Thurrock Council

Community Equality Impact Assessment

Service area and lead officer

Name of service	Licensing
CEIA Lead Officer	Paul Adams
CEIA Lead Officer job title	Licensing Manager
CEIA Lead Officer email address	pxadams@thurrock.gov.uk

Subject of this assessment

What specific policy, strategy, function or service is the subject of this assessment?

Setting of Licensing Fees

Borough-wide or location-specific?

 \boxtimes Borough-wide \square Location-specific – please state locations below.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Why is this policy, strategy, function or service development or review needed?

The setting of licensing fees and charges must be undertaken on an annual basis

Most licence applications attract a fee, different licensing regimes have different ways in which the fees are set, which generally is by one of three ways:

- A statutory set fee.
- A locally set fee that has by statute, a capped maximum amount.
- A locally set fee with no maximum cap.

With the exception of the statutory set fees, any fee charged must be based on cost recovery, no profit can be made on the licence fee income.



1. Engagement, consultation and supporting information

1.1. What steps you have taken, or do you plan to take, to engage or consult (where applicable) the whole community or specific groups affected by this development or review? **This is a vital step.**

Steps you have taken, or plan to take, to engage or consult

Click or tap here to enter text.

Consultation on the proposed fee change is not required as there are no significant proposed changes and those fees that require statutory consultation are not being increased.

Consultation should be undertaken on any significant proposed changes to fees, or where consultation is required by statute as below. None of the changes proposed meet these criteria.

Under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, with regards to hackney carriage proprietors' licences, private hire vehicle licences and private hire operator licences, there is a requirement where the fee charged is greater than £25 to consult on the proposed fee as prescribed by the legislation. The procedure requires that a notice must be published in a local newspaper, and at the offices, which must give 28 days from the date of publishing for objections to be lodged and advertise the date the fees will come into effect. If objection is received and has not been withdrawn, then the council must consider the objections. If this is the case, then this committee will consider the objections.

The fee increase will be notified to all service users at least 6 weeks before implementation.

1.2. What data or intelligence sources have you used to inform your assessment of the impact? How have these helped you understand who will be affected by the development or review?

Sources of data or intelligence, and how they have been used

Licensing fees are being increased in accordance with legislation on a cost recovery basis.

We have reviewed our own costs associated with providing these services and reviewed charges made by other local authorities for similar work and where appropriate benchmarked against these. Most local authorities publish these charges online.

2. Community and workforce impact

2.1. What impacts will this development or review have on communities, workforce and the health and wellbeing of local residents?

Communities and groups	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Summary of positive and negative impacts	How will positives be maximised, and negatives minimised or eliminated?
Local communities in general				Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Age		\boxtimes		Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Disability		\boxtimes		Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Gender reassignment				Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Marriage and civil partnership				Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Pregnancy and maternity				Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Race				Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Religion or belief				Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Sex				Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Sexual orientation				Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Location-specific impact, if any				Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Workforce				Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Health and wellbeing of residents				Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Socio-economic outcomes				Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.

Communities and groups	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Summary of positive and negative impacts	How will positives be maximised, and negatives minimised or eliminated?
Veterans and serving members of the armed forces				Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.

3. Monitoring and review

3.1. How will you review community and equality impact once the policy, strategy, function or service has been implemented? These actions should be developed using the information gathered in sections 1 and 2 and included in your service area's business plans.

Action	By when	By who
N/A	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
N/A	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
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4. Next steps

4.1. The information gathered must be used to inform reports presented to Cabinet or overview and scrutiny committees. This will give members a necessary understanding of the impact their decisions will have on different groups and the whole community.

Summarise the implications and customer impact below. This summary should be added to the committee reports template in the Diversity and Equality Implications section for review and sign-off at the consultation stage of the report preparation cycle.

Summary of implications and customer impact

The increase to our charges will affect anyone that holds a relevant licence with Thurrock Council or is wanting to apply for a relevant licence with Thurrock Council.

5. Sign off

- 5.1. This Community Equality Impact Assessment must be authorised by the relevant project sponsor, strategic lead, or assistant director. This should not be the CEIA Lead Officer. Officers authorising this assessment are responsible for:
 - the accuracy of the information
 - making sure actions are undertaken

Name	Role	Date
Gavin Dennett	Head of Public Protection	07/11/23
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