

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director of People and Places	Licensing and Public Safety Committee	28 April 2010

REVIEW OF TAXI LICENCE FEES

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To present to Members the results of the statutory notification of the proposed taxi licensing fees for 2010/2011 and confirm the setting of those fees from 1 May 2010.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

- Members are asked to consider the report and agree the proposed fees as attached.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

- A proposed increase in taxi licensing fees was agreed by the Licensing and Public Safety Committee on 10 March 2010 subject to the statutory notification period and consideration of any objections or comments.
- In accordance with statutory requirements the proposed increases were advertised in a local newspaper inviting representations and objections in writing to the Council. At the close of the notification period at noon on Friday 23 April 2010 one letter of objection had been received.
- The press advertisement content is attached to this report at Appendix A and the one letter of objection is attached at Appendix B.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

(If the recommendations are accepted)

- To ensure that the fees which the Council has discretion to set are in line with the cost of providing the associated licensing service.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- None

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Put Chorley at the heart of regional economic development in the Central Lancashire sub-region		Develop local solutions to climate change.	
Improving equality of opportunity and life chances		Develop the Character and feel of Chorley as a good place to live	
Involving people in their communities		Ensure Chorley Borough Council is a performing organization	√

OBJECTIONS

8. The only letter of objection from a representative body of some of the operators, proprietors and drivers in the taxi trade asks Members to take into account the current economic climate and the impact the increase will have on its members.
9. The current cost of providing the 'taxi' element of the licensing service was in excess of £90,000. Whereas the net fee income derived from all taxi licensing transactions only amounted to £79,193. Therefore Members should be aware that the cost of the licensing function for the provision of a Hackney and Private Hire Taxi service in Chorley is significantly financially supported by the Council.
10. The proposed increase is a 2% increase on fees charged in 2009/10 and reflects the general corporate increase in charges for the year 2010/11.

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

11. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Directors' comments are included

Finance		Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal		No significant implications in this area	√

JAMIE CARSON
DIRECTOR PEOPLE AND PLACES

There are no background papers to this report.

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