

# Crawley Borough Council

## Minutes of Licensing Committee

11 March 2009 at 7.30 pm

### Present:

Councillor B M Brockwell (Chair)

Councillor J Singh (Vice-Chair)

Councillors A G Brown, ALI Burke, L Gilroy, R J Hull, S Kaur, D P Kavanagh,  
B McCrow, B J Quinn, C J Redmayne, L A Seekings and  
D J Shreeves

### Officers Present:

T Baldock

Group Manager for Food, Licensing and  
Occupational Health

J Green

Principal Democratic Services Officer

D Packham

Licensing Officer

A Williams

Lawyer

### Apologies for Absence:

Councillors B K Blake and B J Burgess

### 19. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 7 January, 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### 20. Lobbying Declarations

The following lobbying declarations were made by Members:-

Councillors ALI Burke and L Gilroy had been lobbied regarding matters contained in report ES/209 on Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licence Fees 2009/10.

Councillor R J Hull explained to the Committee that he was no longer licensed by a different authority as a private hire vehicle driver and, therefore, there was no need for him to make a declaration of interest.

## **21. Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licence Fees 2009/10**

The Committee considered report ES/209 of the Head of Environmental Services relating to the revision of fees for hackney carriage and private hire driver, vehicle and operator licences.

It was noted that there was no requirement for consultation on the hackney carriage and private hire drivers' licence fees (set out in Appendix 1 to these minutes), and that only the vehicle and operator licences (set out in Appendix 2) needed to be advertised.

It was confirmed that the schedule of fees reflected the efficiency savings arising from changes made at the last meeting relating to hackney carriage drivers' licences, whereby the validity of such licences had been increased from one year to a maximum of two years.

Some Members were concerned about the impact of increasing the licence fees during the current economic climate. The Group Manager for Food, Licensing and Occupational Health undertook to look into the scope for deferring any increase, and agreed to provide information with regard to the extent of any funding gap which would result, which would need to be met by identifying service efficiencies.

In considering the proposal to delegate the power to review and set fees to the Head of Environmental Services, in consultation with the Chair of the Licensing Committee, the Group Manager for Food, Licensing and Occupational Health agreed that details of all future proposals for the revision of fees would be circulated to Councillors for comment prior to consultation by advertisement.

### **RESOLVED**

- (1) That the proposed vehicle and operator fees as set out in Appendix 2 to these minutes be agreed for the purposes of consultation;
- (2) That, if no representations are made within the statutory 28 day consultation period, the fees as set out in Appendices 1 and 2 to these minutes be adopted from 20 April, 2009;
- (3) That the power to review and set fees be delegated to the Head of Environmental Services, in consultation with the Chair of the Licensing Committee, unless an objection is received concerning the advertised fees and charges.

## **22. Closure of Meeting**

With the business of the Committee concluded, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.10 p.m.

**B M BROCKWELL**  
**Chair**

**APPENDIX 1**

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

<b>PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER'S LICENCE FEES TABLE</b>	<b>CURRENT CHARGE 2008/09</b>	<b>PROPOSED CHARGE 2009/10</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Private Hire</b>		
New application for driver's licence	69.30	72.80
Driver's licence renewal	57.30	60.20
Replacement paper licence	5.00	5.00
Replacement badge	8.00	8.00
Knowledge retest	12.00	12.60
Criminal Records Bureau Enquiry		
DVLA Disclosure Enquiry	5.00	5.00
<b>Hackney Carriage</b>		
New application for driver's licence	69.30	72.80
Driver's licence renewal	57.30	60.20
Replacement paper licence	5.00	5.00
Replacement badge	8.00	8.00
Knowledge retest	12.00	12.60
Criminal Records Bureau Enquiry	36.00	36.00
DVLA Disclosure Enquiry	5.00	5.00

**APPENDIX 2**

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

<b>PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE, PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE LICENCE FEES TABLE</b>	<b>CURRENT CHARGE 2008/09</b>	<b>PROPOSED CHARGE 2009/10</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Private Hire Vehicles</b>		
New vehicle - no meter	251.10	257.40
New vehicle with a meter	259.80	266.30
Plate exempt vehicle	229.10	234.80
Vehicle renewal - no meter	229.10	234.80
Vehicle renewal with a meter	237.50	243.40
Vehicle licence transfer	28.40	29.10
Replacement plate and/or bracket	22.00	22.60
Replacement paper licence	5.00	5.00
<b>Private Hire Operator</b>		
1 - 5 vehicles	141.90	145.40
6 - 10 vehicles	282.60	289.70
11 - 20 vehicles	563.10	577.20
21 - 50 vehicles	986.60	1,011.30
51 - 100 vehicles	1,401.60	1,436.60
101+ vehicles	2,118.10	2,171.10
Replacement paper licence	5.00	5.00
<b>Hackney Carriage Vehicles</b>		
New vehicle	296.70	304.10
Vehicle renewal	259.50	266.00
Vehicle licence transfer	28.40	29.10
Replacement plate and/or bracket	22.00	22.60
Replacement door signs	15.00	30.00
Replacement paper licence	5.00	5.00

These minutes were approved as a correct record at the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 10 June 2009, subject to a clerical correction to Appendix 1 relating to Private Hire Drivers' Licence Fees where the current and proposed charges for a Criminal Records Bureau Enquiry should read £36.