

Date: 22 October 2015

Item: Taxi and Private Hire Licence Fees

This paper will be considered in public

1 Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to provide an update on the annual review of taxi and private hire licence fees

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 **The Panel is asked to note the paper.**

3 Background

- 3.1 The Metropolitan Public Carriage Act 1869, as amended, enables the licensing authority (TfL) to charge for taxi driver licence and taxi vehicle licence applications, and for licensing application tests and re-tests as well as charging for the grant of taxi driver and vehicle licences. Since 2000, changes have been introduced to reflect the principle that licence holders and applicants alike should pay for the costs of the licensing resources they use.
- 3.2 Licence fees are reviewed every year. The principle behind fee setting is to reflect the cost of carrying out each licensing activity, without cross subsidy from one activity to another.

4 Licence Fees

- 4.1 A review of licensing fees for 2016/17 has been undertaken based on the Quarter 2 forecast for taxi and private hire licensing costs for the five year period to 2020/21.

5 Proposed Fees

- 5.1 The proposed fees with effect from 1 April 2016, subject to further review ahead of papers to the Finance and Policy Committee and TfL Board, are as follows:

Fee Type		Current Fee	Proposed Fee
Taxi Vehicle	Application Fee	£65	No change
	Licence Fee	£33	No change
	Digital Taxi Top Application Fee	£133	To be confirmed
	Digital Taxi Top Licence Fee	£33	To be confirmed
Taxi Driver	Application Fee	£80	No change
	Licence Fee	£192	No change
Knowledge of London	Appearance Fee	£400	No change
	Written Test Fee	£200	No change
Private Hire Operators	Application Fee	£838	To be confirmed
	Licence Fee (small)	£650	No change
	Licence Fee (standard)	£1,988	To be confirmed
	Variation Fee (add operating centre)	£300	No change
	Variation Fee (remove operating centre)	£50	No change
Private Hire Drivers	Application Fee	£150	No change
	Licence Fee	£100	No change
Private Hire Vehicles	Application Fee	£65	No change
	Licence Fee	£35	No change

5.2 The calculations in respect of the proposals for Digital Taxi Top fees and those for Private Hire operators are ongoing and these will be confirmed in due course.

5.3 These proposed fees are subject to review and change and work continues regarding the projected licensing volumes going forward especially where private hire licensing numbers are concerned.

6 Financial Implications

6.1 The proposed changes to licence fees, together with ongoing savings from efficiencies, should ensure that taxi and private hire licensing costs are met from fee income without incurring a net cost to TfL.

List of appendices to this report:

None

List of Background Papers:

None

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