

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Registration and Licensing Committee

9th October 2017

Report of the Head of Legal Services – David Michael

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected: All

Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Licensing - Refund

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider a request for a refund following the surrender of a hackney carriage proprietor's licence.

Executive Summary

2. This report is to consider a request from Shane Spencer, for a part refund on the licence fee he paid for the renewal of his hackney carriage proprietor's licence.
3. Mr Spencer renewed his licence on the 10th March 2017 and surrendered the licence on the 29th September 2017.
4. The total refund has been calculated at £76.16

Background

5. Taxi legislation allows the authority to recover the reasonable cost of issuing and administering the licence; it does not allow an authority to make a profit.
6. Mr Spencer has requested a part refund for any money owing.
7. A hackney carriage proprietor's licence is issued for 1 year.

Officer Report

8. The Licensing Section undertake a comprehensive annual review of all licensing fees, to ensure that the fee levels are set to only recover the costs of providing the licensing service, as permitted by legislation.
9. The fee to renew a hackney carriage proprietor's licence is £250 which Mr Spencer paid to renew his licence from the 10th March 2017; he subsequently surrendered the licence on the 29th September 2017.
10. The £250 licence renewal fee is broken down into various elements which include, processing the application, the cost of vehicle inspections, the ongoing cost of administration and compliance / enforcement and any costs associated with providing taxi ranks.
11. The refund amount does not include any of the elements above, where the authority has already provided that service e.g. the cost of processing the application, any vehicle inspections and the ongoing costs associated with every full month in which the licence was active; the costs incurred by the Council in processing the refund are also subtracted.
12. A total refund has therefore been calculated as £76.16p

Equality Impact Assessment

13. Not applicable

Legal Impacts

14. Not applicable

Risk Management

15. Not applicable

Consultation

16. Not applicable

Recommendation

17. That the refund be issued.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

18. To ensure that the authority do not make a profit from licensing fees.

Implementation of Decision

19. Immediate implementation

Appendices

20. Not applicable

List of Background Papers

21. Not applicable

Officer Contact

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