



Licensing Committee

25 September 2013

Report Title	Performing Animals Act 1925	
Classification	Public	
Accountable Strategic Director	Tim Johnson Education and Enterprise	
Originating service	Licensing Services	
Accountable officer(s)	Name	Elaine Moreton
	Tel	01902 555033
	Email	elaine.moreton@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Licensing Committee is recommended to approve the proposed revised fee for the registration of performing animals.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The Licensing Committee is requested to approve the revised fee for the Registration of Performing Animals.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Registration of Performing Animals (Regulation) Act 1925 requires the person who exhibits or trains any performing vertebrate animal to be registered with a local authority in whose area the person resides. This was later endorsed by the Animal Welfare Act 2006.
- 2.2 The Council is empowered under various statutes to levy fees for the issue of local licences, permits and registrations.
- 2.3 The Council policy is to review such fees on an annual basis and introduce increases at least in line with the increased cost of providing the service.
- 2.4 The registration fee would have initially been set by Environmental Health and Control Committee in 1985 when the registration of performing animals was transferred to local authority control.
- 2.5 On 16 January 2013 the Licensing Committee received a report on fees and charges. This report outlined the proposed fees and charges for 2013/2014.
- 2.6 Within the report it proposed that the current fee of £380 for the Registration of Performing Animals be increased by 10% to £420 for 2013/2014.
- 2.7 The Act confirms that a local authority may charge such fees as appear to them to be appropriate for registration and inspection of the register, including taking copies of extracts from the register.
- 2.8 The current fee of £420 appears to be excessive compared to other neighbouring local authorities for this one-off registration.
- 2.9 It should be noted that Wolverhampton City Council has only received one application for Registration of Performing Animals between 2000 and 2012.
- 2.10 It is recommended that a revised fee of £145 is approved for this registration with immediate effect.
- 2.11 The revised fee is based on the time allocated to the application process including time spent by the Licensing Officer, Animal Welfare Officer (together with associated on costs) and the maintenance of the statutory register.

3.0 Financial implications

- 3.1 The proposed fee of £145 for the Registration of Performing Animals will cover the administrative costs associated with processing an application. As there has only been one application in the past ten years, minimal impact on income is anticipated. [TK/05092013/A].

4.0 Legal implications

- 4.1 The regulation of Performing Animals is derived from the Performing Animals (Regulation) Act 1925 and endorsed by the Animal Welfare Act 2006.
- 4.2 The Licensing Authority has a statutory duty to keep a register of performing animals and to send copies of the registration to DEFRA.
- 4.3 The Licensing Authority may charge such fee as appears to the authority to be appropriate for registration and inspection of the register in accordance with section 1(2) and 1(8) of the Act [SH/06092013/Q].

5.0 Environmental implications

- 5.1 There are no direct environmental implications.

6.0 Schedule of background papers

- 6.1 Fees and charges annual report
Licensing Committee 16 January 2013