

**WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL
LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE**

HELD REMOTELY

7TH DECEMBER 2020 (10.30AM)

Present:

Councillors: P Dyke (Chairman), M Rayner (Vice-Chairman), J F Byng, R H Coleman, B S Dawes, C Edginton-White, I Hardiman, K Henderson, F M Oborski MBE, J W R Thomas, L Whitehouse and P W M Young.

The Chairman welcomed Councillor B S Dawes to the Committee.

Observers:

There were no members present as observers.

LIC.01 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

LIC.02 Appointment of Substitutes

No substitutes were appointed.

LIC.03 Declaration of Interests

No declarations of interest were made.

LIC.04 Minutes

Decision: The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd December 2019 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

LIC.05 Review of Fees and Charges for the Council's Licensing and Regulatory Services Function 2021/22.

Members received a report from the Head of Worcestershire Regulatory Services on behalf of Wyre Forest District Council, informing Members of the recent review of the Council's Licensing and Regulatory Services Function fees and charges and the proposal not to increase the fees and charges for the financial year 2021/22.

The Senior Practitioner – Licensing led Members through the report confirming that the fee structure was based on recovery costs and no surplus was made. He pointed out that although the proposal was to not increase the fees and charges there was one exception which was the increase of the repeat stray charge under the control of dogs fees and charges. This was to encourage

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responsible dog ownership by increasing the cost of repeat calls to the same property and move to true cost recovery. Members were alerted to an error on p19 of the report which stated there had been an increase in the cost of hackney carriage and private hire vehicle testing when this was not the case and the fees would remain the same. All statutory charges had been corrected to ensure no increase had been applied.

The Senior Practitioner – Licensing answered questions from Members on how costs had been determined and the variation of costs involved.

Decision:

- 1.1 Recommend to Council that the proposals for fees and charges within the Council's Licensing, Food, Health, Safety and Pollution Control functions for 2021/22, as detailed in the report, be included in the Council's 2021/22 budget strategy.**

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 10:43am.