

Minute

Licensing Committee

Thursday, 13 March 2025, 14:30.

Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Place, Kirkwall.



Present

Councillors Duncan A Tullock, Kristopher D Leask, Alexander G Cowie, David Dawson, Steven B Heddle, Rachael A King, Gwenda M Shearer and Owen Tierney.

Clerk

- Katy Russell-Duff, Committees Officer.

In Attendance

- Gavin Barr, Interim Head of Planning and Regulatory Services.
- Erik Knight, Head of Finance.
- Gavin Mitchell, Head of Legal and Governance.
- Lillian Rendall, Legal Clerk.

Declaration of Interest

- Councillor Rachael A King – Item 2.

Chair

- Councillor Duncan A Tullock.

1. Review of Maximum Fares and Charges for Taxi Services on Mainland Area of Orkney

After consideration of a report by the Corporate Director for Strategy, Performance and Business Solutions, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing a report from the Head of Legal and Governance, the Committee:

Resolved, in terms of delegated powers, that the new scales for maximum fares and charges for all taxi services within the mainland area of Orkney, including the linked south isles, attached as Appendix 1 to this Minute, be approved, to take effect from 1 May 2025.

2. Review of Fees for Short-term Let Licences

Councillor Rachael A King declared an interest in this item, her connection being that she was a short-term let licence holder, and was not present during discussion of this item.

After consideration of a joint report by the Corporate Director for Strategy, Performance and Business Solutions and the Corporate Director for Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing a report from the Head of Legal and Governance, the Committee:

Resolved, in terms of delegated powers:

2.1. That fees for licences for short-term lets, including renewals, be increased by 10% from those approved on 1 September 2022, as detailed in Appendix 2 to this Minute, with effect from 1 April 2025.

2.2. That, where an application for a short-term let licence was unsuccessful and a licence refused, the non-refundable element of the application fee be increased by 10% to £264, with effect from 1 April 2025.

3. Review of Licensing Fees

After consideration of a joint report by the Corporate Director for Strategy, Performance and Business Solutions and the Corporate Director for Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing a report from the Head of Legal and Governance, the Committee:

Resolved, in terms of delegated powers, that, where the Council had discretion, with effect from 1 April 2025, licensing fees be increased by a minimum of 10%, resulting in the fee levels detailed in Appendix 3 to this Minute.

4. Exclusion of Public

On the motion of Councillor Duncan A Tullock, seconded by Councillor Kristopher D Leask, the Committee resolved that the public be excluded for the remainder of the meeting, as the business to be considered involved the disclosure of exempt information of the classes described in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended.

5. Application for Grant of Taxi Licence

The applicant was present during discussion of this item.

A representative from Police Scotland was present, via Microsoft Teams, during consideration of this item.

Under section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the public had been excluded from the meeting for this item on the grounds that it involved the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 6 and 14 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

After consideration of a report by the Corporate Director for Strategy, Performance and Business Solutions, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing a report from the Head of Legal and Governance, the Committee:

Resolved, in terms of delegated powers, what action should be taken with regard to an application for grant of a taxi licence.

The above constitutes the summary of the Minute in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 section 50C(2) as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985.

6. Conclusion of Meeting

At 14:52 the Chair declared the meeting concluded.

Signed: Duncan A Tullock