

TO: REGULATORY COMMITTEE – 24th January 2007

SUBJECT: LATE PAYMENT OF DRIVERS AND VEHICLE LICENCES

FROM: MEMBERS' SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider a suggestion from officers that tighter restrictions are imposed on the late payment and application for the renewal of driver's, vehicles and operator's licence.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Licence holders, both vehicle and drivers, are becoming increasingly tardy when renewing their licences. Time and resources are being wasted in issuing reminders and chasing up licence holders.
- 2.2 When a licence expires, from the following day, there is no licence to renew. (You cannot renew something that doesn't exist).
- 2.3 The proposal will both focus licence holder's minds and help towards offsetting the extra administrative burden of late payers.
- 2.4 It is proposed that each application receives a letter explaining the penalties of late renewal with their renewal letter. This will be in the form of a separate letter with clear, bold print explaining the new system.

3. POLICY AND BUDGET FRAMEWORK

- 3.1 Assisting in encouraging licence holders to pay for their licences on time and, if they do not, they will be financially penalized to offset the increased administration.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 Allowing for unforeseen circumstances, officers may only grant up to three weeks after renewal dates for the licensing fee to be paid. After this time a brand new licence application will have to be made, with all of the attendant conditions applicable for new applications for the relevant licence applied
- 4.2 Licences not renewed by the expiry date of the existing licence will attract a 10% increase to the fee if paid during the three weeks mentioned in 4.1.
- 4.3 There will only be exceptions to the above if ample evidence is supplied to officers of, for example family illness, etc.

- 4.4 Being on holiday when the licence expires will not necessarily be acceptable as a reason for not renewing on time, as licences may be applied for in advance of the renewal dates.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL

Areas and the District Affected: All
Key Decision: Yes
Included in Forward Plan: No

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