE****REPORT TO: LICENSING COMMITTEE****21:09:15****TITLE : REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE LICENCE FEES****1. PURPOSE**

To inform members of the proposed variations in private hire and hackney carriage licence fees.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members note the report and forward comments in respect of the revised fees to the Executive Member

3. KEY ISSUES

The licence fees relating to the above were last increased on 1st April 2012. The proposed fees will be submitted to the Executive Member, subject to consultation by the Licensing committee, and advertising in accordance with section 70(3) of the Local Government Act 1976.

The Deregulation Act 2015 has made it mandatory for 3 year licences to be introduced for drivers and 5 year licences for operators. Annual payment plans have been proposed, to assist drivers and operators.

4. RATIONALE

The reviews of fees and charges are an annual process. There is a statutory consultation process which commenced in August in order that the revised fees can be in place for October to coincide with the changes to the duration of licences. The fees were advertised in the Lancashire Telegraph on 14th August 2015. The proposed fees are attached in appendix 1

The proposed fees represent full cost recovery for the Council's role in providing the licensing service. This includes direct costs associated with the licensing team and associated costs for other services within the Council who play a role in supporting the licensing service.

A table detailing the fees other councils charge can be found at appendix 2

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The attached report has been compiled and reflects full cost recovery for all the Hackney Carriage and Private hire fees. The proposed should meet the budget proposals.

The review of fees will be considered by the Licensing Committee as experts in this area, and will be ratified by the Executive Member as the fees are

being introduced during the financial year..

The expertise of the Licensing Committee in this area of work is recognised, The Licensing Committee should consider the proposed fees and their observations will be forwarded to the Executive Member as part of the consultation process.

Members will consider any objections received as a result of the consultation process there are statutory obligations in respect of consultation. The revised fees will come into effect from October 2015

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The proposals have been considered as part of an ongoing review of licence fees and represent full cost recovery for the Councils role in providing a licensing service.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

In accordance with Section 70(3) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, a notice must be published in a least one local newspaper circulating in the area setting out the proposed variations, and specifying the period, which shall not be less than 28 days from the date of the publication of the notice, within which and the manner in which the objections to the variation can be made.

A copy of the notice referred to in the previous paragraph shall be for the period of 28 days from the date of the publication, be deposited at the offices of the Council, and shall at all reasonable hours be open to public inspection without payment.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

None

9. CONSULTATIONS

In accordance with Section 70(3) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, a notice must be published in a least one local newspaper circulating in the area setting out the proposed variations, and specifying the period, which shall not be less than 28 days from the date of the publication of the notice, within which and the manner in which the objections to the variation can be made.

A copy of the notice referred to in the previous paragraph shall be for the period of 28 days from the date of the publication, be deposited at the offices of the Council, and shall at all reasonable hours be open to public inspection without payment.

A copy of the proposed fees has been sent to all operators, and Hackney

Carriage trade representatives. A meeting of the Taxi Forum was held on 17th September 2015. Their comments will be given as a verbal update to members. 3 written objections have been received during the formal consultation period. These can be found at appendix 3.

10 . CONTACT OFFICER

Donna Riding – Principal Licensing Officer
Telephone 01254 585004

BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

Proposed increase in Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Fees
Effective from 1st October 2015

Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council being the authority for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire, in accordance with Section 70(3) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, HEREBY GIVE NOTICE of the proposed variations to the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Fees. A copy of the proposed variations can be inspected at the Licensing Counter, Town Hall, Blackburn between the hours of 1:00pm and 4.30pm on normal working days.

Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the proposed variations, with reasons for the objection, within 28 days from the date of publication of the newspaper in which this notice appears.

Such notice of objection should be given to Donna Riding, Principal Officer, Public Protection Service, Licensing, Town Hall Blackburn. BB1 7DY

Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Fees and Charges	Current £	Proposed £
Copy of licensing register	62.55	63.00
Private hire vehicle licence (12 months)	181.95	172; 00
Private hire vehicle licence (6 months)	95.00	86.00
Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence (12 months)	212.00	203.00
Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence (6 months)	115.00	106.00
 (an additional fee of £37 per year will be added to Hackney Vehicle Licences to pay for unmet demand surveys)		
Plate fee (initial with licence)	9.25	9.25
 20% reduction for vehicles powered by LPG		
Operator Flat Fee	184.70	see
Vehicle number top up fee per vehicle	22.80	table below
Change of operator	as new	

Operators	Annual licence	5yr licence
1 vehicle	232	330
2-4 vehicles	269	565
5-10 vehicles	380	1120
11-20 vehicles	602	2230
21-24 vehicles	875	4080
25-30 vehicles	1023	4820
31-35 vehicles	1212	5930
35+ vehicles	1490	6670

From 1st October 5 year licences will be issued for Operators, this fee can be paid annually at the rate shown above.

Private hire vehicle 3 year driver		192
Hackney carriage 3 vehicle driver licence		192
Dual 3 year driver licence		192
Drivers can opt to pay for their licences annually but this will incur an additional £20 per year admin fee		84
Vehicle Test	60.95	62.00
1 Hour re-test (when vehicle presented after 10 days / 2 nd retest	40.30	46.00
1/2 hour re-test	31.30	32.00
Suspensions lift	52.15	46:00
Knowledge / driver training program	17:00	70.00
Knowledge only retest	17:00	70.00
Refresher training		70;00
CRB	48.00	48.00
Transfer of vehicle ownership	15.90	16.00
Replacement badge/licence	15.90	16.00
Customer copy record	11.00	11.50
Council issued stickers	6.40	6.50
Replacement Plate fee		25.00
Plate		
Plate Screws	1.00	1.00
Cancellation fee	10.55	11:00

Taxi Licence fees

	Hyndburn	Blackpool	Lancaster	Preston	Ribble Valley	Bury	Wigan	Rossendale	Blackburn proposed	Oldham	Blackburn's Ranking
Drivers											
1year		110/95 ren	64.80	95/75 ren	58	60	75		84	117	4/8
3year	400	240/225	109.50	-	-	-	-	185	Annual fee 192	71 ren	
3y ren	100.50	225	109.60	-	-	-	-		192	-	3/5
Knowledge test/training	69 + £200 for nvq	23	£200 for nvq	20 + £195 for nvq	15.10 Plus £200 for nvq	31	27	-	70	36	5/9
Vehicles	78.50 (ph) 85.50 (HC)	120 Annual ?	200.49 (an) 100.20 (6m)	120 (hc) 125(ph) annual	162.28 (12) 85.95 (6)	208(less than 2 years) 256 (over 2)annual	331 (hc) 291 (ph) annual	140 annual	172 (12)/86 (6) (ph) 203(12)/106 (6) (hc)	284 (hc) 185(ph) annual	6/10
tests	64.50	56	53	-		48	54	-	62	58	2/7
plates	20	28	6.40	10	15	12.50	29	-	9.25	7	3/6
Ins. stickers	11.25	10	6.40	8			3.50	-	6.50	-	
Operators	1-5 227 6 or more 203 plus 6.70 per veh	1-10 180 (1 year) 1-10 485 (3 year) 11+ 317 (1 year) 11+ 900 (3 year)	1-10 veh 117.80 11-25 veh 150.10 26+ veh 200.30	1-5 250 6-19 270 20-49 305 75+365	1-5 150.40 5+ 11.25 per vehicle	1-2 253 3+ 352	1- 224 2-5 258 6-15 300 16-30 394 31-60 466 61-100 774	300	1 232 2-4 269 5-10 380 11-20 602 21-24 875 25-30 1023 31-35 1212 35+ 1490	See attached sheet	2/10

	No five year fee	No five year	No five year fee	No five year fee	No five year fee	No five year fee	No five year fee	No five year fee	1 330 2-4 565 5-10 1120 11-20 2230 21-24 4080 25-30 4820 31-35 5903 35+6670	See attached sheet	

Private hire operators - Oldham

New or renewal	1 year licence	5 year licence
Operators licence – no stars		
1 Vehicle	£413	£1,955
2 – 10 Vehicles	£678	£3,280
11 – 30 Vehicles	£1,410	£6,940
31 – 60 Vehicles	£1,794	£8,860
61+ Vehicles	£2,317	£11,475
Operators licence – one star		
1 Vehicle	£332	£1,550
2 – 10 Vehicles	£580	£2,790
11 – 30 Vehicles	£1,242	£6,100
31 – 60 Vehicles	£1,528	£7,530
61+ Vehicles	£2,027	£10,025
Operators licence – two stars		
1 Vehicle	£249	£1,135
2 – 10 Vehicles	£525	£2,515
11 – 30 Vehicles	£1,197	£5,875
31 – 60 Vehicles	£1,505	£7,415
61+ Vehicles	£1,768	£8,730
Operators licence – three stars		
1 Vehicle	£207	£925
2 – 10 Vehicles	£387	£1,825
11 – 30 Vehicles	£867	£4,225
31 – 60 Vehicles	£1,112	£5,450
61+ Vehicles	£1,362	£6,700
Operators licence – four stars		
1 Vehicle	£170	£740
2 – 10 Vehicles	£298	£1,380
11 – 30 Vehicles	£693	£3,355
31 – 60 Vehicles	£940	£4,590
61+ Vehicles	£1,250	£6,140

Query from Cllr Mulla

Questions, I see two rises

Annual licence around 48.00. can this not be kept at similar level. I have no problem with people with more vehicles.

Knowledge only retest.

From 17:00 to 70.00.

that's a massive rise, why can we not leave it at 17.00, I don't buy the comment of much more reflective of the time, detail, that goes into the course.

Why can this not be a similar % rise

Objection from Umar Talaty representing the Private Hire Association

Hi Donna

I have attached a few more from my research and Blackburn Has come to be the most expensive so we do strongly object to the high increase in fees

Regards

Mr Umar Talaty

Objection from City Private Hire

Good afternoon Donna

Further to your email regarding price increases;

Your current prices shown are incorrect.

MOT price should be normal VOSA rate

There should be a free re-test for 5 faults or less.

Another MOT station is needed as appointments can take up to 7 days.

Quite often when trying to contact Licensing, there is no reply.