

**To:** General Purposes Licensing Committee

**Date:** 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021

**Report of:** Head of Regulatory Services and Community Safety

**Title of Report:** Miscellaneous Licensing: Licence Fees & Charges for the 2021/22 financial year

## Summary and Recommendations

**Purpose of report:** To seek agreement of the licence fees for 2021/22 where the Council has discretion over the level of fee charged.

**Report Approved by:**

**Finance:** Emma Burson  
**Legal:** Daniel Smith

**Policy Framework:** Vibrant Sustainable Economy  
Street Trading Policy 2019

**Recommendation(s):**

**Committee is recommended to agree the licence fees and charges for 2021/22 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 2021/22 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 is being 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 comprise the following: 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. No inflationary increase is proposed to the 2021/22 fees and charges in order to promote and support local businesses including street trading.
6. The main change relates to the fee for pavement cafes. The government introduced a national fee of £100 in 2020 as part of a suite of measures to boost the high street and encourage the hospitality sector as a result of the Coronavirus Pandemic.
7. The Coronavirus Pandemic also changed the trading environment for many businesses throughout the current (2020-21) financial year to date and Street Trading was particularly severely affected. The weekly sites in Cornmarket Street were closed to enable social distancing for pedestrians and for the majority of the year most night time consent holders did not take up their consent due to the combined effects of legal restrictions on businesses and their customers. This left most night time street trading pitches vacant and there has been no interest from other traders in starting a business in the city. As a result the majority of consent holders have not been charged as they have chosen not to take up the offer of a consent and those that did trade have only traded for part of the year and have therefore only been charged for the time they have used the consent.

### **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 for 2021/22. The impacts of the pandemic on trading environments and businesses remain difficult to predict given the uncertainties surrounding the reopening of businesses and in particular how the tourism and hospitality sectors and the night time economy will recover.
9. Given the uncertainty regarding trading conditions it is proposed to continue to liaise with businesses and closely monitor the likely and actual take up of street trading consents. Officers are supportive of a flexible approach within the existing legal framework to assist local businesses and will work with them to identify additional measures to help the local economy and will submit further reports if required to seek any necessary approvals.

### **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 2021/2022 applicable to the Miscellaneous Licensing functions within the Business Regulation Team.**

## Appendix A: Proposed Fees & Charges for 2021/2022 applicable to the Miscellaneous Licensing functions within the Business Regulation Team

	2020/21 Charge	2021/22 Charge	Increase/ (Decrease)	Increase/ (Decrease)
	£	£	£	%
<b>Street Trading Consents - subject to approval by General Purposes Licensing Committee</b>				
<b>City Centre &amp; Late Night Traders</b>				
Application Fee	345.00	345.00	0.00	0.00
Annual consent (Pro Rata for period of Consent)	8,180.00	8,180.00	0.00	0.00
Weekly Consent (Weekly Rota)	183.00	183.00	0.00	0.00
<b>All other traders</b>				
Application Fee	345.00	345.00	0.00	0.00
Annual consent (Pro Rata for period of Consent)	2,780.00	2,780.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Peripatetic traders (mobile traders- e.g. icecream vans, sandwich vans)</b>				
Application fee	115.00	115.00	0.00	0.00
Annual consent (Pro Rata for period of Consent)	1,445.00	1,445.00	0.00	0.00
<b>General Charges</b>				
Replacement Consent	34.50	34.50	0.00	0.00
Identification badge (per badge)	34.50	34.50	0.00	0.00
<b>Events</b>				
Street Trading at event for commercial benefit (up to 5 days) - per stall	29.50	29.50	0.00	0.00
Street Trading at event for commercial benefit (6-14 days) - per stall	47.50	47.50	0.00	0.00
Street Trading at event for community / charity benefit	No Fee	No Fee		
<b>Street Café Licences - subject to approval by General Purposes Licensing Committee</b>				
Annual Fee	815.00	100.00	(715.00)	(87.73)
Annual Neighbourhood Shopping Centre Fee based on location as per Local Plan	370.00	delete		
<b>Miscellaneous Licensing - subject to approval by General Purposes Licensing Committee</b>				
Acupuncture, ear piercing, electrolysis & tattooing (only payable on first registration - person)	126.00	126.00	0.00	0.00
Acupuncture, ear piercing, electrolysis & tattooing (only payable on first registration - premises)	253.00	253.00	0.00	0.00
Boarding for cats and/or dogs	306 + vet fee	306 + vet fee		
Hiring out horses	306 + vet fee	306 + vet fee		
Breeding dogs	306 + vet fee	306 + vet fee		
Selling animals as pets	306 + vet fee	306 + vet fee		
Keeping or training animals for exhibition	285 + vet fee	285 + vet fee		
Request for variation	132.00	132.00		
Request for re-inspection	132 + vet fee	132 + vet fee		
Dangerous Wild Animals	455 + vet fee	455 + vet fee		
Zoo	455 + vet fee	455 + vet fee		