

WIRRAL COUNCIL

LICENSING HEALTH AND SAFETY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

25 NOVEMBER 2015

SUBJECT:	REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES
WARD/S AFFECTED:	ALL
REPORT OF:	ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	COUNCILLOR WJ DAVIES
KEY DECISION?	NO

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is for Members to consider whether to amend the current Hackney Carriage fare tariffs subject to any objections being received as part of the consultation process.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 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.
- 2.2 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.

2.3 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.

2.4 The Licensing Authority has received two separate requests to amend the Hackney Carriage fare tariffs. A petition from 19 Hackney Carriage Drivers has been received requesting that no amendments be made to the current Hackney Carriage fare tariffs. This petition is attached at Appendix D.

3.0 SUBMITTED PROPOSALS

3.1 A proposal has been submitted by the Unite Hackney Carriage trade representatives to reduce the initial hiring distance by 110 yards on each tariff, with all other distances and charges to remain unchanged. This proposal is referred to as Proposal A in the appendices to this report.

3.2 The proposal shown below has been submitted by a Hackney Carriage Driver, supported by a petition of 40 Hackney Carriage Drivers. The proposal reduces the number of tariffs to three from the current four. This proposal is referred to as Proposal B in the appendices to this report.

Tariff 1- Standard Day Rate (6am to 10pm)

First 900 yards - £3.50
Each subsequent 240 yards – 20p

Tariff 2 - Standard Night Rate (10pm to 6am)

First 1000 yards - £4.00
Each subsequent 200 yards – 20p

Tariff 3 - Public and Bank Holiday Day and Night rate (inc Easter Sunday) Christmas and New Year Day and Night rate

First 800 yards - £4.00
Each subsequent 220 yards – 20p

Extra charge for more than two passengers – to be removed

Bulky items charge – to be removed

Fouling charge – to increase to £45 from £35

All other charges to remain unchanged.

3.3 The current four tariffs are as follows:

Tariff 1 Standard Day Rate (6am to 10pm)

Tariff 2 Standard Night Rate (10pm to 6am)
Public and Bank Holiday Day Rate (inc Easter Sunday)

Tariff 3 Public and Bank Holiday Night Rate (inc Easter Sunday)

Tariff 4 Christmas and New Year Day and Night Rate

Christmas is defined as the period from 18.00 hours on Christmas Eve until 06.00 hours on the day after Boxing Day.

New Year is defined as the period from 18.00 hours on New Year's Eve until 06.00 hours on the day after New Year's Day.

- 3.4 A table comparing the current and proposed rates is shown at Appendix A. A table showing the effect of the proposed increases is attached at Appendix B. Appendix C shows the current and proposed extra charges.
- 3.5 Should Members approve the amendments to the current tariffs, the proposal must be advertised for a period of fourteen days. If no objections to the proposal are received, the revised tariff will become effective on 17 December 2015. If objections are received, they will be reported back to this Committee for consideration.

4.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 4.1 There are none arising from this report.

5.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 There is no provision for other options to be considered.

6.0 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The proposal must be advertised for a period of fourteen days.

7.0 OUTSTANDING PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ACTIONS

- 7.1 There are none.

8.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

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

9.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

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

10.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 A decision of this Committee is subject to Appeal.

11.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

Yes and the impact review can be viewed at:

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/community-and-living/equality-diversity-cohesion/equality-impact-assessments/eias-april-2014/eias-regeneration-envir>

12.0 CARBON REDUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

12.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

13.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

13.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

14.0 RECOMMENDATION/S

14.1 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, subject to any objections being received as part of the consultation process.

15.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

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

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APPENDICES

Appendix A Table comparing the current and proposed rates

Appendix B Table showing the effect of the proposals

Appendix C Table comparing the current and proposed extra charges

Appendix D Petition objecting to an increase in Hackney Carriage Tariffs

BACKGROUND PAPERS/REFERENCE MATERIAL

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Licensing Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee	11 October 2012

BRIEFING NOTES HISTORY

Briefing Note	Date

HCV tariff increase proposals 2015

	Current rate	Proposal A	Proposal B
Tariff 1			
First 600 yards	£2.80		
First 490 yards		£2.80	
First 900 yards			£3.50
Each subsequent 245 yards	20p	20p	
Each 240 yards			20p
Tariff 2			
First 900 yards	£3.30		
First 790 yards		£3.30	
First 1000yards			£4.00
Each subsequent 205 yards	20p	20p	
Each subsequent 200 yards			20p
Tariff 3			
First 966 yards	£3.90		
First 856 yards		£3.90	
First 800yards			£4.00
Each subsequent 182 yards	20p	20p	
Each subsequent 220 yards			20p
Tariff 4			
First 966 yards	£5.20		
First 856 yards		£5.20	
Each subsequent 137 yards	20p	20p	

Table showing effect of the proposals

	Distance	Fare based on current tariff	Fare based on tariff proposal 1	Fare based on tariff proposal 2
Tariff 1	1 mile	£3.80	£4.00	£4.30
	2 miles	£5.20	£5.40	£5.70
	3 miles	£6.80	£6.80	£7.30
	4 miles	£8.20	£8.20	£8.70
	5 miles	£9.60	£9.60	£10.10
	10 miles	£16.80	£16.80	£17.50
Tariff 2	1 mile	£4.30	£4.30	£4.80
	2 miles	£5.90	£6.10	£6.60
	3 miles	£7.70	£7.70	£8.40
	4 miles	£9.30	£9.50	£10.20
	5 miles	£11.10	£11.30	£11.80
	10 miles	£19.70	£19.70	£20.60
Tariff 3	1 mile	£4.90	£4.90	£5.00
	2 miles	£6.90	£6.90	£6.60
	3 miles	£8.70	£8.90	£8.20
	4 miles	£10.70	£10.70	£9.80
	5 miles	£12.70	£12.70	£11.40
	10 miles	£22.30	£22.30	£19.40
Tariff 4	1 mile	£6.40	£6.60	
	2 miles	£9.00	£9.20	
	3 miles	£11.60	£11.80	
	4 miles	£14.20	£14.40	
	5 miles	£16.80	£16.80	
	10 miles	£29.60	£29.80	

Appendix C

	Current charge	Proposal 1	Proposal 2
For each passenger in excess of two per journey	20p	20p	Nil
For each animal (other than an assistance dog)	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00
Waiting time – for each minute or part thereof	20p	20p	20p
Bulky item	£5.00	£5.00	Nil
Fouling charge	£35.00	£35.00	£45.00