

PART A: MATTERS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

REPORT TO: LICENSING COMMITTEE

DATE: 24 NOVEMBER 2011

REPORT OF THE: HEAD OF ENVIRONMENT

PHIL LONG

TITLE OF REPORT: HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES 2012/13

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To recommend an increase to the hackney carriage table of fares in 2012/13.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that Members approve the following changes in Hackney Carriage fares:
 - Flagfall distance to change from 0.8 mile to 0.5 mile
 - Subsequent distance to change from 1/17th mile to 1/18th mile
 - Call out charge to increase from £10 to £12 and then to reflect multiplier in tariff bands i.e. 1.2 for tariff 2 and 1.5 for tariff 3.

3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The Hackney Carriage fares are subject to annual review with representatives of the taxi licensing trade and all have agreed that fares should increase in 2012/13. There has been no increase in fares since April 2008.

4.0 SIGNIFICANT RISKS

4.1 The Council have a duty to review fares on a regular basis or when asked to do so by representatives of the taxi trade.

5.0 POLICY CONTEXT AND CONSULTATION

5.1 Consultation has been carried out with members of the taxi trade with agreement from the Taxi & Private Hire Association

REPORT

6.0 REPORT DETAILS

- 6.1 Hackney Carriage Fares have been reviewed annually however they have not been increased since April 2008.
- 6.2 With increasing costs of fuel, approx 22% increase in diesel and 28% for petrol, the licensed taxi drivers are struggling to continue to absorb these costs.
- 6.3 The proposed table of fares for 2012/13 are detailed in Appendix 1 and are comparable with neighbouring councils.
- 6.3 The proposed changes to the fare structure are summarised below, the changes will allow the taxi drivers to charge more for shorter journeys when fuel consumption is at its highest:-
 - Flagfall distance to change from 0.8 mile to 0.5 mile
 - Subsequent distance to change from 1/17th mile to 1/18th mile
 - Call out charge to increase from £10 to £12 and then to reflect multiplier in tariff bands i.e. 1.2 for tariff 2 and 1.5 for tariff 3.

Table 1: Proposed Increase Comparison.

Distance	Current	Proposed	Increase	%
1 mile	£3.30	£3.90	0.60p	18%
2 miles	£5.00	£5.70	0.70p	14%
3 miles	£6.70	£7.50	0.80p	12%
5 miles	£10.10	£11.10	1.00p	10%
10 miles	£18.60	£20.10	1.50p	8%

7.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The following implications have been identified:
 - a) Financial

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.

b) Legal

The Council has a legal obligation to review the fares upon request.

Other (Equalities, Staffing, Planning, Health & Safety, Environmental, Crime & Disorder)
 None

8.0 NEXT STEPS

8.1 Once the fares have been approved the new tariffs will be advertised as a public notice and will come into effect on 1 April 2012, following a statutory appeal period.

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Background Papers:

None



HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES 2012/2013

TARIFF 1 - STANDARD RATE (6.00am to 11.00pm)

For the first 880yds (0.5 mile) or 3 minutes 50 seconds waiting time or a combination of both

£3.00

For each succeeding 97.8yds (1/18th mile) or 25 seconds waiting time

10p

CALL OUT CHARGE – Maximum to be added to any one journey at any one time £12.00

TARIFF 2 - NIGHT TIME RATE (11.00pm to 6.00am)

For the first 880yds (0.5 mile) or 3 minutes 50 seconds waiting time or a combination of both

For each succeeding 176yds (1/10th mile) or 46 seconds waiting time

22p

CALL OUT CHARGE – Maximum to be added to any one journey at any one time

£15.00

TARIFF 3 – Xmas Eve, New Years Eve from 6pm and all day Bank Holidays (to 6am the following day)

For the first 1056yds (0.5 mile) or 3 minutes 50 seconds waiting time or a combination of both

£4.50

For each succeeding 176yds (1/10th mile) or 46 seconds waiting time

27p

CALL OUT CHARGE – Maximum to be added to any one journey at any one time £18.00