

# MINUTES OF LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

10 MARCH 2022

## PRESENT:

Councillors Mrs A'Barrow (Chairman), Bearne, Cade, Douglas, Miss Dumbleton, Keeling, Mrs Roodhouse, Mrs Timms and Dr Williams

## 9. MINUTES

The minutes of the Licensing and Safety Committee held on 25 January 2022 and Licensing Sub Committee (General) held on 3 February 2022 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

## 10. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Councillors Brader and Mrs Garcia.

## 11. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

## 12. REVIEW OF TAXI LICENSING FEES

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Officer – Regulation and Safety (Part 1 - agenda item 4) concerning licensing fees.

A lengthy detailed review of licensing fees had been carried out by officers examining the different processes and costs involved for each type of licence. Some processes had changed and there had been increases in staffing and other costs since the last review was carried out in 2015.

The calculations for the proposed fees were based on average figures from the last three financial years.

There was no statutory requirement to review the fees. The principle that fees should be set on a cost neutral basis meant that it was in the Council's interest to review fees on a regular basis. A three-year review cycle was proposed by officers and supported by the Committee.

The public consultation period was 28 days. For Operators Licences, if during the consultation period no objections are received, or objections are withdrawn the fees would be automatically adopted. However, any objections would result in a report being brought back to the Committee. For Dual Drivers Licences, Private Hire Drivers Licences or Vehicles Licences all consultation responses would be reported back to the Committee. It was anticipated that, a further report would be brought to the meeting scheduled for 12 July 2022 to deal with any objections, representations and adoption matters.

**RESOLVED THAT – IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT** the proposed fees and charges set out at Appendix A to the report are approved for public consultation.

**CHAIRMAN**