

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to the Executive for Decision 05 November 2018

Portfolio:	Health and Public Protection & Policy and Resources
Subject:	Review of Hackney Carriage Fares
Report of:	Director of Planning and Regulation
Corporate Priorities:	Protect and enhance the environment

Purpose:

To set the level of Hackney Carriage Tariff for licensed vehicles in the Borough.

Executive summary:

Each year the views of the taxi trade are sought in respect of whether they wish the Council to consider an increase to the taxi tariff.

In July this year, a letter was sent to the taxi trade which sought their views on whether they wished to have an increase to the taxi tariff. We received 24 responses of which 15 were requesting a change. On 3rd July 2018 we received an email from the Secretary of the Hackney Carriage Association regarding a vote the Hackney Carriage Association had 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.

The responses received in response to the newsletter are detailed in a report presented at the meeting of the Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee held on the 18 September 2018. A copy of this report is attached as Appendix A.

Having considered the report and the responses received from individuals and the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Association in respect of changes to the tariff, it was resolved that the Committee recommends that the Executive approves the following changes to the current tariffs:

- (a) a minimum pull off charge of £2.60 for the first 180 metres (or part thereof) with a charge of 20p for each succeeding 180 metres (or part thereafter);
- (b) a charge of 20p for each period of 55 seconds waiting time (or part thereof);
and
- (c) that Easter Sunday from 06:00 hours until 2330 hours be charged at Rate 2.

Recommendation/Recommended Option:

It is recommended that the Executive agrees to amend the current Hackney Carriage tariff so that:

- (a) there is a minimum pull off charge of £2.60 for the first 180 metres (or part thereof) with a charge of 20p for each succeeding 180 metres (or part thereafter);
- (b) there is a charge of 20p for each period of 55 seconds waiting time (or part thereof); and
- (c) Easter Sunday from 06:00 hours until 23:30 hours be charged at Rate 2.

Reason:

The majority of the responses from the taxi trade, individual drivers and Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee, are in favour of an increase this year.

Cost of proposals:

Advertising change to tariff in local press.

Appendices:	A: Report to the Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee – 18 ^h September 2018
Background papers:	None
Reference papers:	None

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Executive Briefing Paper

Date:	05 November 2018
Subject:	Review of Hackney Carriage Fares
Briefing by:	Director of Planning and Regulation
Portfolio:	Health and Public Protection & Policy and Resources

INTRODUCTION

1. Each year the taxi trade is consulted in respect of the level of taxi tariff. The last time the trade indicated it 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 July this year a letter was sent to the taxi trade to consult upon the taxi tariff. The Council received 24 responses of which 15 were requesting a change. There are currently 200 Hackney Carriage vehicles licensed in the Borough, 155 licensed Hackney Carriage drivers and 206 Dual Licensed Drivers.
3. The Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee at its meeting on 18 September 2018 considered this matter and their recommendation to the Executive was in favour of an increase for the 2019/20 financial year.

INDICES

4. **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.
5. **RPI All Items:** Percentage change over 12 months:
3.2% 2018 Jul. Release date: 15 August 2018.
6. **Consumer price inflation** is currently at **2.5%**.
7. There are no significant risk considerations in relation to this report.

CONCLUSION

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

Background Papers: None

Reference Papers: None

Enquiries: For further information on this report please contact Ian Rickman (Ext 4473).