

Minute

Licensing Committee

Thursday, 8 March 2018, 11:00.

Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Place, Kirkwall.



Present

Councillors Duncan A Tullock, Barbara Foulkes, Alexander G Cowie, Norman R Craigie, Robin W Crichton, Steven B Heddle, J Harvey Johnston and Owen Tierney.

Clerk

- Hazel Flett, Senior Committees Officer.

In Attendance

- Gillian Morrison, Executive Director of Corporate Services.
- Gavin Mitchell, Head of Legal Services.
- David Brown, Environmental Health Manager.
- Paul Kemp, Strategic Finance Manager.
- Elaine Sinclair, Legal Clerk.

Police Scotland:

- Sergeant Kenny Walker.

Declarations of Interest

- No declarations of interest were intimated.

Chair

- Councillor Duncan A Tullock.

1. Review of Licensing Fees

After consideration of a joint report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services and the Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing a report from the Head of Legal Services, the Committee:

Noted:

1.1. That, on 22 February 2018, when setting the revenue budget for 2018 to 2019, the Council resolved that Executive Directors should review and increase existing charges by a minimum of 4%, from 1 April 2018, if possible to do so, or as early as possible thereafter, with exceptions, where alternative arrangements were required.

1.2. That the exceptions to increasing existing charges by a minimum of 4%, from 1 April 2018 included licensing fees.

1.3. That a comparison of fees charged by the Council with fees charged for similar types of licences or approvals by other local authorities in the north of Scotland had been undertaken, with the outcome detailed in Appendix 2 to the joint report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services and the Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure.

1.4. The proposal that, where the Council had discretion, licensing fees be increased by a minimum of 4% with effect from 1 April 2018, in accordance with the guidance outlined in section 6 of the joint report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services and the Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure.

The Committee resolved, in terms of delegated powers:

1.5. That, where the Council had discretion, with effect from 1 April 2018, licensing fees be increased by a minimum of 4%, resulting in the fee levels detailed in Appendix 1 to this Minute.

2. Review of Fares and Charges in respect of Taxi Services

After consideration of a report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing a report from the Head of Legal Services, the Committee:

Noted:

2.1. That, on 7 December 2017, the Licensing Committee resolved that new scales proposed by taxi operators for maximum fares and charges from 1 May 2018 for all taxi services within the mainland area of Orkney, including the linked south isles, attached as Appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, be approved for public consultation.

2.2. That the statutory consultation process was undertaken during the period 5 January to 5 February 2018, when the public were requested to submit representations in respect of the proposed scales, referred to at paragraph 2.1 above.

2.3. That no representations were received from the public.

The Committee resolved, in terms of delegated powers:

2.4. That the scales for maximum fares and charges for all taxi services within the mainland area of Orkney, including the linked south isles, attached as Appendix 2 to this Minute, be approved.

2.5. That the scales, referred to at paragraph 2.4 above, should take effect from 1 May 2018.

3. Taxi Stance, Stromness

After consideration of a report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing a report from the Head of Legal Services, the Committee:

Noted:

3.1. That, on 25 January 2018, the Licensing Committee resolved to consult on the proposed revocation of a taxi stance for four vehicles on the south-east side of Ferry Road, Stromness, between the South Pier and the Warehouse Pier, appointed in 1999.

3.2. That the statutory consultation process was undertaken during the period 1 to 15 February 2018, when operators were requested to submit representations in respect of the proposal, referred to at paragraph 3.1 above.

3.3. That no representations were received from operators.

The Committee resolved, in terms of delegated powers:

3.4. That the taxi stance for four vehicles on the south-east side of Ferry Road, Stromness, between the South Pier and the Warehouse Pier be revoked.

4. Conclusion of Meeting

At 11:10 the Chair declared the meeting concluded.

Signed: Duncan A Tullock.