

Minutes of the Licensing Committee

17th February, 2006 at 10.15 a.m.
at the Sandwell Council House, Oldbury

Present: Councillor Rowley (Chair);
Councillor Crumpton, Mrs Edis, Mrs A Hughes, Mrs Macklin,
Sakhi and Silvester.

Apologies: Councillors Mrs James, Rouf and R L Horton.

1/06 **Minutes**

Resolved that, the minutes of the meetings held on 3rd and 10th
June, 2005 be confirmed as correct records.

2/06 **Review of Fees and Charges 2006/2007 Hackney Carriage and
Private Hire Licensing**

The Committee considered a report on Review of Fees and Charges
2006/2007 Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing. .

Private Hire and Hackney Carriage trade was licensable under the Local
Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. Local Authorities
have the power to levy charges to meet this requirement. In Sandwell
this cost is borne by licence holders.

The new fees meant that the individuals who used the service more
would pay more thus encouraging individuals to run their affairs more
efficiently.

The report outlined details of the proposed fees and charges for
2006/2007 as follows:-

Drivers

Medical / Medical retest	Paid direct
DSA	Paid direct
New Application (incl. CRB + DVLA check)	£141
Renewal Application + CRB (every 3rd yr)	£136
Renewal Application	£100

Badge deposit	£30
Badge replacements	£4.50

Vehicles

Brand new vehicle (annual incl. ISC x 1)	£302.50
New Application (annual incl. full test + ISC x 1) < 5 yrs	£337.50
Renewal Application (annual incl. full test + ISC x 1) < 5 yrs	£309.00
Renewal Application (annual incl. full test x 1 +ISCx2) > 5 yrs	£344
Renewal Application (4 months) > 5 yrs	£139
2 nd 4 months	£139
3 rd 4 months	£139
New Application (6 months incl. full test) < 5 yrs	£193
2 nd 6 months (incl. ISC)	£193
Plate Extension Application	£19
Transfer a vehicle application (another owner)	£19
Replacement vehicle application (to same expiry date) (includes full test and set of plates)	£80
Administration fee for missed garage appointment (without 24 hours notice)	£20
Full test retest fee (free or)	£39
ISC retest fee (free or)	£23
Plate deposit	£30
Replacement of large plate (incl. pins)	£10
Replacement of small plate	£6.50

Replacement bracket	£13
Replacement of roof sign plate	£9.50
Replacement roof sign (complete)	£89 incl.p&p
Replacement roof sign (hood only)	£49 incl.p&p
Replacement bulbs and parts	Paid direct
Late insurance production	£50

Operators

Application (one year)	£443
Application (three years)	£1190

Value Add Tax is not chargeable in relation to any of the above services and fees are non refundable.

The view was expressed that Sandwell's fees were higher than neighbouring Authorities. Members were informed that the overall package was of a higher standard and it was not always possible to compare charges like for like given different fee structures. Nevertheless the number of applications continued to rise year on year. Members considered the fee related complaints received during 2005.

Resolved:-

- (1) that the proposed fees and charges in respect of Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Licensing for 2006/2007 be advertised in the Express and Star newspaper in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976;
- (2) that subject to no objections being received the proposed fees and charges be implemented with effect from 1st April 2006.

(The meeting ended at 10.35 a.m.)

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