

# **FAREHAM**

## **BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **Report to Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee**

**Date                  18 September 2018**

**Report of:              Head of Environmental Health**

**Subject:                REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES**

#### **SUMMARY**

Each year the views of the taxi trade are sought in respect of whether they wish the Council to consider a change to the taxi tariff. The last time the trade indicated they wanted a tariff increase was in 2008, and the matter was considered by the Committee at that time and an increase was granted. In July this year a letter was sent to the taxi trade, which sought their view on whether they wished to have an increase to the taxi tariff. There were 24 individual responses from individual drivers, 9 for no change, 15 requesting a range of changes, which are detailed within the report, the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Association (HCPHA) had also voted in favour of a tariff increase, details are included below.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (a) considers the responses received from individuals and the HCPHA in respect of changes to the tariff;
- (b) considers if a change is appropriate; and
- (c) makes a recommendation to the Executive in that respect.

## INTRODUCTION

1. Each year the taxi trade is consulted in respect of the level of taxi tariff. The last time the trade indicated they wanted a tariff increase following consultation was in 2008, and the matter was considered by the Committee at that time and an increase was granted.
2. In 2015 the trade did not request a change in the fares but asked for two other changes to the tariff which were both granted. One was for a change to the cost of carrying luggage and the second was for an increase in the fee for fouling a vehicle.
3. In 2016 the taxi Trade via the Association requested an increase in the fee for picking up at Fareham Railway Station and a statement regarding dogs to be removed. These were both implemented.
4. In 2017 no increase was made to the level of the taxi tariff for the 2018/19 financial year.
5. In July this year a letter was sent to the taxi Trade to consult upon the taxi tariff (Appendix A). We received 24 responses of which 15 were requesting a change. A list of responses can be seen as Appendix C.
6. On 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2018 we received an email from the Secretary of the Hackney Carriage Association regarding a vote the Hackney Carriage taken in regard to a tariff increase. The result was that 93 written votes were received with 26 voting for no increase and 67 voting for an increase. (Appendix B)
7. There are currently 195 Hackney Carriage vehicles licensed in the Borough, 156 licensed Hackney Carriage drivers and 75 Dual Licensed Drivers.

## INDICES

8. Average Weekly Earnings in real terms (adjusted for consumer price inflation and seasonality), were reset in August 2015 to an index of 100 and have increased 1.5% since that date.

	Real AWE (2015 £)	Real AWE (Index numbers 2015=100)
Aug-15	454	100.0
Jan-16	458	101.0
Jun-16	461	101.5
Jun-17	459	101.1
Jun 18	461	101.5

9. RPI All Items: Percentage change over 12 months:  
**3.2%** 2018 Jul. Release date: 15 August 2018.
10. Consumer price inflation is currently at **2.5%**.
11. Members are asked to review the fare comparison spreadsheet (Appendix E) and consider whether to recommend an increase in the tariff. Also in Appendix E are some example increases in order to further assist members including, that proposed by the

Hackney Carriage Association.

## **RISK ASSESSMENT**

12. There are no significant risk considerations in relation to this report

## **CONCLUSION**

13. That members consider the information contained in the report when making their decision regarding the level of Fareham Taxi Tariff.

**Background Papers:** None

**Reference Papers:** None

**Enquiries:** For further information on this report please contact Helen Spires. (Ext 4411)

APPENDIX A	Letter to Trade consulting on Tariff
APPENDIX B	Responses received and comments Vote of HC&PH Association
APPENDIX C	Vote of HC&PH Association
APPENDIX D	Current Tariff card
APPENDIX E	Fares Comparison Spreadsheet and examples of increase to tariff

# FAREHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

«Merge Record #»

«Name»

«Address1»

«Address2»

«Address3»

«Postcode»

Head of Environmental Health  
Ian Rickman

Contact: Helen Spires

Ext.: 4411

Date: 02 July 2018

Dear Owner/Driver

## ANNUAL TARIFF CHANGE CONSULTATION

Fareham Borough Council annually contacts drivers and owners of Hackney Carriage vehicles to see if they want to request any changes to the Tariff.

Please indicate on the slip below if you wish to request any changes to be made. All replies need to be received by the Licensing Team by Friday 3rd August 2018. Please return the slip to the Licensing Team, Fareham Borough Council, Civic Offices, Civic Way, Fareham, PO16 7AZ. These can be handed into our ground floor reception, or sent in the post or you mail email your response to: [Licensing@fareham.gov.uk](mailto:Licensing@fareham.gov.uk).

If we receive requests to change the tariff we add them to the report to the September 2018 Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee. Any changes agreed by Committee will be effective from April 2019.

Should you have any queries regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me, Helen Spires on 01329 824411 or email [hspires@fareham.gov.uk](mailto:hspires@fareham.gov.uk).

Yours faithfully

Helen Spires  
Licensing Manager

Driver Name:

Badge or Plate No.

Would you like to propose any changes: YES   
NO

If yes, proposed changes (please continue on separate page if required):

Signed:

Dated:

Licensing Department  
Civic Offices Civic Way Fareham PO16 7AZ  
Keep up to date with our latest news: like Fareham on Facebook  
and follow @FarehamBC on Twitter

## APPENDIX B

Change Y/N	Comment
N	
N	
N	
N	
N	
N	
N	I personally I'm not in favour of an increase in the tariff, but fill if there has to be an increase it should be in the only initial hire cost. The price that the metre starts at to be increased to know more than £3 pull off.
N	
Y	A small increase in the start charge would I feel be required to alleviate any further increase in the meter charge.
Y	Tariff increase
Y	Because fuel expensive, repair, insurance, car cost very expensive
Y	
Y	Increase +30p
Y	Tariff increase please. Havant taxis are minimum fare is £3.00
Y	£2.60 start on meter, thereafter 20p every 180 metres.
Y	The rising cost of fuel
Y	My opinion is minimum charge £3.00
Y	In accordance with suggestions by Fareham Hackney Carriage Association following a Trade meeting on 25th June
Y	I feel that now is the right time for a tariff increase. The Hackney Carriage drivers in Fareham have not had a 'Pull Off' increase or 'Distance' change since 2008. The trade has absorbed all the increases in the expenses involved in running a taxi for ten years and cannot continue without an increase. The is still worried about 'Out of Town' Companies and Uber but many now feel that an increase is now necessary. I would like to see the increase asked for by the Association which is, for Rate 1, a pull off of £2.60 for the first 180M or part thereof and 20p for each additional 180M. There has not been an increase in 'Waiting Time' for at least ten years so I agree that an increase should be considered and I recommend 20p for each period of 50seconds that the vehicle is stationary or travelling at less than four miles per hour. Currently, for a three mile journey we would charge £7.20 and with the above increase we would charge £7.80 which is an increase of about 8.3%. That 60p increase would be equivalent to 6p per year (about 0.8%) if we had been asking for an increase every year since our last increase which was 2008 (10 years ago).
Y	My proposal is £2.40 pull off then .20p for each 180m.
Y	As per Fareham hackney carriage associations proposal
Y	
Y	I would like to propose rise of the tariff at least 25% up.

**RESPONSE FROM HACKNEY CARRAIGE ASSOCIATION**

Hi Helen,

The Fareham Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Association recently had a survey, asking its members if the Pull Off and/or Distance Travelled sections of the Hackney Carriage Tariff in Fareham, should increase or remain as it has been since 2008.

The number of voting slips returned plus Email replies totalled 93. In conclusion we had 67 voting for an increase and 26 voting for no increase.

At a meeting of the Association on Monday the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018 the members agreed that we should request an increase to the tariff. The changes agreed and requested by the members are:-

**1. DISTANCE**

The current tariff states:-

Rate 1: For the First 190M or part thereof a minimum charge of £2.20

Rate 2: For the First 190M or part thereof a minimum charge of £3.30

Rate 3: For the First 190M or part thereof a minimum charge of £4.40

Our Association request that the tariff changes to:-

Rate 1: For the First 180M or part thereof a minimum charge of £2.60

Rate 2: For the first 180M or part thereof a minimum charge of £3.90

Rate 3: For the First 180M or part thereof a minimum charge of £5.20

**2. WAITING TIME**

The current tariff states:-

Rate 1: For each period of 60 seconds or part 20p

Rate 2: For each period of 60 seconds or part 30p

Rate 3: For each period of 60 seconds or part 40p

Our Association request that the tariff changes to:-

Rate 1: For each period of 55 seconds or part 20p

Rate 2: For each period of 55 seconds or part 30p

Rate 3: For each period of 55 seconds or part 40p

**3. That Easter Sunday from 0600hours till 2330 hours change from Rate 1 to Rate 2.**

There has been no increase to the Pull Off or Distance Travelled since 2008 some 10 years ago. The trade have agreed that it is now right to have an increase and we hope that you and the Councillors on the Licensing and Regulatory Committee will support these changes.

Regards,  
Mel Chorlton  
Secretary for the Fareham Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Association.

## APPENDIX D

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# FAREHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

## TAXI FARES (INCLUSIVE OF VAT)

### DISTANCE

RATE 1:	For the first 190 meters or part thereof minimum charge	<b>£2.20</b>	0600–2330 unless stated otherwise
	For each succeeding 190 meters or part	<b>20p</b>	
RATE 2:	For the first 190 meters or part thereof minimum charge	<b>£3.30</b>	<b>RATE 2</b>
	For each succeeding 190 meters or part	<b>30p</b>	2330–0600 unless stated otherwise
RATE 3:	For the first 190 meters or part thereof minimum charge	<b>£4.40</b>	1800–midnight on Christmas Eve
	For each succeeding 190 meters or part	<b>40p</b>	1800–midnight on New Year's Eve

### WAITING TIME

RATE 1:	For each period of 60 seconds or part	<b>20p</b>	All 24 hours on all other Bank
RATE 2:	For each period of 60 seconds or part	<b>30p</b>	Holidays unless specified
RATE 3:	For each period of 60 seconds or part	<b>40p</b>	

### EXTRA CHARGES

For each person in excess of two	<b>10p</b>	All 24 hours on Christmas Day
Luggage carried outside of the passenger compartment	<b>50p</b>	Midnight–0600 on Boxing Day
This does not include items relating to a disability		Midnight–0600 on New Year's Day
Passengers picked up at Fareham Station	<b>£1.00</b>	surcharge
Assistance dogs must be carried free of charge unless the driver has a current exemption in place not to do so.		

**A MAXIMUM CHARGE OF £70 MAY BE MADE AGAINST ANY PERSON FOULING THE VEHICLE OR ALLOWING AN ANIMAL TO FOUL THE VEHICLE**

Complaints should be made to The Licensing Officer, Regulatory Services, Civic Offices, Civic Way, Fareham, Hampshire PO16 7AZ or email: [Licensing@fareham.gov.uk](mailto:Licensing@fareham.gov.uk)

## HACKNEY CARRIAGE NO. 16 TO CARRY 4 PERSONS

**SEAT BELTS ARE PROVIDED FOR ALL PASSENGERS IN THIS VEHICLE YOU ARE REQUIRED BY LAW TO WEAR THEM**

**TAXI TARIFF COMPARISON**

District	Cost/Distance	£ per 6 miles
SOUTHAMPTON	Pull off £2.80 for first 110 metres 20p each 110 metres thereafter until distance travelled of 330 metres 20p each 195 thereafter	12.76
PORTSMOUTH	Pull off £2.20 for the first 274 metres (or 51.43 seconds) 20p each 182.88 metres until fare reaches £12.60 then 20p each 141.73 metres thereafter	12.46
GOSPORT	Pull off £2.20 for the first 199 metres 20p each 178 metres thereafter	12.25
FAREHAM (existing)	Pull off £2.20 for first 190 metres 20p each 190 metres thereafter	12.20

**Examples of effect of different increases to tariff**

District	Cost/Distance	£ per 6 miles
Fareham (existing)	Pull off £2.20 for first 190 metres 20p each 190 metres thereafter	12.20
Fareham+2.5%	Pull off £2.40 for first 199 meters 19p each 178 metres thereafter	12.47
Fareham (existing) +5%	Pull off £2.20 for first 190 metres 21p each 190 metres thereafter	12.87
<b>HC&amp;PH Association proposal (+7%) (rate 1 only shown here)</b>	Pull off £2.60 for the first 180 metres (or part thereof) 20p each 180 metres thereafter	13.08
For each period of 60 seconds or part 20p	For each period of 55 seconds or part 20p	
Easter Sunday currently Rate 1	That Easter Sunday from 0600 hours till 23:30 hours change to Rate 2.	

**NB** The percentage increase in fare decreases as the journey length increases.