



Ryedale District Council

REPORT TO: Community Services & Licensing Committee

DATE: 29 November 2007

REPORTING OFFICER: Taxi Licensing Officer
Laural Huntington

SUBJECT: HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES 08/09

WARDS AFFECTED: All

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek Members approval of hackney carriage fares for 2008/09.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Following a consultation exercise it is recommended that

- a. There is no increase in the hackney carriage fares for 2008/09
- b. A discretionary, maximum call-out charge is introduced.

3.0 REASONS SUPPORTING DECISION

The proposed hackney carriage fares and fare structure have been the subject of consultation with the hackney carriage drivers through the working group and a short questionnaire.

There is general agreement with the hackney carriage trade that there should be no increase in the fares next year and a maximum call-out charge be introduced to be applied at the drivers discretion aimed at the out-of-town journeys when the fare only begins once the passenger is in the taxi. The recommended fares can be accommodated by all types of meters.

4.0 BACKGROUND

Every year hackney carriage fares are reviewed in line with the Council's other fees and charges.

Hackney carriage fares are the fares passengers pay when using hackney carriages representing income to hackney carriage drivers not to Ryedale District Council.

5.0 REPORT

The Council sets a table of hackney carriage fares these are the maximum charges that can be applied and meters are set accordingly.

Next year it is recommended that there are no increases to the current level of fares and a call-out charge is introduced - Appendix 1 details the tariff card for 2008/09.

6.0 OPTIONS

Members have the option to approve the fares in line with these proposals or not.

7.0 RESULT OF OPTION APPRAISAL

The proposed fares for 2008/09 reflect what the majority of hackney carriage drivers deem to be reasonable and fair to be passed onto their customers whilst enabling the recovery of their costs of providing the service.

8.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications to the Council as the fares set are the maximum charges that hackney carriages may recover from their customers. The meters in the hackney carriage vehicles are tested by the Council to ensure they are set in accordance with the predetermined fare structure.

9.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

There is a risk of setting fares that are unacceptable to the hackney carriage trade in terms of enabling a reasonable recovery of costs in the running of their business. Likewise the Council must ensure the fares they set are satisfactory to the travelling public. The proposed fares have been determined to mitigate these risks as far as possible.

10.0 SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

The proposals are sustainable in terms of the application of reasonable hackney carriage fares.

11.0 CONCLUSION

Hackney carriage fares are reviewed annually to ensure reasonable rates apply to travelling passengers and also that the fares are acceptable to the hackney carriage trade. In consultation with the hackney carriage drivers the fares proposed in this report reflect a suitable tariff card for 2008/09.

OFFICER CONTACT: Please contact Laural Huntington, Taxi Licensing Officer if you require any further information on the contents of this report. The officer can be contacted at Malton Depot
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