

Licensing committee**10:05 to 10:45****4 April 2018**

Present: Councillors Button (chair), Ackroyd, Bradford, Brociek-Coulton, Jones (T), Malik, Maxwell, and Raby

Apologies: Councillors Woollard , Jones (B), Price, Thomas (Va) and Thomas (Vi)

1. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Licence and registration fees 2018-19

The public protection manager presented the report. He said there were fees set by government and some which the authority had discretion over. In terms of discretionary fees, these were charged using the 'Type A' approach which followed the ruling in the case of Hemming v Westminster which proved acceptable to the Supreme Court. The fees were calculated using a costing model for officer's time taken to process applications. The figures also took account of inflation.

Discretionary fees with a statutory maximum had been set at the maximum permissible level and fixed licence fees remained the same.

In response to a question the public protection manager said it was important that the council recouped its real costs. An exercise had been conducted looking at the time tasks took and the grading of officers doing tasks to ensure an accurate figure which reflected real costs. He further explained that in relation to the number of hackney carriage licences which were estimated to be completed, the profile reflected the fact that the licences were renewed every three years.

RESOLVED unanimously to:

- (1) approve the fees detailed in the column headed 'total recommended licence fee 2018-19 of Appendix A to the report; and
- (2) agree the charging policy detailed in paragraphs 10 and 11 of the report.

CHAIR