

**REGULATORY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE****14 SEPTEMBER 2022**

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>REPORT TITLE</b> | <b>REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES</b> |
| <b>REPORT OF</b>    | <b>DIRECTOR OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE</b>   |

**REPORT SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to enable the Committee to consider objections received in respect of a proposed increase to the Hackney Carriage fare tariffs.

The Wirral Plan 2021-2026 sets out a number of priorities for the Council to consider. The content of this report supports the priority of working for a prosperous, inclusive economy - helping businesses to thrive and creating jobs and opportunities for all.

This matter affects all Wards within the Borough.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee is recommended to:

1. Consider the objections received in respect of the proposed increase in the Hackney Carriage fare tariffs and determine the table of fares to be applied to Hackney Carriages in light of these objections.
2. Determine the date when any revised table of fares comes into effect, which can be no later than 1 November 2022.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

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

- 1.1 It is the responsibility of the Council to determine Hackney Carriage fare tariffs. Any revised table of fares must come into effect within two months of the first proposed date for a new table of Hackney Carriage fares. At a meeting of this Committee on 27 July 2022 it was determined that a proposed revision of fares would come into effect on 1 September 2022 should there be no objections to the proposal.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 2.1 The Committee may, on considering the objections, determine that there should be no change to current table of fares.

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3.1 On 27 July 2022 the Committee considered a proposal from Unite the Union to increase the Council's Hackney Carriage fare tariffs. The Committee resolved that the proposal be approved subject to any objections being received as part of the consultation process.

- 3.2 The proposal submitted by Unite the Union to increase the Hackney Carriage fare tariffs was as follows:

- Increase the initial hiring distance from 300 yards to 1760 yards and increase the initial hiring distance charge from £3.20 to £5.00 on tariff 1 (standard day rate)
- Increase the initial hiring distance from 300 yards to 1392 yards on tariff 2 (standard night rate and public and bank holiday day rate) and increase the initial hiring charge from £3.60 to £5.00
- Increase the initial hiring distance from 300 yards to 1160 yards on tariff 3 (public and bank holiday night rate) and increase the initial hiring distance charge from £3.80 to £5.00
- Increase the initial hiring distance on tariff 4 (Christmas and New Year Day and night rate) from 300 yards to 880 yards and reduce the initial hiring charge from £6.00 to £5.00
- Increase the "running mile" charge by reducing the yardage charged at 20p from 230 yards to 215 yards on tariff 1.
- Increase the "running mile" charge by reducing the yardage charged at 20p from 175 yards to 172 yards on tariff 2.

- Increase the “running mile” charge by reducing the yardage charged at 20p from 165 yards to 120 yards on tariff 3.
- Increase the “running mile” charge by reducing the yardage from 230 yards to 107.5 yards and reducing the charge from 40p to 20p on tariff 4.

3.3 The current four Hackney Carriage fare tariffs are set out below:

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| Tariff 1 | Standard Day Rate (6am to 10pm)   |
| Tariff 2 | Standard Night Rate (10pm to 6am)<br>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 showing the current fare tariffs is attached at Appendix 1 to this report. A table comparing the current fare tariffs with the proposed rates is shown at Appendix 2 to this report. A table showing the effect of the proposed increases is attached at Appendix 3 to this report. Details of the Hackney Carriage fare tariffs applicable in other neighbouring authorities can be found at Appendix 4 attached to this report.

3.5 The proposed increase was advertised in the Wirral Globe on 10 August 2022 providing an opportunity for objections to be made by 31 August 2022. A newsletter was also sent to every Hackney Carriage Driver informing them of the proposed increase and providing details of the opportunity to object to the proposal.

3.6 In response to the consultation 18 objections have been received from Hackney Carriage Drivers and one objection has been received from a member of the public who uses Hackney Carriages. A table providing details of the objections is shown at Appendix 5 attached to this report.

3.7 The Hackney Carriage Drivers that have responded to the consultation support an increase in the Hackney Carriage fare tariffs but consider that an increase in the initial charge to £5.00 will have a negative impact on their trade. Details of alternative fare increases can be found in some of the responses received.

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The cost of the public advertisement is approximately £100 which will be recovered from licence fees.

## **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Section 65(1) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 provides the local authority with the power to set hackney carriage fares 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.

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

6.1 There will be an impact on the Licensing Team should there be a revision to the table of fares for Hackney Carriages. Following any revision it is necessary to verify that the meters in the Hackney Carriages are calibrated to take into account any changes. New fare tariff cards will also be required to be produced and issued to all Hackney Carriage Drivers. This work will be undertaken within existing resources.

## **7.0 RISKS**

7.1 The decision whether to increase the Hackney Carriage Fares may have an impact on what members of the public reasonably expect to pay and whether drivers have sufficient incentive to provide a service when it is needed.

## **8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

8.1 The guiding principles for a fair consultation can be summarised as follows:

- It should be at a time when proposals are at a formative stage;
- Must include sufficient reasons for particular proposals to allow those consulted to give intelligent consideration and an intelligent response;
- Those consulted should be made aware of the factors that are of decisive relevance to the decision;
- Adequate time should be given for consideration and response;
- The product of the consultation should be conscientiously taken into account by the decision makers in finalising their statutory proposals/ when the ultimate decision is taken.

8.2 The proposal was advertised in the Wirral Globe on 10 August 2022 inviting objections to be received no later than 31 August 2022. Notification of the proposed increase was sent to all Hackney Carriage Drivers providing them with an opportunity to object until 31 August 2022.

8.3 In response to the consultation at the time of writing this report 19 objections have been received to the proposed increase in the Hackney Carriage fare tariffs

## **9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 Wirral Council has a legal requirement to make sure its policies, and the way it carries out its work, do not discriminate against anyone. An Equality Impact Assessment is a tool to help council services identify steps they can take to ensure equality for anyone who might be affected by a particular policy, decision or activity. The Equality Impact Assessment relevant to a proposed increase in Hackney Carriage Fares is attached via the link below:

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/equality-impact-assessments>

## **10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 Hackney Carriage Vehicles contribute to harmful emissions including particulate matter, hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide which can be harmful to health.

10.2 Hybrid and electric cars emit less greenhouse gases and air pollutants than petrol and diesel cars. (*Source: European Environment Agency report 2018*)

## **11.0 COMMUNITY WEALTH IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 There are no Community Wealth implications arising directly from the content of this report.

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## **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 The current fare tariffs

Appendix 2 Table comparing the current and proposed rates

Appendix 3 Table showing the effect of the proposal

Appendix 4 Hackney Carriage fare tariffs applicable in other neighbouring authorities

Appendix 5 Objections to the proposed fare increase

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Letter from Unite the Union

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

**SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

| <b>Council Meeting</b>                                     | <b>Date</b>       |
|--|-------------------|
| Licensing Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee | 18 July 2018      |
|  | 19 September 2018 |
|  | 13 November 2019  |
| Cabinet  | 22 January 2020   |
|  | 24 February 2020  |
| Regulatory and General Purposes Committee                  | 27 July 2022      |

## Appendix 1

### HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Within the Borough and up to 4 miles beyond the district boundary. Unless a separate fare has been agreed <u>in advance</u> for a hiring to a destination beyond 4 miles of the district boundary, the fare payable is that shown on the taximeter |  |
| <b>Tariff 1</b>  | <b>Day rate: 6.00am to 10.00pm</b>   |
| First 300 yards or part thereof  | <b>£3.20</b>   |
| Each subsequent 230 yards  | <b>20p</b>   |
| <b>Tariff 2</b>  | <b>Night rate: 10.00pm to 6.00am</b><br><b>Public and Bank Holiday day rate: 6.00am to 10.00pm</b><br>(including Good Friday and Easter Sunday)        |
| First 300 yards or part thereof  | <b>£3.60</b>   |
| Each subsequent 175 yards  | <b>20p</b>   |
| <b>Tariff 3</b>  | <b>Public and Bank Holiday night rate: midnight to 6.00am</b><br><b>10.00pm to midnight</b><br>(including Good Friday and Easter Sunday)               |
| First 300 yards or part thereof  | <b>£3.80</b>   |
| Each subsequent 165 yards  | <b>20p</b>   |
| <b>Tariff 4</b>  | <b>Christmas and New Year rate</b><br><i>From 6pm on 24 December until 6am on 27 December</i><br><i>From 6pm on 31 December until 6am on 2 January</i> |
| First 300 yards or part thereof  | <b>£6.00</b>   |
| Each subsequent 230 yards  | <b>40p</b>   |

#### Extra charges

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| For each passenger in excess of two per journey<br>(excluding children under 5 years of age) | <b>10p</b>   |
| For each animal ( <i>other than an assistance dog</i> )                                      | <b>£1.00</b> |
| Waiting time – for each minute or part thereof   | <b>30p</b>   |
| Bulky items  | <b>£5</b>    |
| Fouling charge ( <i>see separate notice</i> )  | <b>£35</b>   |
| Tolls – for both the outward and the return journey  |              |

## Appendix 2

### Comparison of current and proposed Hackney Carriage tariffs

|                                    | Current rate | Proposed rate |
|------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| <b>TARIFF 1</b>                    |              |               |
| First 300 yards                    | £3.20        |               |
| <b>First 1760 yards</b>            |              | <b>£5.00</b>  |
| Each subsequent 230 yards          | 20p          |               |
| <b>Each subsequent 215 yards</b>   |              | <b>20p</b>    |
| <b>TARIFF 2</b>                    |              |               |
| First 300 yards                    | £3.60        |               |
| <b>First 1392 yards</b>            |              | <b>£5.00</b>  |
| Each subsequent 175 yards          | 20p          |               |
| <b>Each subsequent 172 yards</b>   |              | <b>20p</b>    |
| <b>TARIFF 3</b>                    |              |               |
| First 300 yards                    | £3.80        |               |
| <b>First 1160 yards</b>            |              | <b>£5.00</b>  |
| Each subsequent 165 yards          | 20p          |               |
| <b>Each subsequent 120 yards</b>   |              | <b>20p</b>    |
| <b>TARIFF 4</b>                    |              |               |
| First 300 yards                    | £6.00        |               |
| <b>First 880 yards</b>             |              | <b>£5.00</b>  |
| Each subsequent 230 yards          | 20p          |               |
| <b>Each subsequent 107.5 yards</b> |              | <b>20p</b>    |

## Appendix 3

**Table showing the effect of the proposal**

|                 | <b>Distance</b> | <b>Fare based on current tariff</b> | <b>Fare based on proposed tariff</b> | <b>Percentage increase</b> |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Tariff 1</b> | 300 yards       | £3.20                               | £5.00                                | 56.3%                      |
|                 | 1 mile          | £4.60                               | £5.00                                | 8.7%                       |
|                 | 2 miles         | £6.00                               | £6.80                                | 13.3%                      |
|                 | 3 miles         | £7.60                               | £8.40                                | 10.5%                      |
|                 | 4 miles         | £9.20                               | £10.00                               | 8.7%                       |
|                 | 5 miles         | £10.60                              | £11.60                               | 9.4%                       |
|                 | 10 miles        | £18.40                              | £19.80                               | 7.6%                       |
| <b>Tariff 2</b> | 300 yards       | £3.60                               | £5.00                                | 38.9%                      |
|                 | 1392 yards      | £5.00                               | £5.00                                | 0%                         |
|                 | 1 mile          | £5.40                               | £5.60                                | 3.7%                       |
|                 | 2 miles         | £7.40                               | £7.60                                | 2.7%                       |
|                 | 3 miles         | £9.40                               | £9.60                                | 2.1%                       |
|                 | 4 miles         | £11.40                              | £11.60                               | 1.7%                       |
|                 | 5 miles         | £13.40                              | £13.80                               | 3.0%                       |
|                 | 10 miles        | £23.40                              | £24.00                               | 2.6%                       |
| <b>Tariff 3</b> | 300 yards       | £3.80                               | £5.00                                | 31.6%                      |
|                 | 1160 yards      | £5.00                               | £5.00                                | 0%                         |
|                 | 1 mile          | £5.60                               | £6.00                                | 7.1%                       |
|                 | 2 miles         | £7.80                               | £9.00                                | 15.4%                      |
|                 | 3 miles         | £10.00                              | £12.00                               | 20.0%                      |
|                 | 4 miles         | £12.00                              | £14.80                               | 23.4%                      |
|                 | 5 miles         | £14.20                              | £17.80                               | 25.3%                      |
|                 | 10 miles        | £24.60                              | £32.40                               | 31.7%                      |

|                 |           |        |        |               |
|-----------------|-----------|--------|--------|---------------|
| <b>Tariff 4</b> | 300 yards | £6.00  | £5.00  | <b>-16.7%</b> |
|                 | 880 yards | £7.20  | £5.00  | <b>-30.5%</b> |
|                 | 1 mile    | £8.80  | £6.80  | <b>-22.7%</b> |
|                 | 2 miles   | £11.60 | £10.00 | <b>-13.8%</b> |
|                 | 3 miles   | £14.80 | £13.20 | <b>-10.8%</b> |
|                 | 4 miles   | £18.00 | £16.60 | <b>-7.8%</b>  |
|                 | 5 miles   | £20.80 | £19.80 | <b>-4.8%</b>  |
|                 | 10 miles  | £36.40 | £36.20 | <b>-0.5%</b>  |



# The City of Liverpool Hackney Carriage Rates of Fare

*Operative from 29th March 2022*

The following four Rates of Fare (D, N, S and E) apply to journeys to destinations wholly within the City of Liverpool or starting within the boundary of the City of Liverpool and ending at any point **less** than 4 miles beyond the nearest boundary of Liverpool.

The taximeter should always be engaged for such journeys and the fare demanded should not exceed that shown on the taximeter at the conclusion of the journey (plus any additional charges specified below).

## **D (Day) rate**

**For journeys beginning after 06:00 hours and ending before 23:00 (other than when the N, S, or E rate below applies)**

- £3.00 for the first 330 yards or less
- Then 20p each
- Then 20p each succeeding 205 yards (or less) up to 35,200 yards Then 20p each succeeding 300 yards (or less)
- And 20p each 60 seconds waiting charge (or less)



## **N (Night) rate**

**Except when the E rate applies, the N rate should be used for journeys (1) beginning after 23.00 hours and ending before 06.00 hours or (2) at any times on Easter Sunday and all bank holidays (other than the Xmas and New Year periods when the E rate should be charged see below)**

- £3.75 for the first 330 yards or less
- Then 25p each succeeding 205 yards (or less) up to 35,200 yards Then 25p each succeeding 300 yards (or less)
- And 25p each 60 seconds waiting charge (or less)

## **S (Saturday/Sunday) rate**

**Except when the E rate applies, the S rate should be used for journeys beginning after 19.00 hours on a Saturday and ending before 07.00 hours on Sunday**

- £4.00 for the first 330 yards or less
- Then 25p each succeeding 205 yards (or less) up to 35,200 yards Then 25p each succeeding 300 yards (or less)
- And 25p each 60 seconds waiting charge (or less)



## **E (Extra) rate**

**For journeys beginning (1) after 6.00pm on December 24 to 6.00am on 27 December and (2) after 6.00pm on 31st December to 6.00am 2 January**

- £4.50 for the first 330 yards or less
- Then 30p each succeeding 205 yards (or less) up to 35,200 yards Then 30p each succeeding 300 yards (or less)
- And 30p each 60 seconds waiting charge (or less)

## **Journeys ending 4 miles or more beyond the nearest boundary of the City of Liverpool**

For journeys ending 4 miles or more beyond the nearest boundary of the City of Liverpool, the driver is not obliged to accept the hiring but if he/she does so the following will apply:

- Either the hirer can agree the fare or rate of fare (such as the E Rate) with the driver **before** the journey commences in which case the driver must not demand more than the agreed fare or rate of fare.
- Or if no such agreement is made **before** the journey commences the driver must engage the meter in accordance with the applicable D, N, S or E rate and **must not** demand a fare greater than that shown on the meter at the conclusion of the journey (plus any of the Permitted Additional Charges). For journeys ending 4 miles or more beyond the nearest boundary of the City of Liverpool the driver may request you to pay the estimated fare/deposit up-front. If you do not agree you may be refused travel. No such request should be made in respect of journeys which end within Liverpool or less than 4 miles beyond the nearest boundary of Liverpool.



## Permitted additional charges

The only additional charges which may be added to the fare are:

- Tolls to and from the destination (including Tunnel, Motorway, Bridge and Airport tolls).
- A charge of £40 for cleaning the inside of the vehicle in the event of soiling or fouling and a charge of £10 for soiling or fouling of the outside of the vehicle.

The driver is prohibited from making any additional charge for making payment by electronic means.

## Enquiries, compliments or complaints

If you have any enquiries, compliments or complaints please contact:

- Licensing and Regulatory Services, Cunard Building, Water Street, Liverpool, L3 1AH
- Telephone: 0151 233 3015
- Email: [Licensing@liverpool.gov.uk](mailto:Licensing@liverpool.gov.uk)

If you have any complaints/comments about this vehicle or driver, please contact:  
Licensing Team, Wyvern House, The Drumber, Winsford CW7 1AH  
Telephone: 0300 123 8123

If any journey ends outside the boundary of Cheshire West and Chester Council, Ellesmere Port and Neston Zone, the fare may be agreed in advance with the driver, otherwise the Table of Fares must be applied. In all cases where the Table of Fares is applied, it is an offence for the driver to charge more than the fare shown on the taximeter. Fares shown on the taximeter are a maximum, and may be lower at the discretion of the driver or after negotiation with the driver prior to the commencement of the journey.

Fares will increase due to slow moving traffic, any time the vehicle is stationary and any delays.

| Tarrifs:     | One Mile  | Five Miles | 10 Miles | Table gives an indication of possible fares. This does not reflect increases for any delays to journeys. All rates are inclusive of VAT. |
|--------------|---|------------|----------|--|
| Tariff One   | £3.60   | £9.80      | £17.60   |  |
| Tariff Two   | Tariff One +25%   |            |          |  |
| Tariff Three | Tariff One +100%  |            |          |  |
| Tariff One   | For journeys commencing between 6am and 10pm<br>• Journeys not exceeding 300 yards: £2.20<br>• For each subsequent 220 yards (or incomplete part thereof): 20p  |            |          |  |
| Tariff Two   | For each complete journey between 10pm and 6am, and with the exception of Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day, between midnight commencing the Bank Holiday and 6am, on the following day.<br>Any journey on Tariff two - Equivalent to Tariff one Plus 25% (or distance equivalent) |            |          |  |
| Tariff Three | For each complete journey between 6pm, 24 December and 6am, 27 December and from 6pm, 31 December to 6am, 2 January<br>Any journey on Tariff three - Equivalent to Tariff one Plus 100% (or distance equivalent)  |            |          |  |
| Waiting Time | At all times on all tariffs £9.00 per hour charged at 15p increments. Waiting time will apply if the vehicle is in slow moving traffic and any time that the vehicle is stationary.   |            |          |  |
| Extra Charge | • 6, 7 or 8 seater taxi carrying 6, 7 or 8 passengers. Any journey charged at appropriate Tariff (Tariff one, two or three) Plus 25%<br>• Fouling of interior of vehicle: £25.00<br>• Mandatory road fees and tolls will be charged and added separately to the fare.                         |            |          |  |

This vehicle may be hired for special occasions which may be subject to an extra charge agreed by the hirer. Prior written agreement to the additional charge must be received from the hirer in advance of the journey. In all cases, this agreement must be made at least 48 hours prior to commencement of the journey.

|              |
|--------------|
| Taxi Number: |
|--------------|

If you have any complaints/comments about this vehicle or driver, please contact:  
 Licensing Team, Wyvern House, The Drumber, Winsford CW7 1AH  
 Telephone: 0300 123 8123

If any journey ends outside the boundary of Cheshire West and Chester Council, Chester Zone, the fare may be agreed in advance with the driver, otherwise the Table of Fares must be applied. In all cases where the Table of Fares is applied, it is an offence for the driver to charge more than the fare shown on the taximeter. Fares will increase due to slow traffic, when the vehicle is stationary and any delays.

| Tarrifs:     | One Mile   | Five Miles | 10 Miles | Table gives an indication of possible fares. This does not reflect increases for any delays to journeys. All rates are inclusive of VAT. |
|--------------|--|------------|----------|--|
| Tariff One   | £4.40  | £11.00     | £20.80   |  |
| Tariff Two   | Tariff One +25%  |            |          |  |
| Tariff Three | Tariff One +50%  |            |          |  |
| Tariff Four  | Tariff One +100%   |            |          |  |
| Tariff One   | Monday to Saturday, journeys commencing between 6am and 10pm. Journeys not exceeding 210 yards or incomplete part thereof: £2.80 For each subsequent 210 yards or incomplete part thereof: 20p, up to 10,710 yards. For each subsequent 178.50 yards on incomplete part thereof: 20p |            |          |  |
| Tariff Two   | Between 10pm and 6am Monday to Saturday, and any time on a Sunday or a Bank Holiday (other than Christmas and New Year) Tariff One +12.5%.   |            |          |  |
| Tariff Three | Christmas and New Year Period. For each complete journey between 6pm and 10pm on 24 December and the 21 December; from 6am 26 December until 6am 27 December; from 6am 1 January until 6am 2 January. Equivalent to Tariff One – Plus 50% (or distance equivalent)                   |            |          |  |
| Tariff Four  | Christmas and New Year Period. For each complete journey between 10pm on 24 December until 6am 26 December; 10pm 31 December until 6am 1 January. Equivalent to Tariff 1 – Plus 100% (or distance equivalent)  |            |          |  |
| Waiting Time | At all times on all tariffs £15.00 per hour charged at 20p increments. Waiting time will apply if the vehicle is in slow moving traffic and any time that the vehicle is stationary.   |            |          |  |
| Extra Charge | For each article of luggage carried (other than light luggage): 20p<br>6 or 7 seater taxi carrying 6 or 7 passengers: £3.00<br>Fouling of interior of vehicle: £50.00  |            |          |  |

Mandatory road fees and tolls will be charged and added separately to the fare. This vehicle may be hired for special occasions which may be subject to an extra charge agreed by the hirer. Prior written agreement to the additional charge must be received from the hirer in advance of the journey. In all cases, this agreement must be made at least 48 hours prior to the commencement of the journey.

If you have any complaints/comments about this vehicle or driver, please contact:  
Licensing Team, Wyvern House, The Drumber, Winsford CW7 1AH  
Telephone: 0300 123 8123

If any journey ends outside the boundary of Cheshire West and Chester Council, Vale Royal Zone, the fare may be agreed in advance with the driver, otherwise the Table of Fares must be applied. In all cases where the Table of Fares is applied, it is an offence for the driver to charge more than the fare shown on the taximeter. Fares shown on the taximeter are a maximum, and may be lower at the discretion of the driver or after negotiation with the driver prior to the commencement of the journey. Fares will increase due to slow moving traffic, any time the vehicle is stationary and any delays.

| Tarrifs:     | One Mile  | Five Miles | 10 Miles | Table gives an indication of possible fares. This does not reflect increases for any delays to journeys. All rates are inclusive of VAT. |
|--------------|---|------------|----------|--|
| Tariff One   | £3.50   | £10.50     | £19.25   |  |
| Tariff Two   | £4.50   | £14.50     | £27.00   |  |
| Tariff One   | For journeys commencing between 7.30am and 11pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initial hiring charge £2.50</li> <li>• On completion of the first mile (in £0.20 increments) £3.50</li> <li>• Thereafter, for each subsequent 1/5th of a mile (322 metres) or part thereof £0.35</li> </ul>  |            |          |  |
| Tariff Two   | For journeys commencing between 11pm and 7.30am <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initial hiring charge £3.50</li> <li>• On completion of the first mile (in £0.20 increments) £4.50</li> <li>• Thereafter, for each subsequent 1/5th of a mile (322 metres) or £0.50 part thereof</li> <li>• Tariff two rates will apply to all Bank Holidays commencing at 11 pm the night before until 7am the morning after the Bank Holiday. At Christmas to commence at 11pm the night before Christmas Eve until 7am the morning after Boxing Day. At New Year to commence at 11pm the night before New Year's Eve until 7am the morning after New Year's Day. On all other days Tariff two rates will apply between 11pm and 7am.</li> </ul> |            |          |  |
| Waiting Time | Waiting time will be charged at £20.40 per hour and will be charged at 17 pence for each half minute or part thereof. Waiting time will be charged when the vehicle is in slow moving traffic or is stopped.  |            |          |  |
| Extra Charge | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional Passengers – A charge of twice the rate on the fare meter can be made when the vehicle is licensed to carry eight passengers and is carrying at least five passengers.</li> <li>• Fouling – Fouling of interior of vehicle (soilage charge) £25.00</li> <li>• Left Property – The licence holder who is in possession of property left in the vehicle, shall be entitled to receive from any person to whom the property shall be re-delivered an amount equal to 5 pence in the pound of its estimated value (or the fare for the distance from the place of finding to the office of the Council, whichever is greater) but no more than £7.50.</li> </ul>                            |            |          |  |

# Hackney Carriage



## Table of Maximum Fares

2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>Tariff 1</b> | <b>£3.00</b> for the first 440 yards (402 meters) then <b>£0.20</b> for each 220 yards (201 meters) or part thereof |
| <b>Tariff 2</b> | <b>£3.80</b> for the first 440 yards (402 meters) then <b>£0.20</b> for each 165 yards (151 meters) or part thereof |
| <b>Tariff 3</b> | <b>£4.60</b> for the first 440 yards (402 meters) then <b>£0.20</b> for each 132 yards (121 meters) or part thereof |

**Where 5 or more passengers are carried the above tariffs will increase by 50% becoming tariffs 4, 5 and 6**

### Waiting Time

The hirer will be charged **£0.20** for the following periods or uncompleted part thereof

**Tariff 1 - 60 seconds**

**Tariff 2 - 40 seconds**

**Tariff 3 - 30 seconds**

1. Tariff 1 applies at all times when neither tariff 2 nor Tariff 3 applies
2. Tariff 2 shall apply (where Tariff 1 would otherwise apply) for any journey at and beyond six miles from the commencement of the journey
2. Except when Tariff 3 applies, Tariff 2 applies for hirings between 11.00pm and 6.00am, all day on Bank and Public Holidays, Easter Sunday, and between midday to 11.00pm Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve
3. Tariff 3 applies for hirings between:
  - a) 11.00pm Christmas Eve and 6.00am Boxing Day
  - b) 11.00pm New Year's Eve and 6.00am New Year's Day
4. If any journey ends outside the Borough boundary the fare should be agreed in advance with the driver otherwise the Table of Fares must be applied
5. Only mileage and waiting time charges will appear on the taximeter. Other charges will be charged separately
6. Taximeters are calibrated in yards and metric equivalents are approximate only

### Extra Charges

**Luggage** - For each article of luggage outside the passenger compartment **£ 0.20**

**Fouling** - The cost to the hirer of cleaning the vehicle when fouled by them **£50.00**

**Bridge Crossing** - For a passenger journey involving a crossing of the River Mersey within the Borough the toll for that crossing may be charged at the rate for the time being in force for the vehicle

**St. Helens Council – Hackney Carriage Fares**  
**Operative 25 November 2021**

## Table of Maximum Hackney Carriage Fares

**RATE 1 (R1)** 08.01 – 22.59hrs

**RATE 2 (R2)** 23.00 - 08.00hrs  
 Applies to Bank Holidays except as described in Rate 3 and all day Easter Sunday

**RATE 3 (R3)**  
 Applies from 18:00hrs on Christmas Eve, throughout Christmas Day and Boxing Day until 08:00hrs on 27<sup>th</sup> December and from 18:00hrs on New Year's Eve, throughout New Year's Day until 08:00hrs on 2<sup>nd</sup> January.

| MILEAGE                                       | R1    | R2    | R3    |
|---|-------|-------|-------|
| For the first 300 metres or part              | £2.30 | £2.80 | £3.70 |
| For each subsequent 175 metres or part        | £0.20 |       |       |
| For each subsequent 130 metres or part        |       | £0.20 |       |
| For each subsequent 125 metres or part        |       |       | £0.20 |
| Waiting time (Each period 30 seconds or part) | £0.10 |       |       |
| Waiting time (Each period 20 seconds or part) |       | £0.10 | £0.10 |

The Driver is only entitled to charge the above mentioned rate of fares

### Extra charges

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| 1. For fouling the cab  | <b>£25.00</b> |
| 2. Before the journey starts the driver must advise if they are exercising discretion to charge for carrying abnormal loads. This does not apply to the carriage of wheelchairs, pushchairs, suitcases, handheld luggage and shopping bags. | <b>£10.00</b> |
| 3. Toll charges (Where Applicable)  |               |

**NOTE** – If you have any complaints regarding the driver or the vehicle you should inform the Council's Licensing Team at Wesley House, Corporation Street, St Helens, WA10 1HF (Telephone – 01744 676770) quoting the vehicle plate number and or the drivers badge number.

**St. Helens Council – Hackney Carriage Fares**  
**Operative 25 November 2021**

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Knowsley Council

# HACKNEY CARRIAGE TARIFF MAXIMUM CHARGES (WITH EFFECT FROM 18<sup>th</sup> April 2022)

**EVEN WHEN HIRED VIA A PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR THE TAXIMETER MUST ALWAYS BE ENGAGED AT THE APPROPRIATE MAXIMUM TARIFF SET BY THE COUNCIL APART FROM JOURNEYS THAT EXTEND MORE THAN 4 MILES BEYOND THE BOROUGH BOUNDARY. ANY DRIVER CHARGING HIGHER THAN THE PERMITTED FARE MAY BE COMMITTING A CRIMINAL OFFENCE.**

**THIS VEHICLE IS HIRED BY A COMBINATION OF BOTH TIME AND DISTANCE CALCULATED AT THE MAXIMUM RATES AS SHOWN IN THE TABLES BELOW.**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>TARIFF 1</b>  | <b><u>0600 HOURS TO 2300 HOURS EVERY DAY UNLESS SHOWN BELOW</u></b> |
| <p>£2.80 for the first 330 yards or less<br/>         Then 20p for each succeeding 205 yards (or less) up to 35,200 yards<br/>         Then 20p for each succeeding 300 yards (or less)<br/>         Then 20p each 60 seconds waiting charge (or less)</p> |   |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>TARIFF 2</b>  | <b><u>2300 HOURS TO 0600 HOURS, AND ALL PUBLIC HOLIDAYS EXCEPT CHRISTMAS &amp; NEW YEAR</u></b> |
| <p>£3.50 for the first 330 yards or less<br/>         Then 25p for each succeeding 205 yards (or less) up to 35,200 yards<br/>         Then 25p for each succeeding 300 yards (or less)<br/>         Then 25p each 60 seconds waiting charge (or less)</p> |   |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>TARIFF 3</b>  | <b><u>CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS</u></b> |
| <p>(From 0600 hours Christmas Eve, all of Christmas Day, all of Boxing Day and until 0600 hours on 27th December and again from 1800 hours on New Year's Eve, all of New Year's Day and until 0600 hours on 2nd January)</p> <p>£3.90 for the first 400 yards or less<br/>         Then 20p for each succeeding 132 yards (or less)<br/>         Then 20p for each 40 seconds waiting charge (or less)</p> |   |

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b><u>PERMITTED EXTRA CHARGES</u></b> |   |
| (i)                                   | <b>50p as a single discretionary charge for all journeys where more than 4 passengers are carried in the vehicle;</b> |
| (ii)                                  | <b>£40.00 Fouling Charge;</b>   |
| (iii)                                 | <b>All Tolls <u>to and from</u> the requested destination (including Tunnel, Motorway, Bridge and Airport tolls)</b>  |

**IF A JOURNEY IS TO EXTEND MORE THAN FOUR MILES BEYOND THE BOROUGH BOUNDARY THE DRIVER MUST, BEFORE THE START OF THE JOURNEY AGREE A RATE OF HIRE OR AN AGREED AMOUNT. IF THE METER RATE IS AGREED IT WILL BE ON A MANUAL OVERRIDE AND WILL BE DISPLAYED AS AN "E" ON THE METER. THIS RATE EQUATES TO TARIFF 2'S USUAL CHARGES.**

**THE DRIVER IS PROHIBITED FROM MAKING ANY ADDITIONAL CHARGE FOR PAYMENT BY ELECTRONIC MEANS.**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY COMPLIMENTS, COMPLAINTS OR ENQUIRIES REGARDING YOUR TAXI JOURNEY, PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THE TAXI LICENCE PLATE NUMBER AND CONTACT: KNOWSLEY COUNCIL LICENSING ENFORCEMENT -**

**Telephone: 0151 443 2300, or Email: [DCRLicensingEnforcementTeam@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:DCRLicensingEnforcementTeam@knowsley.gov.uk)**

## Appendix 5

### Objections to proposed increase in Hackney Carriage Fares

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | I would like to oppose the fare increase, I think the cut in the yardage is quite severe to the public. Especially in these hard times. I do believe that there should be an increase, what that should be I'm not sure, maybe, 30 or 40 pence to £3.50 / £3.60. I oppose the increase that has been forwarded.  |
| 2 | I would like to formally raise my objection to the proposal of an increase to hackney carriage fare tariffs.<br>In my opinion, as a hackney driver of 22 years, the proposed increase is far too high for the general public of Wirral to afford.<br>This will decimate our business as the service we offer will be destroyed as it won't be cost effective.<br>Furthermore, passengers will only see the first £5.00 on the meter and not understand the extra yardage they'll get to travel.  |
| 3 | I would like to vote against the £5 TRAIFF PAY RISE  |
| 4 | With reference to your August 2022 Taxi Information Sheet relating to the above, please accept this Email as an objection to the revised Table of Fares.   |
| 5 | <p>Most Hackney Carriage Drivers agree that an increase in Taxi Fares is urgently required.</p> <p>However the proposal to increase the initial hiring to £5.00 has drivers fearing a serious loss of custom.</p> <p>It does propose that £5.00 will take the customer up to 1 mile but that is with the Taxi meter running on Stopped. If the Taxi meter is normal running then the fare would be nearer £5.40 or more depending on traffic ect.</p> <p>An alternative proposal which would be fairer to the customers and the drivers would be as follows.</p> <p><b>Tariff 1</b> Standard day rate.</p> <p>To increase the initial hiring from the current £3.20 for the first 300 yards to £3.60 for the first 300 yards.<br/>Each subsequent 207 yards 20 pence.</p> <p><b>Tariff 2</b> Standard night rate (6am to 10pm) public and Bank Holiday Day Rate (including Easter Sunday).</p> <p>First 300 yards £4.00.<br/>Each subsequent 160 yards 20p.</p> <p><b>Tariff 3</b><br/>Public and Bank Holiday night rate.</p> |

|   |   |
|---|---|
|   | <p>First 300 yards £4.20.<br/>Each subsequent 150 yards 20p.</p> <p><b>Tariff 4</b> Xmas and New year day and night rate.</p> <p>We would suggest to leave as it is.</p> <p>We all realise that this email may be taken as an objection to the proposed fare rise and therefore the rise would be cancelled</p>   |
| 6 | <p>I drive a hackney and most of the drivers are against the rate starting from £5 from the current £3.20. it just looks like a massive rise when many of our customers are struggling themselves. the obvious compromise would be to start at £3.80. There should be a mechanism in place to implement a small yearly increase.</p>  |
| 7 | <p>Please do not implement the latest proposal.<br/>I am a Wirral hackney driver.<br/>I think that the proposal for the minimum fare of £5 is not appropriate at this time.<br/>There will be a "shock factor" and I envisage people getting out before one can explain.<br/>The meter in my opinion and others should go up by around 40p.<br/>The last fare increase was in Nov 2018 when diesel was around £1.40 a litre since then it peaked around £2 a litre and is currently around £1.80.</p> <p>The running mile needs to increase by around 10% this is achieved by 20p for 207 yards<br/>The above should apply to <b>tariff 1</b></p> <p><b>Tariff 2</b> first 300 yards £4 each subsequent 157 yards 20p</p> <p><b>Tariff 3</b> £4.20 20p each 148 yards</p> <p><b>Tariff 4</b> could stay unchanged or add 10% as above.</p> <p>also maybe for next time the waiting time needs to change or else we end up with a farcical situation as we did last increase when the time went from 20p a minute to 30p a minute a huge 50%. I believe increases should be little and often not huge and rarely.<br/>I do not support this proposal but we urgently need an increase,</p> |
| 8 | <p>I am against the proposed increase as I feel a £5 minimum fare will have a detrimental effect on my business and the hackney trade in general. We have already lost custom to the private hire trade and often see customers waiting for private hire cars instead of using hackney cabs. My colleague's and I have not been canvassed for our opinion on this matter and feel that we should be asked before someone makes a decision on our behalf. We are experiencing and cost of living crisis at the moment and I feel this proposed increase will affect our customers as well as us drivers. I also feel it will affect people who rely on us for transport including pensioners, young adults with</p>  |

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|----|--|
|    | families who may not be able to afford a car but occasionally need to use a taxi for shopping etc and mostly wheelchair user's for whom we are a vital service. I feel a nominal increase of 20 pence for now is an acceptable increase in our tariff.   |
| 9  | As a taxi driver for coming on 40 years I must object strongly to the proposed fare increase for the Hackney trade on the Wirral.<br>I don't object to a fare increase in general as it's been 4 years since the last one, but a £5.00 first drop will make using hackney's uncompetitive against the private hire trade, and such a large increase in the current economic crisis with people struggling to pay everyday bills it's also unfair on the loyal customers who have stayed using hackney's when they could have used the cheaper option of a private hire car. Raising the Hackney fare under the current proposal will be detriment to the trade it's far too high an increase.  |
| 10 | Regarding proposed fare increase, as outlined in letter, I'm against proposal. It would put a large majority of the public off from using Hackney cabs. Public are ordering private hire vehicles on taxi ranks as it is. That type of increase would put us at an unfair disadvantage within the trade. I would be more happy with an extra 20p put on minimum fare and yardage brought down.   |
| 11 | I'm writing to say that I oppose the suggested Hackney cab fare increase, I also refer to the email sent to yourselves by John Gary Bennett , Hackney badge number 96.<br>( the email below)   |
| 12 | I wish to put in an objection to the proposed increase due to the following points.<br>1. The last tarrif increase was imposed in nov 2018 and taking into account annual inflation you are only applying last years cost of living increase of 4.1% rather than the cumulative amount since the last tarrif change.<br>2. when calendar controlled meters were imposed by WBC it was agreed that the annuall increase would be regulated by the increases imposed by TFL hackney cab fares. Since 2018 TFL have instituted the following tarrif changes-2018 3.4%, 2019 4.1%,2020 1.9%, 2021 5.8%, 2022 5.51. If WBC had applied these charges the wirral tarrif should be £1 87,49 per mile which is 20p per 195 yards which should be applied as the base tarrif<br>3. Currently Private hire tarrifs have been raised to £1.85 per mile for a 4 seater vehicle with a 50% increase for vehicles carrying more than 4 passengers equating to £2.75 per mile<br>4. Unless tarrifs are increased upgrading of the current fleet will be very hard to do as new vehicles have become prohibitively expensive for example LEVC TX OTR price £64,599 vito taxi £41.995<br>I am objecting to the above titled proposed fare increase. The reason is the start rate for tariff one is too expensive. I propose the start rate to remain at £3.20 or at most to increase to £3.40 and the subsequent yardage to be reduced.<br>Starting at £5.00 would scare off many customers especially as a cost of living crisis is upon us. |

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 13 | I am objecting to the above titled proposed fare increase. The reason is the start rate for tariff one is too expensive. I propose the start rate to remain at £3.20 or at most to increase to £3.40 and the subsequent yardage to be reduced. Starting at £5.00 would scare off many customers especially as a cost of living crisis is upon us.   |
| 14 | On the proposal to increase the tariff on the 1sep this year am all for a price increase but not on the start up tariff you are suggesting<br>It's a visual thing when the customer sees £5.00 on meter it starts the journey on a argumentative foot<br>If the cost is spread across the yardage<br>People who use the cabs will see the small increase<br>Rather than one off fares slating you for being so expensive<br>That's we're I stand on increase's in September   |
| 15 | I would like to strongly object to this fare rate. It's to much of a hike from £3.20 to £5.00 with the cost of living as it is. An increase in the running miles would be a much fairer way for the people of this town.  |
| 16 | I would like to oppose the proposed tariff increase as I feel we will lose a great deal of trade due to the psychological effect of seeing a starting tariff of £5.00.<br><br>I would propose an increase in the region of £3.60 for the first 350 yards, and 20p each subsequent 215 yards. This would bring the total for the first mile to approximately £4.90.<br><br>Also by my calculations the proposal for tariff 4 would mean drivers would have to travel approximately 9 miles to earn the same fare as the current rate.                                  |
| 17 | I am a Wirral Hackney driver and I object to the proposed fare rise. The idea of a £5.00 fare as soon as customers get in the cab is far too expensive. I am strongly opposed to this proposal.   |
| 18 | I and all taxi drivers in the Birkenhead side of town are very upset that people from the place that matters are not listening to us and we are very upset that people from are industry are trying to make it even harder for us by putting our tariffs up from what it is now to £5are customers will be devastated the increase from £3.20 to £5 we would like it to go upto £3.40or even make the yards bit shorter please listen to us send me a reply and please do not put it up to this amount  |
| 19 | I would like to express my objection to the proposed rate of £5 for the first 1760 yards... I use Wirral hackney taxis regularly for a short distance journey, which at £4 I am able to afford...should the increase come into effect I will not have the extra cash needed to pay the new fare which distresses me greatly as I am disabled and rely on hackney taxis. I am sure I am not alone In not wanting this increase and suggest you do some more research into how this will affect your customers, drivers etc before going ahead and putting the fare up! |

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