

GENERAL LICENSING COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 4 MARCH 2025

Present:

Councillor Carol Lacey (Chair) (in the Chair)
Councillor Clive Fletcher (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Pat Kerry
Councillor Heather Liggett
Councillor Mick Smith

Councillor Tony Lacey
Councillor Fran Petersen
Councillor Richard Welton

Also Present:

C Terry
L Spinks
T Scott

Environmental Health Team Manager (Licensing)
Senior Legal Officer
Governance and Scrutiny Officer

GLC/ Apologies for Absence

6/24-

25 Apologies were received from Councillors Michael Roe and Martin E Thacker MBE JP.

GLC/ Declarations of Interest

7/24-

25 None.

GLC/ Minutes of Last Meeting

8/24-

25 RESOLVED - That the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 November 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

GLC/ Revision of Taxi Licensing Fees

9/24-

25 The Environmental Health Team Manager (Licensing) presented a report to consider the consultation responses to the review of the licence fees for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles, Drivers, and Operators, and then approve the proposed fees in Appendix 1 with the responses in mind.

The Environmental Health Team Manager (Licensing) explained to the Committee that the fee increases had been proposed because of changes in case law and to prevent the Licensing Service from operating at a loss.

Members referred to the Licensing Service potentially “operating at a loss” and requested a breakdown of the figures involved. The Environmental Health Team Manager (Licensing) agreed to provide this to Members.

Members discussed the consultation responses. The Environmental Health Team Manager (Licensing) explained that the primary objection by drivers had been cost.

Members requested a figure at future meetings of the Committee for the number of drivers since the fees changed (if the changes were approved) to show the impact the increase was having on the number of drivers. The Environmental Health Team Manager (Licensing) agreed to provide this to Members.

Members discussed if all drivers would be made aware of the reasons for the change. The Environmental Health Team Manager (Licensing) explained that the Licensing Service section of the Council website had been revised, so information could be included there.

RESOLVED –

- (1) The Committee considered the responses to the consultation and the officer comments and explanations.
- (2) The Committee approved the fees as advertised.

GLC/ **Matters of Urgency**
10/2
4-25 None.