

**Cabinet Meeting: Monday, 01 September 2025**

**Question from: Derek O'Hora**

**Question to: Councillor Durrans, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Public Services and Communities**

**QUESTION**

Taxi drivers on renewing their license with Calderdale Council tell me that they must renew their license at a cost of over £300 and that a driver who has lived in this country for over 41 years and speaks perfect English has to take an English test at £90. For someone who is English can you not see that these are great indignities, and that additional costs to their taxi business just should not be.

**Response**

The renewal of a 3-year Private Hire Driver licence is £259.

The renewal of a 3-year combined licence which allows the holder to drive both a Private Hire and a Hackney Carriage (Taxi) is £359.

Historically our licensing fees were adjusted annually in line with inflation, subject to committee approval. Since 2020 taxi and private hire licensing fees have been frozen due to the impact of the pandemic and the subsequent cost of living crisis on the taxi and private hire sector in Calderdale.

An English test is not required for renewing a licence but proof of English speaking, listening and reading competency is required prior to an application for a new driver licence. An applicant is only required to sit an English Test if they are unable to provide evidence of a Level 1 qualification taught in English. This is equivalent of a GCSE (General Certificate of Secondary Education) at Grades 3-1 (previously grades D-G).