

General Licensing Committee Meeting	
Meeting Date	2 October 2018
Report Title	Hackney Carriage Additional Fee
Cabinet Member	Cllr Mike Cosgrove, Cabinet Member for Regeneration
SMT Lead	Mark Radford
Head of Service	Della Fackrell, Resilience and Licensing Manager
Lead Officer	Mohammad Bauluck, Licensing Officer
Key Decision	No
Classification	Open
Recommendations	1. To approve an additional fee to be added to the current list of Taxi fees and charges

1 Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report invites the Council to consider the proposal of an additional fee to the existing approved list of Taxi fees and charges.
- 1.2 Appendix 1 shows the approved Taxi Fees and Charges that were agreed at a General Licensing Committee on 12 September 2017

2 Background

- 2.1 Two of the fees on the list namely '*Change existing vehicle from a Private Hire vehicle to Hackney Carriage vehicle* and *Change existing vehicle from a Hackney Carriage to Private Hire vehicle*' are not being used. The wording has also come across as to being confusing to some members of the trade.
- 2.2 It is extremely unlikely that any vehicle will ever be converted from one category to another due to Swale's policy on the paintwork of each of the different categories.

3 Proposals

- 3.1 As a result of the above, there is a proposal to remove these fees and replace them with one with the wording being '*Change of vehicle on an existing plate*'.
- 3.2 This process happens quite regularly with drivers either buying a new car, exchanging their car that has been written off or their car nearing the age limit. The fee will not change so will stay as £80 as the process is the same.

4 Implications

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	The service is an important regulatory function undertaken to ensure safety of the private hire and hackney carriage vehicles used in the Borough and supports the achievement of corporate priorities, including “A council to be proud of”.
Financial, Resource and Property	In implementing the new charges the income level will support the service in delivering its duties and satisfy the requirements to cover the costs of providing the service.
Legal and Statutory	All proposals for charges reflect the relevant legislation.
Crime and Disorder	None identified at this stage
Environmental Sustainability	None identified at this stage
Health and Wellbeing	Arrangements to recognise and consider less able members of the community.
Risk Management and Health and Safety	The main purpose of our policy is to deliver a safe taxi service to the public.
Equality and Diversity	Where there are underlying policy issues to any proposed changes in charges, these will be supported by a service equality impact assessment, and any necessary mitigation undertaken.
Privacy and Data Protection	None identified

5 Appendices

5.1 The following document is to be published with this report and form part of the report:

- Appendix 1: Approved Taxi Fees and Charges (General Licensing Committee - 12 September 2017)
- Appendix 2: Fee chart with the proposed changes.

6 Background Papers

6.1 None