

# Licensing Committee

## Agenda

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**Date:** Monday, 4th November, 2024  
**Time:** 2.00 pm  
**Venue:** Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields, Middlewich Road,  
Sandbach CW11 1HZ

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The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

It should be noted that Part 1 items of Cheshire East Council decision making meetings are audio recorded and the recordings will be uploaded to the Council's website.

### **PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT**

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Declarations of Interest**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in any item on the agenda.

3. **Public Speaking Time/Open Session**

In accordance with paragraph 2.32 of the Committee Procedural Rules and Appendix 7 to the Rules a total period of 10 minutes is allocated for members of the public to address the Committee on any matter relevant to the work of the Committee. Individual members of the public may speak for up to 5 minutes, but the Chairman will decide how the period of time allocated for public speaking will be apportioned where there are a number of speakers. Members of the public are not required to give notice to use this facility. However, as a matter of courtesy, a period of 24 hours' notice is encouraged.

Members of the public wishing to ask a question at the meeting should provide at least three clear working days' notice in writing and should include the question with that notice. This will enable an informed answer to be given.

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For requests for further information

**Contact:** Karen Shuker

**Tel:** 01270 686459

**E-Mail:** [karen.shuker@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:karen.shuker@cheshireeast.gov.uk) with any apologies

4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting (Pages 3 - 4)**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10 June 2024 as a correct record.

5. **Minutes of Licensing Sub-Committees (Pages 5 - 14)**

To receive the minutes of the following meetings:

**Licensing Act Sub Committee**

22 May 2024

24 May 2024

4 June 2024

**Licensing Sub-Committee**

26 June 2024

6 August 2024

6. **Review of Licensing Fees and Charges (Pages 15 - 22)**

To review the licensing fees and charges for the issuing and renewal of licenses, consents, and permits issued by the Licensing Team with effect from April 2025.

**THERE ARE NO PART 2 ITEMS**

**Membership:** Councillors C Bulman, C Chapman, T Dean, H Faddes, A Gage, A Heler, C Hilliard, R Kain (Vice-Chair), R Moreton (Chair), J Pratt, J Priest, L Smetham, J Smith and J Wray

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the **Licensing Committee**  
held on Monday, 10th June, 2024 in the Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields,  
Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

**PRESENT**

Councillor R Moreton (Chair)  
Councillor R Kain (Vice-Chair)

Councillors M Brooks, C Chapman, H Faddes, A Heler, C Hilliard, J Pratt,  
J Smith and J Wray

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Kim Evans, Licensing Team Leader  
Gary Coghlan, Legal Officer  
Sam Jones, Democratic Services Officer

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor C Bulman and  
Councillor L Smetham.

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

In the interests of openness, Councillor M Brooks declared that, in relation  
to Item 6, she was a trustee of the Packhorse Bowling and Social Club in  
Macclesfield which had a premises license.

**3 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION**

There were no public speakers.

**4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING****RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 2024 be approved as a  
correct record.

**5 MINUTES OF LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEES****RESOLVED:**

To receive the minutes of the following meetings of the Licensing Act Sub-  
Committee:

26 March 2024

16 April 2024

25 April 2024

**6 REVISED STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY**

The Committee considered a report which sought to review the draft Revised Statement of Licensing Policy prior to its consideration at Corporate Policy Committee.

Kim Evans, Licensing Team Leader, attended to present the report.

It was noted that Cheshire East Council was mandated to have a Statement of Licensing Policy by Section 5 of the Licensing Act and was required to update it every 5 years; the current policy would end in December 2024. The draft policy had been subject to consultation which closed on 7 June 2024.

**RESOLVED:**

That the recommendations set out in the Revised Statement of Licensing Policy report be approved prior to its consideration at Corporate Policy Committee.

The meeting commenced at 2.06 pm and concluded at 2.12 pm

Councillor R Moreton (Chair)

## **CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the **Licensing Act Sub-Committee**  
held on Wednesday, 22nd May, 2024 in the Committee Suite 1,2 & 3,  
Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

### **PRESENT**

Councillor A Heler (Chair)  
Councillors L Smetham and J Wray

### **OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Tracey Billington, Licensing Enforcement Officer  
Jennifer Rowney, Licensing Enforcement Officer  
Gary Coughlan, Lawyer  
Sam Jones, Democratic Services Officer

### **1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

#### **RESOLVED:**

That Councillor A Heler be appointed as Chair.

### **2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

In the interests of openness, the following declaration was made:

Councillor A Heler declared that she knew Councillor Wayne Salisbury (applicant) as he was the Clerk at Haslington Parish Council.

### **3 APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE – LETTIE SPENCER PLAYING FIELD, WYBUNBURY ROAD, WILLASTON, CW5 7JF**

The sub-committee considered a report for a premises licence – Lettie Spencer Playing Field, Wybunbury Road, Willaston, CW5 7JF.

The following attended the hearing and made representations with respect to the application:

- Applicant/s – (All from Willaston Parish Council) Councillors Wayne Salisbury, Anna Cutts, Emma Angier, and Craig Bailey
- Objectors - Taff Wilcox (also speaking on behalf of Mrs Wilcox), and Carole Emslie

After a full hearing of the application and in accordance with the rules of procedure, the Chair of the Sub-Committee reported, that after taking account of:

- The oral and written representations made by all parties to the hearing.
- The licensing objective of the prevention of public nuisance.
- The Secretary of State's Guidance under the Licensing Act 2003 (Dec 2022).
- Cheshire East Council's Statement of Licensing Policy

The following course of action had been agreed:

**RESOLVED:**

That the application for a premises licence – Lettie Spencer Playing Field, Wybunbury Road, Willaston, CW5 7JF, be **GRANTED**, as set out in the Operating Schedule, any mandatory conditions that must be included on the licence in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003 and the additional conditions set out below.

The premises are licensed for the following activities the on Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays between 12:00 hours and 21:00 hours:

- The outdoor projection of films (on no more than 2 occasions in a calendar year);
- The performance of live music (on no more than 2 occasions in a calendar year);
- The supply of alcohol (on no more than 4 occasions in a calendar year).

The Sub-Committee considered it was unnecessary at this stage to impose additional restrictions or conditions on the licence in order to promote the licensing objectives.

The meeting commenced at 10.05 am and concluded at 11.13 am

Councillor A Heler (Chair)

## **CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the **Licensing Act Sub-Committee**  
held on Friday, 24th May, 2024 in the Council Chamber - Town Hall,  
Macclesfield, SK10 1EA

### **PRESENT**

Councillor R Moreton (Chair)  
Councillors A Heler and J Place

### **OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Kim Evans, Licensing Team Leader  
Gary Coughlan, Lawyer  
Sam Jones, Democratic Services Officer

### **4 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

#### **RESOLVED:**

That Councillor R Moreton be appointed as Chair.

### **5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

In the interests of openness, the following declarations were made:

Councillor J Place declared that he knew Lee and Kirsten Wainwright as he had lived in Macclesfield for a number of years.

### **6 APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE - BOLLINGTON BREWING CO. LTD, BROOK MILL, PARKER STREET, MACCLESFIELD, SK11 7BQ**

The sub-committee considered a report for a premises license - Bollington Brewing Co. LTD, Brook Mill, Parker Street, Macclesfield, SK11 7BQ.

The following attended the hearing and made representations with respect to the application:

- Lee Wainwright and Kirsten Wainwright (applicants)

After a full hearing of the application and in accordance with the rules of procedure, the Chair of the Sub-Committee reported, that after taking account of:

- The oral and written representations made by all parties to the hearing.
- The licensing objective of the prevention of public nuisance.

- The Secretary of State's Guidance under the Licensing Act 2003 (Dec 2022).
- Cheshire East Council's Statement of Licensing Policy.

The following course of action had been agreed:

**RESOLVED:**

That the application for a premises licence – Bollington Brewing Co. LTD, Brook Mill, Parker Street, Macclesfield, SK11 7BQ, be GRANTED as set out in the Operating Schedule accompanying the application, any mandatory conditions that must be included on the licence in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003 and the additional conditions set out in below:

1. There shall be no disposal of bottles outside the premises between the hours of 21:00 pm and 09:00 am.
2. All persons are requested to leave the premises quietly and with consideration to neighbours.
3. All sales shall be paid for prior to delivery and a strict Challenge 25 policy shall be used to prevent the sale or supply of alcohol to persons under 18 years of age.
4. The delivery driver shall require any person who appears under 18 years of age to produce a recognised proof of age card, driving licence or passport to prove they are over 18 years of age.

The meeting commenced at 10.08 am and concluded at 10.26 am

Councillor R Moreton (Chair)

## **CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the **Licensing Act Sub-Committee**  
held on Tuesday, 4th June, 2024 in the Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields,  
Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

### **PRESENT**

Councillor C Bulman (Chair)  
Councillors H Faddes and L Smetham

### **OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Kim Evans, Licensing Team Leader  
Mark Vyse, Environmental Health  
Gary Coughlan, Lawyer  
Sam Jones, Democratic Services Officer

### **7 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

#### **RESOLVED:**

That Councillor C Bulman be appointed as Chair.

### **8 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **9 DETERMINATION OF AN OBJECTION TO A TEMPORARY EVENT NOTICE - CHURCHES MANSION, 150 HOSPITAL STREET, NANTWICH, CW5 5RY**

The Sub-Committee considered a report for a determination of an objection to a Temporary Event Notice - Churches Mansion, 150 Hospital Street, Nantwich, CW5 5RY.

After a full hearing of the application and in accordance with the rules of procedure, the Chair of the Sub-Committee reported, that after taking account of:

- The oral and written representations made by all parties to the hearing.
- The licensing objective of the prevention of public nuisance.
- The Secretary of State's Guidance under the Licensing Act 2003 (Dec 2022).
- Cheshire East Council's Statement of Licensing Policy

The following course of action had been agreed:

#### **RESOLVED:**

The Sub-Committee resolved to continue with the meeting of the Licensing Act Sub-Committee in the absence of the applicant, as they were content that the applicant had been made aware of the meeting time and date, and all other relevant parties were present.

The Sub-Committee resolves to uphold the objection lodged by Environmental Health and issue a Counter Notice under section 105 of the Licensing Act 2003.

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 10.38 am

Councillor C Bulman (Chair)

## **CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the **Licensing Sub Committee**  
held on Wednesday, 26th June, 2024 in the Committee Suite 1,2 & 3,  
Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

### **PRESENT**

Councillor R Moreton (Chair)  
Councillors A Heler and J Smith

### **OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Kim Evans, Licensing Team Leader  
Tracey Billington, Licensing Enforcement Officer  
Mark Vyse, Environmental Health  
Gary Coghlan, Lawyer  
Sam Jones, Democratic Services Officer

### **1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

#### **RESOLVED:**

That Councillor R Moreton be appointed as Chair.

### **2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

In the interests of openness, Councillor A Heler declared that she had been in to the venue twice.

### **3 APPLICATION FOR THE VARIATION OF A PREMISES LICENCE - CUBAR, HIGH STREET, SANDBACH, CW11 1AL**

The Sub-Committee considered a report for an application for a variation of a premises licence - CUBAR, High Street, Sandbach, CW11 1AL.

The following attended the hearing and made representations with respect to the application:

- Phillip Bebbington (applicant)
- Corry Jones and Graham Newall (objectors)

After a full hearing of the application and in accordance with the rules of procedure, the Chair of the Sub-Committee reported, that after taking account of:

- The oral and written representations made by all parties to the hearing
- The licensing objective of the prevention of public nuisance

- The Secretary of State's Guidance under the Licensing Act 2003 (Dec 2022)
- Cheshire East Council's Statement of Licensing Policy

The following course of action had been agreed:

**RESOLVED:**

That the application for a variation of a premises licence - CUBAR, High Street, Sandbach, CW11 1AL, be GRANTED as set out in the Operating Schedule accompanying the application, any mandatory conditions that must be included on the licence in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003 and the additional conditions set out in below:

For the avoidance of doubt the committee took no account of personal statements made by the Applicant concerning 1 of the objectors to the grant of the licence which the objector stated were defamatory as those statements were of no relevance to the licensing objectives.

**Additional Conditions**

1. Any live or recorded music emanating from the premises shall not be clearly audible at the boundary of the nearest residential property.
2. Recorded music after 2300hrs shall be background music only.

The meeting commenced at 2.04 pm and concluded at 3.13 pm

Councillor R Moreton (Chair)

## **CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the **Licensing Sub Committee**  
held on Tuesday, 6th August, 2024 in the Committee Suite 1,2 & 3,  
Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

### **PRESENT**

Councillor R Moreton (Chair)  
Councillors A Heler and L Smetham

### **OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Kim Evans, Licensing Team Leader  
Jennifer Rowney, Licensing Officer  
Daniel Merenda, Licensing Enforcement Officer  
Louise Price, Lawyer  
Sam Jones, Democratic Services Officer

#### **4 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

##### **RESOLVED:**

That Councillor R Moreton be appointed as Chair.

#### **5 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **6 APPLICATION FOR THE VARIATION OF A PREMISES LICENSE - 1 HIGH STREET, NANTWICH, CW5 5AW**

The Sub-Committee considered a report for an application for a variation of a premises licence - 1 High Street, Nantwich, CW5 5AW.

The following attended the hearing and made representations with respect to the application:

- Janey Allen and Roger Marlow – objectors
- Louise Reade – applicant

After a full hearing of the application and in accordance with the rules of procedure, the Chair of the Sub-Committee reported, that after taking account of:

- The oral and written representations made by all parties to the hearing
- The licensing objective of the prevention of public nuisance
- The Secretary of State's Guidance under the Licensing Act 2003 (Dec 2022)

- Cheshire East Council's Statement of Licensing Policy

The following course of action had been agreed:

**RESOLVED:**

That the application for a variation of a premises licence - 1 High Street, Nantwich, CW5 5AW, be **APPROVED** as set out in the Operating Schedule accompanying the application, any mandatory conditions that must be included on the licence in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003:

- The performance of live music (indoors and outdoors) is permitted 12:00 - 02:00 Monday to Sunday.
- The performance of recorded music (indoors and outdoors) is permitted 12:00 - 02:00 Monday to Sunday.
- Anything of a similar description to the above (indoors and outdoors) is permitted to 12:00 - 02:00 Monday to Sunday.
- The provision of late-night refreshment (indoors and outdoors) is permitted 12:00 - 02:00 Monday to Sunday.
- The supply of alcohol is permitted (for consumption on and off the premises) 12:00 - 02:00 Monday to Sunday.
- The hours the premises are open to public is permitted between 12:00 - 02:00 Monday to Sunday.

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 10.42 am

Councillor R Moreton (Chair)

OPEN

## Licensing Committee

04 November 2024

### Review of Licensing Fees and Charges

**Report of: Peter Skates, Acting Executive Director of Place**

**Ward(s) Affected: All Wards**

#### Purpose of Report

- 1 To seek Members' approval to increase the licensing fees and charges for the issuing and renewal of licenses, consents, and permits issued by the Licensing Team with effect from 1 April 2025.

#### Executive Summary

- 2 The Licensing Team has reviewed the fees and charges payable for applications within our remit and is proposing a number of increases as set out within appendix 1.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

The Licensing Committee is recommended to:

1. Resolve that the fees set out in appendix 1 are approved.
2. Authorise the Licensing Team Leader to publish the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing fees in accordance with the relevant legislative provisions.
3. That delegated authority be given to the Head of Regulatory Services to consider any objections received and determine the final fees payable in consultation with the Chairman of the Licensing Committee.

#### Background

- 3 The Licensing Authority may charge a fee for the issue or renewal of various licences for which they have a statutory duty to administer. Certain fees are set either by Statute or Regulations, but some fees can be set by Local Authorities to cover the cost of administration, compliance, and some elements of enforcement; Locally Set Fees. The

Council is not able to make a profit from licensing fees and cannot support the General Fund from licensing fees.

- 4 Where possible, the Licensing Team aims to recover operating costs. Where the Council has the discretion to set the fees, they are subject to review which can take into account operating costs, inflation, and purchase costs etc.
- 5 The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 (the Act) which allows a Council to set hackney carriage and private hire fees, states that the fee for vehicle and operator licences shall not exceed £25.00 or such other sum as the Council may from time to time determine. In the light of current costs, £25.00 is not seen as a realistic fee to impose. The fee has not been set at this rate for a significant number of years.
- 6 In respect of vehicle and operator licences the Act states that the Council may charge such fees as may be sufficient in the aggregate to cover in whole or in part:
  - I. The reasonable cost of inspecting Hackney Carriages and Private Hire vehicles to ascertain whether any such licence should be granted or renewed.
  - II. The reasonable cost of providing Hackney Carriage stands.
  - III. Any reasonable administrative or other costs in connection with the above and with the control and supervision of Hackney Carriages and Private Hire vehicles.
- 7 In respect of driver licences the Act states that the Council may charge, “such a fee as it considers reasonable with a view to recovering the costs of issue and administration associated with the grant of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers’ licences”.
- 8 In proposing the fees for 2025/2026 we have been mindful of the current cost of living increases, the continued effect of the economy post pandemic on the licensed trade, and the increases in costs to the Council caused by recent increases in inflation rates.
- 9 In 2021/2022 the Licensing Authority did not increase fees as we acknowledged the impact that Covid lockdowns were having on the licensed trade. It was possible to use some staff cost savings (saved due to maternity leave) to mitigate the cost of any increase in budgetary demands on the Team.
- 10 In 2022/2023 the Licensing Authority increased all taxi licensing fees except the licence fee for the grant of driver licences. This was because we had seen a reduction in the number of drivers, and it was hoped that

freezing the driver licence fee would help those thinking of coming into the trade to make an application. That hope was not realised, with no significant numbers of new licenses being applied for. Indeed, across most licence areas, we have seen a decrease in the numbers of licenses issued.

- 11 At the time of writing the report UK inflation has seen recent highs of around 11% but has steadily come down across 2024/2025. However, because of previous decisions to freeze fees and having to take account of previous high inflation rates, our fees do need to continue to rise. The last inflation release from the Office for National Statistics confirmed that inflation was at 3.1%. While we have attempted to be near to this increase, some fees have been subject to a larger increase. However, this is generally where the fee covers multiple years, such as a joint driver licence, which is issued for three years.
- 12 A number of fees are fixed by Statute which are not referenced in this report. These relate to Licensing Act 2003 fees and Gambling Act 2005 fees (a maximum cap). It should be noted that the fees in respect of Licensing Act 2003 applications have not increased since 2005 and the fees for applications under the Gambling Act 2005 have not increased since 2007. The lack of increase in these licensing areas does represent a concern in terms of licensing income levels.
- 13 There are also some licences issued for which the Council cannot set a fee such as Street Collection Permits and House to House Collection Licenses.
- 14 The fees relating to street trading and sex establishments are also subject to the EU Service Directive (2006). This Directive, which has been incorporated in UK law by the Provision of Services Regulations 2009 and reaffirmed by the European Union (Withdrawal) 2018 Act confirms:
  - I. Fee charges must be proportionate to the cost of the process.
  - II. Fees cannot be used as either a deterrent or to raise funds.
  - III. Enforcement should not be included in the fees.
- 15 There are a number of cases in the Higher Courts that have set down the lawful approach to fees and fee setting. This includes the activities that can be included when calculating costs. The general principles include that the Licensing Authority cannot make a profit and must carry forward surplus; deficits can be recouped through increasing fees; in respect of some licences only administration and issue costs can be taken into consideration; compliance with a licence or conditions etc. is compliance rather than enforcement; and costs for one type of licence can be

incorporated into the fees of another (ie vehicle and driver fees). In reviewing the fees, all case law has been taken into consideration.

- 16 It is envisaged, subject to consultation and the consideration of any objections, that the increase in fees would take effect on 1 April 2025.

### **Consultation and Engagement**

- 17 In respect of certain fees, there is a requirement to publicise any increases in a local newspaper. This allows a period for objections to be made. How this consultation takes place is set down within legislation.
- 18 Any consultation responses will be considered, and the final fee payable may be amended, but any fees would not be greater than those set out in appendix 1.

### **Reasons for Recommendations**

- 19 The Council has made provision in its Constitution for the setting of these fees to be delegated to the Licensing Committee.

### **Other Options Considered**

- 20 Consideration has been given to not increasing the fees payable. However, the costs associated with providing the service have increased and it is necessary for the service to be, so far as possible, cost neutral. This is especially important given the pressures on the Council's overall budget.
- 21 In proposing these increases we have considered whether or not it is appropriate to increase all licence fees or if some fees can be frozen. However, given the financial pressures on the Council a freeze or reduction in taxi licensing fees is not appropriate with assistance from the Council's General Fund.

### **Implications and Comments**

#### *Monitoring Officer/Legal*

- 22 The Recommendations in Section 3 of this Report are supportable should the Members wish to delegate some of its fee setting functions. This will be expeditious and retain committee oversight.
- 23 Sections 53 and 70 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 allow the Licensing Authority to charge fees for the grant of licences in respect of hackney carriage and private hire drivers, vehicles, and operators. The fees must be set for these licences on the basis that it only recovers costs which it is entitled statutorily to recover.

- 24 The statutory power to levy a fee for licensable activities such as taxi driving does not give a local authority a free hand in relation to the scale of the fee that is going to be levied. Any increase upon the livelihood of those affected by it has to be taken into account as does the scale of the increase. Members should satisfy themselves that any proposed increase in fees is proportionate to the licensing function to which it pertains.
- 25 Members should not approve an increase in licensing fees:
- I. For drivers of hackney carriages and private hire vehicles that are not reasonable to cover the cost of issue and administration.
  - II. For hackney carriage and private hire vehicles and Operators that are more than sufficient in aggregate to cover the costs in Paragraph 6.4.
  - III. For street traders and sexual entertainment venues that are not proportionate to the cost of the process, and which include enforcement in the fee.
- 26 Licensing fees which are neither reasonable nor proportionate are susceptible to challenge on public law grounds by way of judicial review.

#### *Section 151 Officer/Finance*

- 27 Where possible, the Licensing Team aims to recover all reasonable costs. In a number of areas, statute dictates whether a fee may or may not be charged and the level of any charge.
- 28 The Licensing Team and their Lead Finance Partner carefully monitor licensing fee income through the financial year. If at any time, it were considered there would be a shortfall between income and expenditure the fees could be reconsidered and increased and, subject to notice and consultation, implemented at any time (including mid-year).

#### *Policy*

- 29 The fees proposed are compatible with our charging strategy.

#### *Equality, Diversity and Inclusion*

- 30 There are no direct equality implications. The fees are calculated on a cost recovery basis and will not disproportionately affect those with a protected characteristic. An Equality Impact Assessment has therefore not been completed as part of this process.

*Human Resources*

31 There are no human resource implications save to say that the cost recovery calculation will include increases in staffing costs.

*Risk Management*

32 If the Committee determined that no increases in fees are appropriate, this could place a financial burden on licensing budgets that may require support from the General Fund. This in turn may mean that other Teams or Services see their budgets reduced.

*Rural Communities*

33 As the Licensing Authority we are aware that rural communities can rely on licensed vehicles where other forms of public transport are be limited. However, the costs of using services may be prohibitive for those on low or fixed incomes.

*Children and Young People including Cared for Children, care leavers and Children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)*

34 Our colleagues in Children Services have made us aware of their statutory responsibilities in ensuring children attend school, this includes using taxis to fulfil contracts. There is a lack of capacity in the market that is affecting their ability to provide that service.

*Public Health*

35 There are no direct implications for public health.

36 *Climate Change*

37 There are no direct implications for climate change.

<b>Access to Information</b>	
Contact Officer:	Kim Evans – Licensing Team Leader <a href="mailto:Licensing@cheshireeast.gov.uk">Licensing@cheshireeast.gov.uk</a> 0300 123 5015
Appendices:	Appendix 1 – Fees and Charges for 2024/2025
Background Papers:	None

SCALE OF FEES AND CHARGES 2025/26	2024/2025	2025/2026								
Please do not filter this document. It is designed to present the prices not analyse them.	Current Charges £	Proposed Charges £	Approved By / Approval Route (Member / Member Meeting Required)	CLT Lead	Lead Officer	Justification (Basis / reason for increase, decrease, keeping price the same, not applying standard inflationary increase)	Strategy Log Ref	ASDV / CEC	Increase / Decrease on previous year £0.00p	Increase / Decrease on previous year %
<b>LICENSING</b>										
<b>Proposed Fees for Cheshire East</b>										
Hackney Carriage and Private Hire										
* Hackney Carriage - 1 year	340.00	350.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	10.00	2.94%
* Private Hire Vehicle - 1 year	340.00	350.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	10.00	2.94%
* Accident replacement vehicle 3 month licence including 1 test (new fee for 2023/2024)	175.00	180.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	5.00	2.86%
* Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Test Fee	85.00	85.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	0.00	0.00%
* Joint Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver - 3 years	120.00	135.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	15.00	12.50%
* Private Hire Operator - 5 years	420.00	450.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	30.00	7.14%
* Vehicle Re-test Fee	50.00	55.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	5.00	10.00%
* Joint Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver - Renewal	140.00	155.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	15.00	10.71%
* Replacement Driver Badge	10.00	10.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	0.00	0.00%
* Replacement Plate	10.00	10.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	0.00	0.00%
* Replacement window sticker	5.00	5.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	0.00	0.00%
* Replacement licence	10.00	10.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	0.00	0.00%
* DVLA Licence Check	5.00	7.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	2.00	40.00%
* Knowledge Test	50.00	50.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	0.00	0.00%
* Knowledge Test Remark	20.00	20.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	0.00	0.00%
* Safeguarding Training (where there is a cost to the Licensing Authority)	50.00	50.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	0.00	0.00%
* Transfer of Licence	50.00	50.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	0.00	0.00%
* Check and Send Service	10.00	10.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	0.00	0.00%
* Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Applications	60.00	65.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	5.00	8.33%
* Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Update check (new for 2025/2026)	0.00	30.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	30.00	100.00%
Street Traders										
* 12 Month Consent	405.00	415.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	10.00	2.47%
6 Month Consent	265.00	275.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	10.00	3.77%
3 Month Consent	210.00	215.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	5.00	2.38%
1 Month Consent	160.00	165.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	5.00	3.13%
1 Week Consent	105.00	110.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	5.00	4.76%
1 Day Consent	55.00	55.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	0.00	0.00%
Sexual Entertainment Venues										
* New application	2,280.00	2,300.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	20.00	0.88%
* Renewal	1,140.00	1,150.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	10.00	0.88%
* Transfer	500.00	500.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	0.00	0.00%
* Variation	2,280.00	2,300.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	20.00	0.88%
* Copy of Public Register (per entry) Licensing Act 2003	10.50	10.50	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	0.00	0.00%
Age classification of films per film (new fee for 2025/2026)	0.00	50.00	Licensing Committee	Peter Skates	Tracey Bettaney	To meet cost of service provision	20.0	CEC	50.00	100.00%

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