

Report of the Assistant Director Corporate Services to the meeting of the Miscellaneous Licences Panel to be held on 1st April 2008.

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Subject:

Review of Miscellaneous Licences Fees

Summary statement:

This report seeks the approval of the Miscellaneous Licences Panel to increase various licence fees charged by the Department of Legal and Democratic Services, Licensing Team, with effect from 1st April 2008.

The Assistant Director Corporate Services submits this report for the consideration of Members.

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Assistant Director Corporate Services
(City Solicitor)

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Portfolio:

Corporate

Improvement Area:

**Corporate Improvement Committee
Safer and Stronger Communities**



2006-2007
Improving Rural Services
Empowering Communities



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Suzan Hemingway, Assistant Director Corporate Services (City Solicitor)



BRADFORD
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report seeks approval of Members to the proposed increases in the non-statutory fees for various licences issued by the Council's Licensing Team for the financial year 2008/2009 which are the responsibility of this Panel.
- 1.2 The current and proposed scale of fees is set out in Appendix 1 to this report.

2. Background

- 2.1 Every year, the fees charged for miscellaneous licences are reviewed and approved by the Panel, in line with the Council's Financial Regulations.
- 2.2 Current licence fees vary according to the type of licence. However they fall broadly into one of the following categories:-
 - (a) those licences for which the fee is set by statute;
 - (b) those licences for which there is a statutory maximum fee; and
 - (c) those licences in respect of which the Licensing Authority has discretion over the level of fee charged.
- 2.3 Most licences issued by the Licensing Team attract a fee. Wherever possible, the fees are set at a level to cover the Council's reasonable costs in processing the applications and in monitoring the licensed premises and licensable activities.
- 2.4 In order to ensure that the Licensing service recovers its reasonable costs of processing applications and enforcement of licence conditions, it is proposed to increase the fees for most licences and permits by approximately 2.5%, in line with inflation.

3. Legal Appraisal/Options

- 3.1 Members are asked to consider the following options and decide which to approve:
 - (a) the charges be increased from 1st April 2008 to the levels of the proposed charge set out in Appendix 1 to this report; or
 - (b) the charges be increased to such other levels, on the basis of cost recovery only, which Members decide; or
 - (c) the that current fee scales are maintained.

4. Financial and resource appraisal

- 4.1 The implementation of the proposed revised scale of fees would ensure that the licensing service recovers its reasonable costs in the present financial climate.

5. Other implications

5.1 Equal Rights

There are no apparent equal rights implications

5.2 Sustainability implications

There are no sustainability implications.

5.3 Community safety implications

The licence fees charged covers the cost of enforcement to ensure compliance with conditions, which are attached to licences to ensure public safety.

5.4 Human Rights Act

The recovery of reasonable and proper fees by the Council in connection with its general licensing activities, where these are allowed by statute, is not an infringement of Convention rights

5.5 Trade Union

There are no apparent trade union implications in respect of this report.

6. Not for publication documents

None

7. Recommendations

Members are invited to consider whether the proposed revised fee scales for miscellaneous licences set out in the Appendix 1 to this report should be implemented.

8. Appendices

1 Scale of current and proposed miscellaneous licence fees.

9. Background documents

Former Licensing Panel Agenda and Minutes of 16th March 2005.

Appendix 1**Current and Proposed Fees from 1st April 2008**

	Current Fee	Proposed
1. Game Dealer's Licence	£16.50	£17.00
2. Sex Establishment Licences (Sex Shops and Sex Cinemas)	£5520.00	£5658.00
3. Zoo Licences - for the Grant, Renewal or Transfer of Licences, including all renewal Inspection Fees charged during the <u>first year</u> of licence by the appointed Veterinary Inspector(s) and Council Inspector(s)	£690.00	£862.50
4. Mini-bus Permit	£30.00	£31.00
5. Street Trading Licence (Annual fee)	£5610.00	£5750.50
Street Trading Licence/Consent (Occasional)	£105.00 per day	£108.00 per day
6. Motor Salvage Operators (3 year Licence)	£71.50	£73.50
Copy of registration entry	£10.50	£11.00

Licences for which no charge is made:

7. Street Collection Permits
8. House to House Collection Permits
9. Scrap Metal Dealers
10. Caravan Site Licences