

LICENSING BOARD

Venue: Town Hall, Moorgate
Street, Rotherham. S60
2TH

Date: Wednesday, 17 April 2013

Time: 9.30 a.m.

A G E N D A

1. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.
2. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.
3. Apologies for absence.
4. Declarations of Interest.
5. Minutes of the previous meeting of the Licensing Board held on 20th March, 2013. (Pages 1 - 3)
6. Licensing Service - proposed fee increase, 2013/14. (Pages 4 - 7)
 - Licensing Manager, Housing and Neighbourhoods, Neighbourhood and Adult Services Directorate, to report.
7. Exclusion of the Press and Public.

The following items are likely to be considered in the absence of the Press and Public as being exempt under the Police Act, 1997, and Paragraphs 3 and 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 (business affairs and prevention of crime).
8. Applications for the Grant/Renewal/Review of Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers' Licences. (Pages 8 - 21)
 - Licensing Manager, Housing and Neighbourhoods, Neighbourhood and Adult Services Directorate, to report.
9. Date and time of the next meeting: -
 - Wednesday 15th May, 2013, to start at 9.30 am in the Rotherham Town Hall.

LICENSING BOARD
20th March, 2013

Present:- Councillor Wootton (in the Chair); Councillors Andrews, Barron, Dodson, Donaldson, Falvey, Foden, Goulty, J. Hamilton, N. Hamilton, McNeely, Robinson, P. A. Russell, Sangster and Swift.

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Beck, Buckley, Doyle and Havenhand.

Q54. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE LICENSING BOARD HELD ON 13TH FEBRUARY, 2013.

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Licensing Board were considered.

It was requested that an alteration be made in relation to Minute number Q52(5), be amended to read Mr. K.A.R., and not K.A.G. as stated.

Resolved: - That, subject to the above amendment being made, the minutes of the previous meeting be agreed as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

Q55. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.

Resolved: - That the following items be considered in the absence of the press and the public as being exempt under the provisions of the Polce Act, 1997, and Paragraphs 3 and 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 (business affairs and the prevention of crime).

Q56. DETERMINATION OF LICENSING ISSUES: HOUSE TO HOUSE COLLECTIONS.

Consideration was given to the report presented by the Licensing Manager concerning the application for the grant of a licence to carry out house-to-house collections received on behalf of the following organisations: -

Organisation	Area	Date
Hope for Children	Whole of the Rotherham Borough	From March, 2013 to expiry date not requested.
Sense	Whole of the Rotherham Borough	From 8 th April, 2013 to 7th April, 2014.
Coping with Cancer, North East	Whole of the Rotherham Borough	From 25 th April, 2013 to 30 th November, 2013

Resolved: - That the three applications, as now submitted, be refused.

Q57. APPLICATIONS FOR THE GRANT OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS' LICENCES.

The Licensing Board considered a report presented by the Licensing Manager relating to applications for the grant of hackney carriage / private hire drivers' licences in respect of Messrs. K.A.R., G.E.B., A.R., A.S., P.D.F. and I.K..

Messrs. G.E.B., A.R., A.S., and I.K. all attended the hearing and were interviewed by the Licensing Board.

Resolved: - (1) Further to Minute number Q52(5) of the Licensing Board meeting held on 13th February, 2013, the application received on behalf of Mr. K.A.R. be refused.

(2) That the applications received on behalf of Messrs. A.S. and P.D.F. be refused.

(3) That the application received on behalf of Mr. G.E.B. be approved for a period of three-years, subject to him passing the DSA driving test and medical examination.

(4) That the application received on behalf of Mr. A.R. be approved for a period of twelve-months, subject to him passing the DSA driving test and medical examination.

(5) That the application received on behalf of Mr. I.K. be approved for a period of twelve-months, and he be issued with a written warning as to his future conduct, subject to him passing the DSA driving test and medical examination.

Q58. APPLICATIONS FOR THE RENEWAL OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS' LICENCES.

Consideration was given to the report of the Licensing Manager relating to an application for the renewal of the hackney carriage / private hire drivers' licence in respect of Mr. Y.A.S..

Mr. Y.A.S. attended the meeting and was interviewed by the Licensing Board.

Resolved: - That the application for the renewal of the hackney carriage in respect of Mr. Y.A.S. be renewed for twelve-months, and he be issued with a written warning as to his future conduct.

Q59. APPLICATIONS FOR THE REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS' LICENCES.

Consideration was given to the report of the Licensing Manager relating to an application for the review of the hackney carriage / private hire drivers' licences in respect of Messrs. R.A.A.K. and B.H..

Mr. R.A.A.K. attended the meeting and was interviewed by the Licensing Board.

Resolved: - (1) That the hackney carriage / private hire drivers' licence in respect of Mr. R.A.A.K. be suspended for a period of six-months.

(2) That the hackney carriage / private hire drivers' licence in respect of Mr. B.H. be revoked.

Q60. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING: -

Resolved: - That the next meeting of the Licensing Board take place on Wednesday 17th April, 2013, to start at 9.30 am in the Rotherham Town Hall.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

Meeting:	Licensing Board
Date:	17 April 2013
Title:	Licensing Service – proposed fee increase, 2013/14.
Directorate:	Neighbourhood and Adult Services

5. Summary

This report outlines the proposed licensing fee increases to be effective from 1st April 2013 in relation Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Vehicles and Private Hire Operators.

6. Recommendations

- (i) That Members approve the proposed fee structure for the vehicle and operator licensing fees.

7. Proposals and Details

The proposed increase in licensing fees reflects the direct costs involved in maintaining the current level of administrative and enforcement services. The increase is necessary to ensure the cost of delivering services is met within budget.

In relation to vehicle and operator fees it is a statutory requirement that the fees are advertised in the local press, inviting objections within 28 days of the date the notice being placed. The notice appeared in the Rotherham Advertiser on Friday 22 February 2013 and the date for objections to be received was Friday 22 March 2013.

Copies of the notice were also placed at the customer service booths both at Maltby Customer Service Centre and Riverside House. A copy of the notice was also sent to those who requested a copy.

No objections have been received to the proposed increase.

8. Finance

Local Authorities can only set fee levels (where they are non-statutory and not prescribed) which are reasonable and proportionate to the costs incurred in providing a licensing service, in terms of administration processes and enforcement responsibilities.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Failure to recover an appropriate level of revenue from licensing fees would result in the cost of service provision being greater than the income received. This would mean the service could not be delivered in budget which could lead to a reduction in the levels of services provided, especially in terms of enforcement.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Failure to recover funding sufficient to meet the costs of the service could result in the section failing to deliver its statutory functions. The setting of fees, as part of the budget setting process, forms part of the Councils Service and Financial Planning framework which supports the delivery of cost effective and efficient services.

The setting of fees as part of the budget setting process is consistent with the Corporate Plan's cross cutting themes of sustainable development and fairness as it ensures the deliver of a cost effective licensing service. It also ensures that the Council continues to maintain its statutory functions and undertakes enforcement to support the deliver of safe and sustainable communities in Rotherham.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Consultation has taken place via the statutory processes, i.e. notice being placed in the local press and displayed at Maltby Customer Service Centre and Riverside House.

Contact Name: Deborah Bragg, Licensing Manager, 34524
deborah.bragg@rotherham.gov.uk

Rotherham Borough Council – Proposals for Licensing Fees 2013/14

Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Vehicles

Application Fee (vehicles under the age of 5 licensed for 1 full year)	£112.00
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Application Fee (vehicles over the age of 5 licensed for 6 months)	£56.00
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Private Hire Operators

1 to 3 vehicles	£142
4 to 20 vehicles	£190
21 to 40 vehicles	£449
Over 40 vehicles	£661

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