



## **LICENSING COMMITTEE**

Tuesday 10 May 2022 at 6.00 pm

Council Chamber - Ryedale House, Malton, North Yorkshire YO17 7HH

### **Agenda**

**1 Emergency Evacuation Procedure**

The Chairman to inform Members of the Public of the emergency evacuation procedure.

**2 Apologies for absence**

**3 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 26 October 2021 (Pages 3 - 4)**

**4 Urgent Business**

To receive notice of any urgent business which the Chairman considers should be dealt with at the meeting as a matter of urgency by virtue of Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972.

**5 Declarations of Interest**

Members to indicate whether they will be declaring any interests under the Code of Conduct.

Members making a declaration of interest at a meeting of a Committee or Council are required to disclose the existence and nature of that interest. This requirement is not discharged by merely declaring a personal interest without further explanation.

**6 To determine the review of the Council's Hackney Carriage Fare Table (Pages 5 - 12)**

**7 Any other business that the Chairman decides is urgent.**

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## Licensing Committee

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Held at Council Chamber - Ryedale House, Malton, North Yorkshire YO17 7HH  
on Tuesday 26 October 2021

### Present

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Councillors Windress (Vice-Chair), Goodrick, Cleary (Chair), Paul Andrews, Potter, Mason, Thackray, Brackstone and Graham

### In Attendance

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Mark Heaton (Senior Licensing Officer), Eleanor Hardie (Clerk), Hayley Atkinson (Clerk)

### Minutes

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7        **Emergency Evacuation Procedure**

8        **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors Mackenzie and Hope, Councillor Graham substituted for Councillor Mackenzie and there was no substitute for Councillor Hope

9        **Minutes**

The minutes of the Licensing Committee held on 8 June 2021 were presented.

Decision
The minutes for the Licensing Committee held on 8 June 2021 be approved and signed as a correct record.
Voting Record Passed by general affirmation

10       **Urgent Business**

There was no urgent business

11       **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest

12       **Members to approve revised taxi and private hire policy post consultation.**

It was moved by Councillor Cleary and seconded by Councillor Goodrick that the revised policy post consultation be recommended to Full Council for adoption.

**Decision**

Members to approve and recommend the revised taxi and private hire policy post consultation to Full council for adoption.

Voting record  
Passed by general affirmation.

13 **Any other business that the Chairman decides is urgent.**

There was no other business

**The Meeting closed at 18:21**



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<b>PART A:</b>	<b>MATTERS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS</b>
<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>LICENSING COMMITTEE</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>10 MAY 2022</b>
<b>REPORT OF THE:</b>	<b>PROGRAMME DIRECTOR FOR PLACE AND RESOURCES PHILLIP SPURR</b>
<b>TITLE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>REVIEW OF COUNCIL`S HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARE TABLE</b>
<b>WARDS AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek members approval to amend the Council`s hackney carriage fares. A copy of the revised fare table is attached at **Appendix A**.

### 2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that:-

- (i) The report be received
- (ii) Members approve the revised table of fares

### 3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 In light of significant increases in hackney carriage operating costs it is considered appropriate to review the current fare table as outlined in this report.

### 4.0 SIGNIFICANT RISK

- 4.1 It is important that fares reflect the running costs associated with operating hackney carriage vehicles. Failing to review the fares could be detrimental to hackney carriage proprietors, particularly where the operating costs make the business financially unviable as it currently stands.
- 4.2 Increasing the cost of using taxis may also impact those who are partly or wholly reliant on taxis for transport.

## REPORT

### 5.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 5.1 Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 makes provision for the Council to fix the rates of fares for time, distance and all other charges in connection with the hire of a hackney carriage.
- 5.2 When setting the fares the legislation does not prevent the Council from taking into account any external factors, and there is no limit on the amount of increase or variation (subject to reasonableness).
- 5.3 As the Council would like to encourage the provision of high quality hackney carriage vehicles it is important that fares are balanced, thereby ensuring proprietors are able to support the running costs associated with the high standard of vehicles required by the Council, but at the same time the fare should not be so high as to preclude use by passengers.

### 6.0 POLICY CONTEXT & CONSULTATION

- 6.1 A document setting out the Council's proposals was issued to all hackney carriage proprietors to determine the level of support for the proposals together with any comments or observations proprietors may have.
- 6.2 Two responses to the consultation were received both in support of the proposals. These were from a driver and an operator of 22 hackney carriage vehicles (approximately a third of the hackney carriage fleet). No unfavourable responses were received.
- 6.3 Members should note that the fares proposed are the maximum which may be charged, with drivers having the option to charge less than the metered fare should they choose.

### 7.0 REPORT DETAILS

- 7.1 The current fare structure consists of 3 tariffs based on distance travelled and the time taken, including a standard day rate, a night time rate and rate reserved for Christmas Eve, New Year's Eve and all Bank Holidays.
- 7.2 Fares set by local authorities vary from area to area, to give some context the current fares set by the local authorities undergoing Local Government Review compare as follows for a journey of 2 miles under tariff 1:
- Harrogate £7.00
  - Scarborough £6.60
  - Selby £6.06
  - Ryedale £6.00
  - Richmondshire £5.60
  - Hambleton £5.50
  - Craven £5.30
- 7.3 Members should note that the above fares are correct at the time of writing this report however other authorities are also considering or in the process of reviewing fares.

- 7.4 Clearly there are a number of factors which influence the costs of operating a hackney carriage including vehicle, fuel, maintenance and insurance costs together with the general costs of living.
- 7.5 As of 29 March 2022 the average cost of a litre of diesel has risen to £1.77 and petrol to £1.64 (RAC Fuel Reports). However, it should be noted that the actual costs in the more rural areas of the district may well be in excess of these figures. In addition the cost of used vehicles are on average 31.9% more expensive compared with a year ago (Auto Trader February Report)
- 7.6 In light of the increased overall running costs associated with the sector, Members are asked to consider the following amendments to these tariffs:
- Increase the fare up to ½ mile (commonly referred to as the flag drop) by 30p in respect of tariffs 1, 2 and 3.
  - Increase the charge for subsequent distance travelled from 10p to 11p (tariff 1), from 25p to 28p (tariff 2) and from 30p to 33p (tariff 3).
  - To bring forward the time at which the tariff 2 (night time rate) takes effect from 11pm to 9pm.

For comparison if the proposed fare increase were to be approved, a 2 mile journey on tariff 1 would amount to £6.60, rather than the current rate of £6.00.

- 7.7 The review intends to apply the proposed increases consistently across journeys of different lengths. The amendment to the start time of tariff 2 (night time rate) seeks to address the reported shortage of hackney carriage vehicles on evenings (particularly at a weekend). It is hoped that bringing tariff 2 forward will encourage more drivers and vehicles to work during this busy period.
- 7.8 Some example journeys are provided below taking into account the proposals:

<b>Tariff 1 – 6am to 9pm</b>	<b>Current fare</b>	<b>Proposed fare</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
Journey of 1 mile	£4.00	£4.40	10
Journey of 2 miles	£6.00	£6.60	10
Journey of 3 miles	£8.00	£8.80	10
Journey of 5 miles	£12.00	£13.20	10
Journey of 10 miles	£22.00	£24.20	10
Journey of 20 miles	£42.00	£46.20	10
<b>Tariff 2 – 9pm to 6am</b>	<b>Current fare</b>	<b>Proposed fare</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
Journey of 1 mile	£4.85	£5.30	9.3
Journey of 2 miles	£7.35	£8.10	10.2
Journey of 3 miles	£9.85	£10.90	10.7
Journey of 5 miles	£14.85	£16.50	11.1
Journey of 10 miles	£27.35	£30.50	11.5
Journey of 20 miles	£52.35	£58.50	11.7

### **Tariff 3 - Journeys on Christmas Eve, New Year's Eve (from 6pm) and all day Bank Holidays (to 6am the following day)**

	<b>Current fare</b>	<b>Proposed fare</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
Journey of 1 mile	£6.00	£6.45	7.5
Journey of 2 miles	£9.00	£9.75	8.3
Journey of 3 miles	£12.00	£13.05	8.8
Journey of 5 miles	£18.00	£19.65	9.2
Journey of 10 miles	£33.00	£36.15	9.5
Journey of 20 miles	£63.00	£69.15	9.8

## **8.0 IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 The following implications have been identified:

### **Financial**

If approved the Council must advertise the proposed fare increase in a local newspaper which can be accommodated within existing service budgets.

Any increase in fares would have a financial effect on taxi-users throughout the district of Ryedale.

Any increase in fares would incur a small, one-off cost to all hackney carriage proprietors for a meter recalibration.

### **Legal**

Where an Authority makes or varies a Table of Fares it must publish in at least one local newspaper a notice setting out the Table or variation, specifying a period not less than 14 days within which objections may be made, and keep a copy of the notice at its offices open to public inspection. If no objection is received or all objections are withdrawn, the Table or variation comes into operation. If an objection is made and not withdrawn, the council must set a further date for the Table or variation to come into effect, with or without modification as decided by it after consideration of the objections.

A Table of Fares has effect as if it were included in the hackney carriage byelaws. Unless the fare is otherwise agreed before the hiring was effected, the Table applies to journeys ending outside the district. It also applies where a hackney carriage is used in the district as a private hire vehicle.

### **Equalities**

An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed in respect of this report. Although it is acknowledged that the proposals may impact negatively on all groups, the assessment has highlighted the availability of community based transport services as an alternative to taxi services thereby providing choice. Such providers are available on the Council's website.

### **Others**

Planning, Environmental, Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety implications have been considered and do not apply.

## **9.0 ACTION PLAN**

- 9.1 If approved by the Licensing Committee, the new proposed fare table will be subject to public consultation. If no objections are received it is intended to introduce the new fares as soon as practicable.

**Phillip Spurr**  
**Programme Director for Place and Resources**

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**Background Papers:**  
Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976  
Town Police Clauses Act 1847  
RAC Fuel cost reports

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# APPENDIX A



	Fare up to 1/2 <sup>th</sup> mile and/or 3 min 50 seconds	Each extra 1/20 <sup>th</sup> mile T1 or 1/10 <sup>th</sup> mile T2 & T3	Extras
<b>Tariff 1 – Standard Rate</b> Hirings between 6am and 9pm	£3.30	£0.11	Where over 2 passengers are carried (per passenger) £1.50
<b>Tariff 2 – Night Time Rate</b> Hirings between 9pm and 6am	£3.90	£0.28	For each bicycle, pram, pushchair, cat or dog (other than assistance dogs) £0.20
<b>Tariff 3 – Christmas Eve, New Year’s Eve from 6pm and all day Bank holidays (to 6am the following day)</b>	£4.80	£0.33	For each item of luggage conveyed outside the passenger compartment (not including carrier bags or other parcels not exceeding 15lbs) £0.20
<b>Waiting time</b> For each succeeding 88yds or period of 25 seconds or part thereof <b>Tariff 1</b>		£0.11	<b>Call out charge – maximum to be added to any one journey</b> Tariff 1 £12.00
For each succeeding 176yds or period of 46 seconds or part thereof <b>Tariff 2</b>		£0.28	Tariff 2 £15.00
For each succeeding 176yds or period of 46 seconds or part thereof <b>Tariff 3</b>		£0.33	Tariff 3 £18.00
			<b>Soiling Charge - £100 (Maximum)</b> A soiling charge may be levied necessitating the cleansing of a vehicle

**TAXIS MUST USE THE METER ON ALL JOURNEYS WHICH START AND END WITHIN THE DISTRICT OF RYEDALE.**

The meter need not be used on journeys which terminate beyond the Ryedale boundary but only when the hirer and the driver have agreed the price before the journey commences.