

LICENSING COMMITTEE

6 February 2018

Present:

Councillor Keith Owen (Chair)

Councillors Branston, Brimble, Hannan, D Henson, Holland, Mitchell, Sills and Vizard M

Apologies:

Councillors Sheldon, Foale, Keen, Newby and Pearson

Also present:

Environmental Health and Licensing Manager, Litigation Solicitor, Principal Licensing Officer and Democratic Services Officer (Committees) (MD)

1 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 31 October 2017 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

2 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made by Members.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976

3 Licensing Fees and Charges

The Principal Licensing Officer presented the report for the proposed licensing fees and charges for 2018/19. He explained that it was a statutory obligation to set the fees.

He informed Members that if there were no increase in fees this would put the Council at risk of being unable to recover the costs for services and activities which it was permitted to charge for. The fees were monitored each year to ensure that they were reasonable, but any change was not for the purpose of generating revenue.

The taxi fees would be advertised for 28 days in the Civic Centre reception and in newspapers and would be approved in March 2018 if no representations were made. However, any challenge to the fee changes would require that they be brought back to the Licensing Committee in March 2018.

In response to Members' questions, the Environmental Health and Licensing Manager and Principal Licensing Officer explained that:-

- The Gambling and Licensing Act fees are set by legislation;
- Other Licensing fees must be justified through different legislation and adhere to the European Union Services Directives;
- Fees are calculated based upon the cost to deliver the service, policy amendments and consultations and the costs associated with the licensing committee.

A Member expressed appreciation for the hard work undertaken by the Licensing team and considered the increase to be modest.

RESOLVED that the proposed Fees and Charges for the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019 be approved as set out in the report.

The meeting commenced at 5.30 pm and closed at 5.45 pm

Chair