

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Licensing Committee**
held on Monday, 24th November, 2025 in the Committee Suite 1, 2 and 3,
Delamere House, Delamere Street, Crewe, CW1 2JZ

PRESENT

Councillor A Moran (Chair)
Councillors C Bulman, H Faddes, A Heler, J Priest and L Smetham

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Kim Evans, Licensing Team Leader
Louise Price, Lawyer (virtually)
Sam Jones, Democratic Services Officer

26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor John Smith and Councillor Steven Edgar.

27 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest from Members.

28 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

There were no public speakers.

29 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2025 be approved as a correct record.

30 MINUTES OF LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of following Licensing Sub-Committee meetings be received:

- 27 August 2025
- 8 September 2025
- 12 September 2025

31 REVIEW OF LICENSING FEES AND CHARGES 2026/2027

Members considered a report which sought 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 2026.

Members were updated that a review had been carried out to ensure that the fees covered the costs of administration, monitoring and enforcement, which was in line with the principle of cost recovery, and the Council's Medium Term Financial Review strategy.

It was noted that the Council could not lawfully set a rate for fees which would generate a financial surplus or profit to support other council services. It was noted that statutory fees under the Licensing Act 2003 and the Gambling Act 2005 remained unchanged as these were set nationally, however locally set fees such as taxi licensing and other regulatory functions would be increased to account for inflation and an increase to operational costs. Most costs had been updated by the inflation figure of 3.8%, however some fees which had not been reviewed since Cheshire East Council was formed in 2009, had been increased at a higher rate.

RESOLVED (Unanimously):

That the Licensing Committee:

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. Delegate authority to the Head of Regulatory Services to consider any objections received and determine the final fees payable.

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 2.08 pm

Councillor A Moran (Chair)