

## TRAFFORD COUNCIL

**Report to:** Public Protection Sub-Committee  
**Date:** 25<sup>th</sup> October 2018  
**Report for:** Decision  
**Report of:** Head of Regulatory Services

### Report Title

**Amendments to the Animal Licensing Fees**

### Summary

New laws on the licensing of activities involving animals take effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018. This report seeks approval for the setting of fees for these licences.

### Recommendation(s)

To approve the proposed fees effective from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018 as set out in Appendix 1.

### Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

**Name:** Nigel Smith, Head of Regulatory Services  
**Extension:** 4530

### Background Papers:

- Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals)(England) Regulations 2018
- DEFRA Guidance to the Regulations
- LGA Guidance on Setting Fees
- Fees calculations

## Background Information

Relationship to Corporate Priorities	Not applicable
Financial	The duration of the new licences will depend on a risk rating with some licences being granted for a longer period than others, and some of our existing licensees may also not be suitable for licensing under the new legislation, which could reduce licence fee revenue. However, this in turn would reduce administration and costs incurred by the Council. In addition to this, there may be an increase in the number of licences that are granted as the threshold for requiring a licence will be reducing, and increased enforcement powers could lead to more businesses being identified.
Legal Implications:	The Authority is required to implement the changes as required by The Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018
Equality/Diversity Implications	Not applicable
Sustainability Implications	Not applicable
Staffing/E-Government/Asset Management Implications	Not applicable
Risk Management Implications	Not applicable
Health and Safety Implications	Not applicable

### 1.0 Background

1.1 The Council is at present responsible for the regulation of a variety of animal-related businesses. The licence types currently issued by the Council include:

- **Animal boarding establishment licences** (for businesses accommodating dogs or cats – e.g. kennels, catteries, home boarders)
- **Dog breeding establishment licences** (premises used for, or in connection with, the commercial breeding of dogs)
- **Pet shop licences** (any business which keeps animals with a view to selling them as pets)
- **Riding establishment licences** (premises which keep horses and ponies for hire for riding, or for riding tuition).

1.2 The current number of licences issued by Trafford Council is as follows:

- 42 x Animal boarding establishment licences
- 6 x Pet shop licences
- 6 x Riding establishment licences
- 2 x Dog Breeding licences.

1.3 New legislation under the Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018 came into force on the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018. This new law under the Animal Welfare Act 2006 replaces previous licensing regimes, under much older separate pieces of legislation, which were deemed no longer fit for purpose. It also introduces a national licensing scheme

whereby all licences are issued under the same conditions with a mandatory rating and risk rating methodology.

1.4 A new robust and stronger licensing regime under the above mentioned regulations requires that a new licensing system be implemented for licensing activities involving animals which covers:

- Selling animals as pets
- Providing or arranging for the provision of boarding for cats or dogs
- Hiring out horses
- Breeding dogs
- Keeping or training animals for exhibition.

1.5 The existing licences will remain in force until they expire on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018. All existing licence holders have been written to in order to explain the changes. The Council's website has also been amended to provide information on the new licensing arrangements.

1.6 It was clear from the preparatory work undertaken that the new licensing regime will significantly increase the amount of officer time required due to the increase in the inspection time required because of the revised conditions. This will undoubtedly result in the fees increasing on a cost recovery basis.

1.7 The proposed fees are set out in **Appendix 1** of this report. They are set on a cost recovery basis having taken into account all relevant guidance. The fees have been split into application and grant fees.

1.8 The application fees are based on:

- Admin time
- Pre visit preparation time
- Officer inspection time including travel time
- Mileage

Grant fees cover:

- Mid-term inspections (where required)
- Issue of licence
- Renewal of licence
- Enforcement and compliance work.

1.9 As the Council's work on Animal Welfare is primarily undertaken by Oldham Council, in accordance with an agreed Service Level Agreement, the majority of these fee elements are based on a cost recovery basis on the charges that have been agreed with Oldham Council.

1.10 Whilst it is acknowledged that the fees are significantly higher than the fees under the previous regime (see **Appendix 2**) it is worth noting that those fees had not been reviewed to ensure cost recovery for some time. In addition, businesses achieving a higher standard will benefit from a longer length licence, which should offset the increase in fees as they will only have to pay the fee once every two or three years.

1.11 It is therefore requested that the proposed fees at Appendix 1 be approved.

## Animal Licensing Fees (excluding vet costs)

Effective 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018

Home Boarding of Dogs		
Application Fee		£186
Grant Fee	1 year	£105
	2 year	£125
	3 year	£145
Variation Fee		£50 per hour of officer time
Dog Breeding Licence		
Application Fee	Residential	£236
	Commercial	£286
Grant Fee	Residential	
	1 year	£130
	2 year	£150
	3 year	£170
	Commercial	
	1 year	£155
	2 year	£175
	3 year	£195
Variation Fee		£50 per hour of officer time
Boarding of Cats or Dogs		
Application Fee	Business <10 animals	£236
	Business 10-29	£261
	Business >30	£286
	Business >60 animals	£311
Grant Fee (One year)	Business <10 animals	£130
	Business 10-29	£143
	Business >30	£155
	Business >60 animals	£168
Grant Fee (Two year)	Business <10 animals	£150
	Business 10-29	£163
	Business >30	£175
	Business >60 animals	£188
Grant Fee (Three year)	Business <10 animals	£170
	Business 10-29	£183
	Business >30	£195
	Business >60 animals	£208
Variation Fee		£50 per hour of officer time
Boarding of Cats <i>and</i> Dogs		
Application Fee	Business <10 animals	£286
	Business 10-29	£311
	Business >30	£336
	Business >60	£361

Grant Fee (One year)	Business <10 animals	£155
	Business 10-29	£168
	Business >30	£180
	Business >60	£193
Grant Fee (Two year)	Business <10 animals	£175
	Business 10-29	£188
	Business >30	£200
	Business >60	£213
Grant Fee (Three year)	Business <10 animals	£195
	Business 10-29	£208
	Business >30	£220
	Business >60	£233
Variation Fee		£50 per hour of officer time
<b>Providing Day Care for Dogs (Crèche)</b>		
Application Fee		£236
Grant Fee	1 year	£130
	2 year	£150
	3 year	£170
Variation Fee		£50 per hour of officer time
<b>Keeping of Animals for Exhibition</b>		
Application Fee		£236
Grant Fee	3 year licence	£70
Variation Fee		£50 per hour of officer time
<b>Hiring out Horses</b>		
Application Fee	<10 Horses	£236
	<49 Horses	£336
	>50 Horses	£436
Grant Fee	1 year	£30
	2 year	
	<10 Horses	£130
	<49 Horses	£180
	>50 Horses	£230
	3 year	
	<10 Horses	£250
	<49 Horses	£350
	>50 Horses	£450
Variation Fee		£50 per hour of officer time
<b>Selling animals as pets</b>		
Application Fee		£261
Grant Fee	1 year	£142
	2 year	£162
	3 year	£182
Variation Fee		£50 per hour of officer time

**Appendix 2****Current Animal Licensing Fees (excluding vet costs)**

<b>Animal Licences</b>	<b>Current Fee</b>
Animal Boarding establishments	£206 New £144 Renewal £72 (Home Boarders Renewal)
Dog Breeding establishments	£206 New £144 Renewal
Pet Shops	£206 New £144 Renewal
Horse Riding Establishments	£294 New £245 Renewal
Performing Animals	£206 New £144 Renewal