

Appendix A (Part 2 of 2)

Officer response to consultation responses received.

Appendix Letter/ Document Number	Objection	Officer Comments/ Explanatory Notes
1	Objection to an increase in fees for Private Hire	<p>To aid the Council to properly recover relevant licensing costs all licensing procedures have been considered and reviewed in detail; this work continues to evolve through an iterative process to further develop, improve and refine the processes involved. Managers, licensing officers and finance officers have collaborated in this work. The licensing procedures are considered from receipt of application to the issue of the final licence, permit, notice or registration with both variable and fixed costs being considered. These costs include officer, management and member time, including running of relevant Committees and the Licensing Panel, to administer and monitor compliance of both those already licensed and those who are unlicensed but exclude time spent enforcing matters that relate to joint hackney and private hire drivers' licences. In addition, a proportion of all indirect costs that can reasonably be attributed to licensing procedures have been included; for example, office accommodation, ICT, travelling, advertising, postage & printing, subscriptions, telephone costs, training and all other relevant internal market recharges and supplies and services costs.</p> <p>The Licensing Service is receiving an increase in Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licence applications some of which are drivers returning from being Licenced with</p>

		<p>Wolverhampton Council.</p> <p>Objection has been received from a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver/Private Hire Vehicle Proprietor.</p>
2	Objection to an increase in fees	<p>The costs quoted in this objection are not factually correct, the correct figures are listed below</p> <p>Checks with Wolverhampton City Council have revealed that the cost of a three-year Hackney Carriage/Private Hire or Dual Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers licence is £138 in 2025/26 and for 2026/27 it costs £156. The cost of the Safeguarding Training is £50 for 2025/26 and for 2026/27. The cost of a Disclosure and Barring Service check (DBS) is separate to the application fee with the applicant being required to pay this separately. The cost of a medical is separate for both Councils with the applicant being required to pay this separate to the application fee.</p> <p>I note the cost of the DBS is included within the proposed fee charged by Shropshire Council.</p> <p>Wolverhampton City Council</p> <p>Three year Hackney Carriage or Private Hire or Dual Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers licence - £156</p> <p>Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Training Programme and Test - £50 (Equivalent to Shropshire Council's Safeguarding Course)</p> <p>Medical – costs determined by the medical examiner</p>

		<p>DBS – cost determined by the provider</p> <p>Total £206 charged by the Local Authority all other costs paid by the applicant separately</p> <p>Shropshire Council – proposed fees 2026/27</p> <p>Three year Hackney Carriage/Private Hire or Dual Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers licence - £341</p> <p>Safeguarding Training - cost included in the licence fee</p> <p>Medical – costs determined by the medical examiner</p> <p>DBS – cost included in the licence fee</p> <p>Total £ 341 charged by the Local Authority only the costs of the medical are paid separately by the applicant</p> <p>Objection has been received from a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver/Private Hire Vehicle Proprietor.</p>
3	Objection to an increase in fees	<p>Driver's Badge 3 yr Renewal (inc. DVLA, DBS check and Safeguarding Course) proposed increased by £32.00 over 3 years, this equates to £10.66 per year.</p> <p>Hackney Carriage Vehicle – renewal proposed increased by £25.00 per year.</p> <p>Standard Private Hire Vehicle – renewal proposed increased by £11.00 per year.</p> <p>Objection has been received from a Hackney Carriage and</p>

		Private Hire Driver.
4	Objection to an increase in fees	<p>Driver's Badge 3 yr Renewal (inc. DVLA, DBS check and Safeguarding Course) proposed increased by £32.00 over 3 years, this equates to £10.66 per year.</p> <p>Hackney Carriage Vehicle – renewal proposed increased by £25.00 per year.</p> <p>Standard Private Hire Vehicle – renewal proposed increased by £11.00 per year.</p> <p>Objection has been received from a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver.</p>
5	Request to freeze the prices for 1 to 2 years	<p>The Council are required to calculate fees on a cost recovery basis. An exercise has been undertaken involving managers, licensing officers and finance officers to capture the detail involved in all licensing procedures where the Council has the discretionary power to set fees, including those specifically relating to driver, hackney carriage, private hire vehicle and operator licences. The procedures were considered from receipt of application to the issue of the final licence with both variable and fixed costs being considered. These costs include officer time and management time spent on licensing administration and monitoring compliance of those already licensed but excludes time spent on enforcing unlicensed operators/businesses. In addition, a proportion of all relevant indirect costs that can reasonably be attributed to licensing procedures have been included; for example, office accommodation, ICT, travelling, legal costs, advertising, equipment, postage & printing, subscriptions, telephone costs, other corporate recharges, etc.</p>

		<p>All this information is used in calculating the fees to ensure that applicants are recharged for the cost of the service they are being provided.</p> <p>Objection has been received from a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver.</p>
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