



Walsall Council

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF PUBLIC PROTECTION

TO A MEETING OF THE LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 4TH MARCH 2009 @ 6.00PM

AMENDMENT OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE FEES FOR VEHICLES OVER THREE YEARS OF AGE.

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 For members of the committee to consider the annual fee to be levied in respect of private hire and hackney carriage vehicle licences that are over three years of age.
- 1.2 A report was presented to the Taxi Liaison Group on the 4TH February 2009 and it was moved that an annual licence fee of £215 for private hire and hackney carriage vehicles over three years of age be approved by the Licensing and Safety Committee.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The committee is asked to consider the report, and recommend approval of £215 for an annual vehicle licence for private hire and hackney carriages that are over three years of age. This fee to be implemented from the 1st April 2009.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Vehicles currently over 3 years of age pay for a four month licence at a cost of £75. This equates to £225/year. Vehicles that are under 3 years of age pay for an annual licence at a cost of £165.
- 3.2 There are currently 555 licensed vehicles over 3 years of age.
- 3.3 Therefore from the 1st April 2009 there will be a reduction in income of £5,550.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Any changes made to the private hire and hackney carriage conditions of licence will need to be amended accordingly.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Legal Services Consulted: No

6.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None.

7.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- 7.1 There will be a reduction in the number of licence plates issued by the council.

8.0 WARD(S) AFFECTED

- 8.1 None.

9.0 CONSULTEES

- 9.1 Legal Services, Walsall MBC.

10.0 BACKGROUND

- 10.1 On the 16th April 2008 the Licensing and Safety Committee resolved that approval be given to the change in relation to the issue of hackney carriage and private hire vehicle licences by the removal of the 4 month licence and the issue of 12 month licences only.
- 10.2 Appendix 1 of the report identifies the charges made by neighbouring authorities in respect of vehicle licences.
- 10.3 It is suggested that the annual fee for licensed vehicles over 3 years of age should be £215.
- 10.4 This figure removes the cost of producing 2 additional vehicle licences and plates whilst recognising that licensing enforcement will have an increased workload as they will be responsible for ensuring that vehicles over 3 years of age have undertaken 4 month examinations as required by the current conditions of licence.

11.0 CONTACT OFFICER

- 11.1. Steven Knapper– Principal Licensing Officer. Ext. 2221

