

To: General Purposes Licensing Committee

Date: 23 January 2019

Report of: Head of Regulatory Services and Community Safety

Title of Report: Miscellaneous Licensing: Licence Fees & Charges for the 2019/20 financial year

Summary and Recommendations

Purpose of report: To seek agreement of the licence fees for 2019/20 where the Council has discretion over the level of fee charged.

Report Approved by:

Finance: Emma Burson – Approved

Legal: Daniel Smith – Approved

Policy Framework: Vibrant Sustainable Economy
Street Trading Policy 2015

Recommendations:

Committee is recommended to:

Agree the licence fees and charges for 2019/20 as set out in Appendix A and recommend them to Council.

Introduction

1. The purpose of this report is to seek agreement to the licence fees and charges that should apply for 2019/20, for those activities where the Council has discretion as administered within the functions of the Business Regulation Team.
2. The fees and charges detailed within this report and found at Appendix A relate solely to the functions of the Business Regulation Team. A separate report will be provided to Members in relation to the fees and charges related to the functions of the General Licensing Team.
3. The statutory principle in relation to the setting of fees is that they should be reasonable and should relate to the costs of performing the function, including staffing, administration, testing, inspections, hearings and regulation.

4. Licence fees set by the Council and administered in the Miscellaneous Licensing function consist of Acupuncture, Ear Piercing, Electrolysis & Tattooing, Animal Boarding, Dangerous Wild Animals, Dog Breeding, Pavement Cafes, Pet Shops, Exhibiting Animals, Riding Establishments, Street Trading and Zoos.
5. An inflationary increase to these fees and charges is proposed to the current level of fees and charges to ensure the full cost recovery of the services provided with the exception of the new Animal Welfare Licence fees which are dealt with in paragraph 6 of this report and the Street Trading Consent Fees in paragraph 7 of the report.

Animal Welfare Licence Fees

6. New Animal Welfare Licences Fees were introduced in October 2018 in response to a change in licensing legislation in respect of the activities below:
 - i. Boarding for cats and/or dogs
 - ii. Selling animals as pets
 - iii. Hiring out horses
 - iv. Breeding dogs
 - v. Keeping or training animals for exhibition
 - vi. Variation of licences
 - vii. Requests for re-inspection

Street Trading Consent Fees

7. No variation to the Consent Fees is proposed in order to promote and support street trading.

Financial Implications

8. The Council is responsible for collecting licence fees for these functions. Predicted income from licence fees is included in the Council's budget estimates for 2019/20.

Legal Implications

9. The power to levy fees is contained in the legislation relevant to each function or in the Local Government Act 2003 in relation to discretionary services. Licensing is not a revenue raising function and fees and charges should be reasonable and proportionate to the costs of the procedures and formalities of carrying out the function.

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Background papers:

Appendix A: Proposed Fees & Charges for 2019/2020 applicable to the Miscellaneous Licensing functions within the Business Regulation Team.

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