

Agenda Item No: 10



Licensing Committee recommendations for consideration by Full Council at the meeting of the Council on Monday, 19 February 2018

Licensing Committee – 28 November 2017

9 Approval of Licensing Fees 2018/19

The Committee considered Report No 165/17 which sought the Committee's approval of the scale of licensing fees proposed in Appendix 1 on pages 11 to 18 of the Report.

Members' discussion included:

- Why the proposed licensing fees for 2018/2019 were the same as the proposed fees for 2017/2018.
- If the proposed licensing fees for 2018/2019 would cover the costs incurred by the Council during that financial year.
- Whether the deficit shown in the taxi financial performance table in Appendix 2 on page 19 of the Report would increase or decrease compared to 2016/2017.

Officers responded that:

- The Council was currently undergoing a transformation process for shared services with Eastbourne Borough Council, and it was not possible at the current time to know what the final cost of the service would be in 2018/2019. A further review of service costs, however, was planned to be undertaken once the transformation process was complete.

- The figures shown in the Report were provided by the Council's Finance department with consideration given to ensure that the fees were sufficient.
- That the taxi licensing service operated on a self-financing, year-by-year basis and street trading and scrap metal licensing operated similarly. This meant that the Council had the discretion to set fees for these services on a cost recovery basis with appropriate adjustments for any over or under spend from the previous year. In the event that any one of these best estimates proved to be unrealistic, revised fees would be calculated in order to comply with the statutory requirements, and those fees would be brought back to the Committee for approval.

Resolved:

- 9.1** That the scale of licensing fees proposed in Appendix 11 to 18 of Report No 165/17 to apply from 1 April 2018 be approved; and
- 9.2** That the Committee recommend to Council that it formally ratifies, at its meeting on 19 February 2018, the licensing fees proposed in Appendix 1 to Report No 165/17 to apply from 1 April 2018.

Reason:

To ensure that the licensing fees are approved by the Licensing Committee.

† Fees attached herewith – page 33.