



## Licensing, Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee

**Date:** Wednesday, 25 January 2017

**Time:** 6.00 pm

**Venue:** Committee Room 1 - Wallasey Town Hall

**Contact Officer:** Anne Beauchamp

**Tel:** 0151 691 8608

**e-mail:** [annebeauchamp@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:annebeauchamp@wirral.gov.uk)

**Website:** <http://www.wirral.gov.uk>

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### AGENDA

**1. MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members of the Committee are asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non pecuniary interests, in connection with any application on the agenda and state the nature of the interest.

**2. MINUTES (Pages 1 - 2)**

To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 23 November 2016.

**3. WIRRAL AWARD 2016 (Pages 3 - 6)**

**4. HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE CRITERIA AND LICENCE CONDITIONS (Pages 7 - 10)**

**5. REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES (Pages 11 - 16)**

**6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS ACCEPTED BY THE CHAIR - PART 1**

**7. EXEMPT INFORMATION - EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The following items contain exempt information.

RECOMMENDATION: That, under section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by the relevant paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 12A (as amended) to that Act. The Public Interest test has been applied and favours exclusion.

**8. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS ACCEPTED BY THE CHAIR - PART 2**

To consider any other business that the Chair accepts as being urgent.

## LICENSING, HEALTH AND SAFETY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 23 November 2016

Present: Councillor WJ Davies (Chair)

Councillors RL Abbey G Watt  
T Johnson I Lewis  
A Hodson D Mitchell  
P Stuart

Apologies: Councillors D Roberts

### 13 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of the Committee were asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non pecuniary interests in connection with any application on the agenda and state the nature of the interest.

No such declarations were made.

### 14 MINUTES

#### Resolved –

(1) That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 October 2016 be approved subject to the following amendment:

The resolution in minute 10 be amended to read:

**“That an independent company be appointed to carry out a survey to determine the level of demand for Hackney Carriage Vehicles in Wirral and that the weighting attached to the procurement of the survey be 60% for the quality criteria and 40% for the price criteria.”**

(2) That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 October 2016 be approved.

### 15 REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES

The Managing Director for Delivery requested Members' consideration in respect of whether to amend the current Hackney Carriage fare tariffs which would be subject to any objections being received as part of the consultation process.

The Licensing Manager reported that the last increase of hackney carriage fares had been in December 2012 and that a proposal had been submitted by the Unite Hackney Carriage trade representatives to reduce the initial hiring distance by 300 yards on the standard day rate tariff, with all other tariffs, distances and charges to remain unchanged. The overall impact of this would be to add 20 pence to the overall cost of the fare.

Members were provided with a table appended to the report which compared the current and proposed rates and also a table showing the effect of the proposed increases.

The Licensing Manager advised Members that should the amendments to the tariffs be approved, the proposal must be advertised for a period of fourteen days and that if no objections were received, the revised tariff would become effective on 15 December 2016, however, should any objections be received, they would be reported back to this Committee for consideration.

A number of proposals in respect of an increase in hackney carriage fares had previously been considered by this Committee on 25 November 2015, however, further to a petition being received from Hackney Carriage Drivers objecting to the increase Members had resolved not to amend the tariffs.

Mr D Cummins and Mr G Gregory, Unite the Union, addressed the Committee and advised Members that this would be the first increase in five years and that they believed this was a reasonable proposal in that it would be a minimum increase of 20 pence.

The Licensing Manager confirmed that the closing date for representations to be received would be 14 December 2016 and that should no representations be received the increase would take effect from 15 December 2016.

**Resolved – That an increase in Hackney Carriage Tariffs be approved subject to any objections being received as part of the consultation process.**

16 **MONKS' FERRY SLIPWAY BIRKENHEAD**

This matter was deferred prior to the hearing.

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## LICENSING, HEALTH AND SAFETY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

25 JANUARY 2017

<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	<b>WIRRAL AWARD 2016</b>
<b>REPORT OF</b>	<b>ASSISTANT DIRECTOR – LAW AND GOVERNANCE</b>

### REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to request agreement from the Committee that the Wirral Award be conferred on the nominees as recommended by the Wirral Award Working Party.

### RECOMMENDATION/S

**That the Committee:**

- (1) agree to confer the Wirral Award upon those recipients recommended by the Wirral Award Working Party; and**
- (2) make appropriate arrangements for the presentation ceremony to take place as set out in paragraph 3.0 of this report.**

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1.1 The Wirral Award is intended to confer civic recognition upon individuals or organisations resident or located in Wirral for an outstanding achievement within the previous twelve months, or for distinguished service to the Borough over a period of twenty years or more.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 2.1 None.

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

#### **3.1 Nominations sought**

Twenty-one nominations were received and were considered by the Wirral Award Working Party.

#### **3.2 Wirral Award Working Party**

The Wirral Award Working Party, comprising the Mayor and representatives of the three political groups met on 15 December, 2016 to consider the nominations submitted. Their recommendations have been circulated to Committee Members for consideration.

#### **3.3 Presentation Ceremony**

Once nominations are agreed a presentation ceremony will be arranged to be attended by:

- (i) The Mayor of Wirral
- (ii) Leader of the Council
- (iii) Group Leaders
- (iv) Chair of Licensing, Health and Safety, and General Purposes Committee
- (v) Chief Executive
- (vi) Nominees and one guest each

### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The costs of the presentation ceremony would be accommodated within existing approved budgets and amounted to approximately £800 last year.

### **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising directly out of this report.

## **6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS**

6.1 There are no such implications arising out of this report.

## **7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

7.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

## **8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

8.1 Nominations are sought and accepted from all areas of the local community.

## **9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 The Wirral Award nominations are open to all residents or organisations resident or located in Wirral.

**REPORT AUTHOR:** **Surjit Tour**  
Assistant Director – Law and Governance  
telephone: (0151) 691 8569  
email: [surjittour@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:surjittour@wirral.gov.uk)

## **APPENDICES**

None.

## **REFERENCE MATERIAL**

None.

## **SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Licensing, Health &amp; Safety and General Purposes Committee – Wirral Award 2013</b>	<b>23 January 2014</b>
<b>Licensing, Health &amp; Safety and General Purposes Committee – Wirral Award 2014</b>	<b>28 January 2015</b>
<b>Licensing, Health &amp; Safety and General Purposes Committee – Wirral Award 2015</b>	<b>27 January 2016</b>

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## LICENSING HEALTH AND SAFETY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

25 JANUARY 2017

<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	<b>HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE CRITERIA AND LICENCE CONDITIONS</b>
<b>REPORT OF</b>	<b>MANAGING DIRECTOR FOR DELIVERY</b>

### REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Members approval of revised Hackney Carriage Vehicle Criteria and Licence Conditions.

### RECOMMENDATION/S

That Members approve revised Criteria and Licence Conditions for Hackney Carriage Vehicles.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1.1 It is a requirement for this Committee to approve the Criteria and Licence Conditions for Hackney Carriage Vehicles.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 2.1 No other options have been considered.

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3.1 Members approved the current Hackney Carriage Vehicle Criteria and Licence Conditions at a meeting of this Committee on 2 March 2006. The criteria and conditions have not been subject to review since that date.
- 3.2 Officers have reviewed both the criteria and conditions in consultation with other Merseyside authorities with a view to developing a more consistent approach across Merseyside.
- 3.3 Consultation has taken place on the revised criteria and conditions by means of a newsletter to all licence holders in November 2016. Consultation has also taken place at meetings of the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Joint Consultative Committee (JCC).
- 3.4 During the consultation period two representations were received and a further meeting took place with the JCC on 10 January 2017. Members of the JCC were content with proposed changes in light of the representations made.
- 3.5 Subsequently the draft criteria and conditions have been amended to take into consideration of the representations made.
- 3.6 The final draft document will be provided to Members ahead of the meeting.

### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

### **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 A decision of this Committee may be subject to legal challenge.

### **6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS**

- 6.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

## 7.0 RISKS

7.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

## 8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 Consultation has taken place at a meeting with the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Joint Consultative Committee.

## 9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

**REPORT AUTHOR:** Margaret O'Donnell  
*Licensing Manager*  
telephone: (0151) 691 8606  
email: [margaretodonnell@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:margaretodonnell@wirral.gov.uk)

## APPENDICES

## REFERENCE MATERIAL

None

## SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date

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## LICENSING HEALTH AND SAFETY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

25 JANUARY 2017

<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	<b>REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES</b>
<b>REPORT OF</b>	<b>MANAGING DIRECTOR FOR DELIVERY</b>

### REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for Members to consider representations received in respect of a proposed increase to the Hackney Carriage fare tariff advertised in accordance with the decision of this Committee on 25 November 2015.

### RECOMMENDATION/S

That Members consider the proposals to amend the Hackney Carriage Tariffs and determine whether it is appropriate to approve an increase in Hackney Carriage Tariffs in light of the representations received as part of the consultation process.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

1.1 It is a delegated function of this Committee to set Hackney Carriage Tariffs.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

2.1 There is no provision for other options to be considered.

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

3.1 The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 section 65(1) gives the power to set hackney carriage fares to the local authority as follows:

- 1 A District Council may fix the rates or fares within the district as well for time as distance, and all other charges in connection with the hire of a vehicle or with the arrangements for the hire of a vehicle; to be paid in respect of the hire of a hackney carriage by means of a table (hereafter in this section referred to as a 'table of fares') made or varied in accordance with the provisions of this section.
- 2 When a District Council make or vary a table of fares they shall publish in at least one local newspaper circulating in the district a notice setting out the table of fares or the variation thereof and specifying the period, which shall not be less than fourteen days from the date of first publication of the notice, within which and the manner in which objections to the table of fares or variation can be made.

3.2 On 24 September 2007 Members of this Committee resolved to consider an annual review of fares based upon the Public Carriage Office (now Transport for London) recommendations for London.

3.3 Since that date the last increase of hackney carriage fares was in December 2012 as any change using this method in recent years would have resulted in a negligible impact on Hackney Carriage fares.

3.4 On 23 November 2016 Members considered a proposal to increase the Hackney Carriage fare tariff. Members resolved that the proposal be approved, subject to any objections being received as part of the consultation process.

3.5 The proposed increase was advertised on the Council website and in the Wirral Globe for a period of fourteen days.

3.6 A table comparing the current and proposed rates is shown at Appendix 1. A table showing the effect of the proposed increases is attached at Appendix 2.

- 3.7 The date set by Members at their meeting on 23 November 2016 for the new table of fares to come into force if no objections were received was 15 December 2016.
- 3.8 During the consultation period two representations were received in respect of the proposed increase which will be circulated to Members prior to the meeting.
- 3.9 Members are asked to consider whether to approve the proposed increase to the Hackney Carriage Tariffs in light of the representations received as part of the consultation process.

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

#### **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 A decision of this Committee can be subject to legal review.

#### **6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS**

- 6.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

#### **7.0 RISKS**

- 7.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

#### **8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

- 8.1 The proposal has been advertised.

#### **9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

**REPORT AUTHOR:** Margaret O'Donnell  
*Licensing Manager*  
telephone: (0151) 691 8606  
email: [margaretodonnell@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:margaretodonnell@wirral.gov.uk)

#### **APPENDICES**

**Appendix 1** Table comparing the current and proposed rates

**Appendix 2** Table showing the effect of the proposal

**REFERENCE MATERIAL**

**SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Licensing Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee</b>	<b>25 November 2015</b>
<b>Licensing Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee</b>	<b>27 January 2016</b>
<b>Licensing Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee</b>	<b>23 November 2016</b>



**Comparison of current and proposed Hackney Carriage tariffs**

	Current rate	Proposed rate
<b>Tariff 1</b>		
First 600 yards	£2.80	
<b>First 300 yards</b>		£2.80
Each subsequent 245 yards	20p	20p
<b>Tariff 2</b>		
First 900 yards	£3.30	unchanged
Each subsequent 205 yards	20p	unchanged
<b>Tariff 3</b>		
First 966 yards	£3.90	unchanged
Each subsequent 182 yards	20p	unchanged
<b>Tariff 4</b>		
First 966 yards	£5.20	unchanged
Each subsequent 137 yards	20p	unchanged

Table showing effect of the proposal

	Distance	Fare based on current tariff	Fare based on proposed tariff
<b>Tariff 1</b>	1 mile	£3.80	£4.00
	2 miles	£5.20	£5.60
	3 miles	£6.80	£7.00
	4 miles	£8.20	£8.40
	5 miles	£9.60	£9.80
	10 miles	£16.80	£17.00
<b>Tariff 2</b>	1 mile	£4.30	unchanged
	2 miles	£5.90	
	3 miles	£7.70	
	4 miles	£9.30	
	5 miles	£11.10	
	10 miles	£19.70	
<b>Tariff 3</b>	1 mile	£4.90	unchanged
	2 miles	£6.90	
	3 miles	£8.70	
	4 miles	£10.70	
	5 miles	£12.70	
	10 miles	£22.30	
<b>Tariff 4</b>	1 mile	£6.40	unchanged
	2 miles	£9.00	
	3 miles	£11.60	
	4 miles	£14.20	
	5 miles	£16.80	
	10 miles	£29.60	