# MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

SUBJECT: Review Of Annual Licensing Fees For Financial Year 2019/2020

DIRECTORATE: Social Care, Safeguarding and Health MEETING: Licensing and Regulatory Committee

Date to be considered: 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019 DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: All Wards

#### 1. PURPOSE:

1.1 To agree the Authority's licence fees for 2019-20.

# 2. RECOMMENDATION(S):

- 2.1 Approve the fees set out in Appendix A to this report, entitled "Schedule of Licence Fees for 2019-20", subject, where relevant, to any required public notice.
- 2.2 Any objections, duly made, regarding fees for the grant of licences for hackney carriage and private hire vehicles be brought back to Committee at the earliest opportunity for due consideration.

#### 3. KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 The Authority has a broad range of licensing responsibilities including the regulation of licensed premises, taxis and hackney carriages, gambling, street trading, street collections and scrap metal dealers. Whilst some licence fees are set by Government, others are locally set at the discretion of the Authority.
- 3.2 The European Services Directive, along with other regulations, statutory guidance and case law underline that fees must be set on a "reasonable" cost recovery basis only and cannot be set in such a manner as to generate a profit or act as an economic deterrent to traders. In determining reasonable costs the Authority may take account of costs averaged over a reasonable period (up to three years).
- 3.3 Given the current resource pressures on the Authority, there is a need for clarity about the true costs of administering licences so that fees can be set, if considered appropriate, at a level sufficient to recover those costs. Members will clearly also need to be mindful of the potential burden on businesses of increasing costs, and to weigh that against potential burden of underwriting the costs of administering various licensing functions.
- 3.4 Officers have undertaken significant work to calculate the true costs associated with different licences based upon up to date financial data. Appendix A provides a summary of these assessments of actual cost along with the current fees.
- 3.5 In accordance with Section 70 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, the Authority is obliged to give notice of any intention to vary the fees for the grant of licences for hackney carriage and private hire vehicles. It is recommended that any objections to a variation be brought back to Committee for consideration.
- 3.6 The Gambling Act 2005 allowed Authorities to set their own fees for Premises Licences under this Act for Casinos, Bingo, Betting, Tracks, Family Entertainment

Centres and Adult Gaming Centres. The fees for these types of licences are to be reviewed and set annually on the 21<sup>st</sup> May each year. These fees have a limit on how much they can be set and an assessment of those fees must also be set to recover costs only. A further report will be submitted to the Licensing and Regulatory Committee on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2019 to review the Gambling Act fees to commence 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019.

## 4 REASONS

- 4.1 The fees are set at a level that will recover the costs associated with administering them.
- 4.2 Duly made objections must be considered.

#### 5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The Schedule of fees in Appendix A are set out to ensure the recovery of reasonable costs. If fees are set below the level indicated, the Authority will be underwriting the cost of some licenses. For the reasons set out in para 3.2, the Authority cannot legally set the fees higher than the cost recovery basis set out in Appendix A.

### 6. WELLBEING AND FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPLICATIONS:

- 6.1 An evaluation has been provided in Appendix B to consider the effect of the schedule of Fees proposed for 2019-20.
- 6.2 It should be noted that Council tax receipts and Revenue Support Grants are insufficient to fund the full extent of Council services so increasing fees and charges helps sustain our services into the future for customers, as opposed to potentially withdrawing services.

#### 7. CONSULTEES:

None

#### 8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

None

#### 9. AUTHOR:

Linda O'Gorman Principal Licensing Officer

**CONTACT DETAILS:** Tel: 01633 644214 Email: <u>lindaogorman@monmouthshire.gov.uk</u>

# APPENDIX A

# **SCHEDULE OF LICENCE FEES FOR 2019-20**

			Current Fees 2018/2019	Proposed Fees 2019/20
1	LICENSING ACT 2003			
1.	Premises Initial (Dependant on Business Rate) £10	£ 70	-£1,905.00 .00 -£1,050 £37.00 £10.50 £10.50 £10.50 £23.00 £23.00 £10.50 £10.50 £10.50 £10.50 £10.50 £10.50 £10.50 £10.50 £10.50 £21.00 Band A Band C £23.00	
2.	SAFETY AT SPORTS GROUND CERTIFICATE  Sports Ground Safety Certificate/Safety Certificate for a Regulated Stand SGSC/SC  The Amendment, Replacement, Transfer of a SGSC/SCRS	RS	£1,307.00 £78.00	£1340 £150
3.	GAMBLING ACT 2005 (For Premises and Permit Fees please refer to separate list) Lotteries Initial Renewal		£40.00 £20.00	Fee Set By Central Government
4.	STREET / HOUSE COLLECTIONS No Fee charged under current legislation.			
5.	HACKNEY CARRIAGE / PRIVATE HIRE  (a) Hackney Carriage Vehicle - New     Hackney Carriage Vehicle - Renewal     Hackney Carriage Vehicle - Substitution (Transfer of Vehicle)  (b) Horse Drawn Hackney Carriage Vehicle - As 5(a) above.  (c) Private Hire Vehicle - New     Private Hire Vehicle - Renewal     Private Hire Vehicle - Substitution (Transfer of Vehicle)  (d) Private Hire Operator - New     Private Hire Operator - Renewal  (e) Driver Licence (Dual Badge) - New     Driver Licence (Dual Badge) - Renewal  (f) Knowledge Test - Torfaen Training (TT)  (g) Resit of Knowledge Test - Torfaen Training (TT)  (h) Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Persons Training - Torfaen Training (TT)  (i) Disclosure and Barring Service Check (DBS)+£6 Processing Fee	5yr 5yr 3yr 3yr	£194.00 £159.00 £60.00 £30.00 £35.00	5yr £768 3yr £215
6.	STREET TRADING CONSENTS  Annual Street Trading Consent - New Annual Street Trading Consent - Renewal Annual Block Street Trading Consent - New Annual Block Street Trading Consent - Renewal Street Trading Consent - Substitution (Replacement Vehicle) Day Street Trading Consent - For Events (no entrance fee) Day Block Street Trading Consent - For Events (no entrance fee)	£505	£456.00 £376.00 £770.00 .00£507 £345.00 £46.00 £134.00	£457 £387 £773 £346 £46 £135

7.	SCRAP METAL DEALERS			
	(a) Site Licence - New	3yr	£381.00 3yr	£419
	Site Licence – Renewal	3yr	£307.00 3yr	£346
	Site Licence – Change of Details	-	£35.00	£35
	(b) Collectors Licence – New	3yr	£411.00 3yr	£436
	Collectors Licence - Renewal	3yr	£273.00 3yr	£297
	Collectors Licence – Change of Details		£35.00	£35
8.	BOATS			
	(a) Pleasure Boat Licence - New		£366.00	£367
	Pleasure Boat Licence – Renewal		£141.00	£141
	Pleasure Boat Licence – Transfer of Boat		£366.00	£367
	(b) Pleasure Boatman's Licence - New		£101.00	£101
	Pleasure Boatman's Licence – Renewal		£97.00	£97
9.	SEX ESTABLISHMENTS			
٠.	Sex Establishment - New		£427.00	£429
	Sex Establishment – Renewal		£154.00	£155
	Sex Establishment – Transfer of Premises Usage		£427.00	£429

# 10. HYPNOTISM

No Fee charged under current legislation.