

Meeting: Full Council

Date: 20 February 2023

Subject: Approval of Licensing Fees 2023/24

Report of: Director of Service Delivery

The Council is asked to consider the minute and resolution of the Licensing Committee held on 12 January 2023 as set out below.

Recommendation to Full Council

That the Council be recommended to approve the Licensing fees **proposed within Appendix 1** to apply from 1 April 2023.

Minute extract

Licensing Committee - 12 January 2023

14. Approval of Licensing Fees 2023/24

The Committee considered the report which sought its recommendation to Full Council that the Licensing fees proposed as set out in Appendix 1, be applied beginning 1 April 2023.

The Regulatory Services Lead (RSL) presented the report, highlighting that it had been a challenging year for the Authority in continuing to meet the demands of delivering a broad range of services within the District. As a result, there was a recommended increase to some of the proposed fees, as set out in Appendix 1, in order to supplement the increased costs of delivering services within the District.

The Committee highlighted a number of errors in the report, in particular the calculations shown within the table in paragraph 2.5. The Committee requested that the table be amended to show the correct figures prior to the recommendation to Full Council to approve the Licensing fees. The RSL agreed.

Members discussed the proposals including an increase from £65 to £72 in the fees for 6-month DBS checks undertaken by the Council, changes in tattoo and skin piercing fees, previous and future engagement with the Trade, and how the Authority's taxi rates compared with those of other local authorities in the surrounding areas.

Members requested that a Finance Officer be present during future meetings of the Committee when the Licensing fees reports were considered. The RSL agreed to ask the relevant officer to attend.

In addition, the Committee requested that the Chair and the Vice-Chair be invited to the Taxi Trade forum scheduled for February 2023. The RSL agreed.

Resolved:

That Full Council be recommended to approve the Licensing fees proposed within Appendix 1 to apply from 1 April 2023, subject to the 6-month DBS check fee remaining at £65, as opposed to the proposed increase to £72.

For a copy of the report please contact Democratic Services.

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A copy may be downloaded on the Council's website by following the link below:

Agenda for Lewes District Council Licensing Committee on Thursday, 12th January, 2023, 10.30 am (lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk)