

FACE ITEM

1. Licensing Fees Update

The Council has reviewed its fees charged for hackney carriage and private hire licences. The proposed vehicle and operator licence fees were duly advertised in the Surrey Advertiser on Friday 29th March 2024 and the Herald on Thursday 28th March 2024 as well as on the Waverley Borough Council website.

Objections to the scale of fees could be made until midnight on the 26th April 2024. In accordance with legislation and as no objections were received, the new scale of fees came into operation on 30 May 2024.

Taxis and Private Hire

Vehicle licences and fees	2023- 2024	2024 - 2025
Hackney carriage or Private Hire vehicle test (including one test) Less than 5 years old.	£317.00	£317.00 50% discount for wheelchair accessible vehicles
Hackney carriage or Private Hire vehicle test, over 5 years old (including two tests): £291.00	£317.00 + £92.00 =£409.00	£420.00 50% discount for wheelchair accessible vehicles
Private Hire door stickers – 2 stickers (by exception only) – 1 sticker	£20.00 (£10.00)	£20.00 (£10.00)
Surrender & Replacement to a new vehicle	£92.00	£122.00
Missed vehicle test	£79.00	£79.00
Failure re-test	£79.00	£79.00
Replacement/lost plate and window pouch	£23.00	£23.00
Vehicle plate bracket only	£12.00	£12.00

Private Hire Operator licences and fees	2023- 2024	2024 - 2025
New Private hire operator (Licensed driver) 5 Year Licence	£163.00 (less than 5 vehicles) £214.00 (More than 5 vehicles)	£196.00
New Private hire operator (Unlicensed driver) 5 Year Licence	£241.00 Less than 5 vehicles £292.00 More than 5 vehicles	£290.00
Renewal Private hire operator 5 Year Licence	£136.00 Less than 5 vehicles £192.00 More than 5 vehicles	£182.00

Driver licences and fees	2022- 2023	2024 - 2025
New driver – hackney carriage/private hire 3 Year Licence Note: The 2024/2025 fee includes Administration fee £61, 1 DBS check £137, 1 Knowledge test £107, a check of your medical documentation £8. and Grant of Driver Licence £21. Only the grant of licence fee is refundable.	£293.00	£334.00
New driver – hackney carriage/private hire £111.00 (1 Year by exception Only)	£111.00	£334.00
Renewal Hackney carriage/private hire driver 3 Year	£191.00	£191.00
Renewal Hackney carriage/private hire driver £71.00 (1 Year by exception Only)	£71.00	£191.00
Replacement driver's badge	£12.00	£12.00
Change of address	£12.00	£12.00
Resit Fee Knowledge Test	£79.00	£91.00

Transfer from P/H driver to H/C driver	101.00	£116.00
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2. Pavement Licence Policy amendments



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LICENCE POLICY Apri

The Policy was first introduced in 2020 when the Government introduced new temporary powers to Borough and District Councils to issue these licences to reduce the impact of Covid on businesses, by the Business and Planning Act 2020.

The Government has now extended these powers making them permanent from 31 March 2024 under the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 and has introduced some minor changes.

- a £500 cap for new applications and a £350 cap for renewal (rather than the original £100 set out in the Business and Planning Act)
- local authorities may grant licences for a length of their choosing (up to two years) and are encouraged to grant licences for two years as standard.
- the 7-day consultation and 7-day determination periods provided for under the temporary regime have been extended to 14 days for each (excluding public holidays).
- clarifies that a minimum width of 2000 mm clear space should be provided between an obstacle and the edge of the footway. However, if this is not feasible due to physical constraints, then a minimum width of 1500 mm could be regarded as the minimum acceptable distance.
- existing licence holders can retain their licences granted under the temporary regime until the expiration date on their licence.
- the new pavement licensing provisions grants local authorities' new enforcement powers. From the commencement date, local authorities can, with the consent of the licence-holder, amend the licence in certain circumstances.

4. Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Policy Review

Officers are currently reviewing the Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Policy. The proposed amendments and areas for consideration are highlighted in colour in the attached working draft copy attached.

In particular I would like to mention that there has been some ambiguity regarding the definition of ULEV (ultra-low emission vehicle). Officers are seeking to address and clarify this within the new policy. Officers are also canvassing licensed drivers regarding their opinions and to seek feedback on potential dates for the introduction of an electric only vehicles policy.

5. Fares

Officers have updated the figures on the 27 March 2025 within the Guildford Methodology matrix for Hackney Carriage Fares and it has shown a slight decrease. Officers not minded to consult/amend the fares this year.

Please see the link below showing a national list of Council Hackney Carriage fares based on a 2 mile journey.

[Hackney Taxi Fare Tables \(phtm.co.uk\)](http://phtm.co.uk)