

A.3 HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES

(Report prepared by Alan Tolmie)

PART 1 – KEY INFORMATION

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To consider two letters requesting an increase in the scale of fares operative within the District, the first from the Tendring Taxi Drivers Association (TTDA) which was received on 7 March 2012 and the second from Mr Alan Kirkham, received on 12 March 2012. Both letters are attached as Appendix 'A' to the report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Members last granted a fare increase effective from 20 August 2008.

If Members are minded to accede to the request, they must decide which request to grant, either in full or in part.

If Members determine to grant an increase to the table of fares, such increase must be advertised in the local press and any representations received placed before the next available Licensing Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

- a) That Members determine whether or not to grant an increase to the table of fares operative within the District.
- b) That, subject to Members deciding to grant an increase to the fare tariff, Members determine which of the proposals to adopt either in full or in part.
- c) That, if Members are minded to grant an increase in full or in part, public notice be given of the intention of the Council to increase and amend the Hackney Carriage Fare Scale operative within the District in accordance with the request made.
- d) That, subject to (c) above, any representations received in response to the said public notice be considered at your next meeting.

PART 2 – IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

DELIVERING PRIORITIES

The proposed increase to the table of fares supports a key element of this Council's Corporate Plan and the Sustainable Community Strategy for Tendring:

- Building a thriving local tourism industry, for Tendring

FINANCE, OTHER RESOURCES AND RISK

Finance and other resources

The cost of one press advertisement required to notify the public of the intention to increase the Hackney Carriage Fare Scale can be met from within the approved 2012/2013 Revenue budget.

Risk

If the proposed increase were not granted it could lead to fewer taxis being available to transport both the local population and visitors to the District.

LEGAL

If Members are minded to grant the request, public notice must be given in at least one local newspaper of the intention of the Council to increase the Hackney Carriage fare scale in accordance with the provisions of Section 65 of Part II of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Consideration has been given to the implications of the proposed decision in respect of the following and any significant issues are set out below.

Crime and Disorder / Equality and Diversity / Consultation/Public Engagement.

CRIME AND DISORDER

There are no Crime and Disorder implications

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

There are no Equality and Diversity implications.

CONSULTATION AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

The proposed fare increase will be advertised, thus allowing public debate.

All comments generated by the advertisement will be considered by Members as part of the decision making process. Members should be aware that, prior to any decision being made regarding whether Members are minded to grant the request, 36 letters of objection to any increase to the fare tariff have been received by your officers and these have been attached as Appendix 'D' to this report.

AREAS/WARDS AFFECTED

All wards

PART 3 – SUPPORTING INFORMATION

BACKGROUND

The current fare scale came into effect on 20 August 2008 and is as shown below. For information purposes, where 'Tariff 1' is quoted, this refers to the basic rate chargeable.

TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL

1. **MILEAGE**
 - (a) If the distance does not exceed 322 metres [352 yards] for the whole distance **£2.60**
 - (b) If the distance exceeds 322 metres [352 yards] for the first 322 metres **£2.60**
 - (c) For each subsequent 322 metres [352 yards] or uncompleted part thereof in addition to (b) above **.30**
2. **WAITING TIME**
For each period of 90 seconds or uncompleted part thereof **.30**
3. **EXTRA CHARGES**
 - (a) For hirings throughout Sundays and throughout all Bank and Public Holidays and for hirings commencing after Midnight and before 6 a.m. Mondays to Saturdays inclusive **One-half of the above rate of fare**
Note: When the Bank and Public Holiday charge is payable, the Sunday and night charges are not payable
 - (b) For each article of luggage conveyed **.20**
[Luggage means suitcases or trunks but not smaller items such as a briefcase or carrier bag]
 - (c) For each person in excess of one **.20**
 - (d) For each bicycle or non-folding pram **.20**
4. **MULTI-SEAT VEHICLES**
When used to carry more than 4 passengers or a greater amount of luggage than can be conveyed in a four-seater **Add one-half of the rates specified in 1 or 3(a) above**
Note: When this charge is payable no further extra charges are applicable.
5. **CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PERIODS**
For the Christmas Period – 6 p.m. on 24 December until 7a.m. on 27 December **DoubleTariff 1**
For the New Year Period – 6 p.m. on 31 December until 7.am. on 2 January
6. **MULTI-SEAT VEHICLES – CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PERIOD**
When used to carry more than 4 passengers or a greater amount of luggage than can be carried in a four seater for the days and times set out in Paragraph 5 above **Double Tariff 1 plus 50%**
7. **DAMAGE AND SOILAGE CHARGE**
The driver may recover costs under Section 65 of Part II of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 from the hirer who will be responsible for any damage to (or human discharge left in) the taxi, which has been caused by the action of the hirer or travelling companion(s), and the hirer will be liable to meet the full cost of restoration work required to make good the effects of the aforementioned damage and/or human discharge.
8. **CARRIAGES FOR THE DISABLED**
(No extra charges for wheelchairs) **Fares as specified in 1,2 and 3 above**

CONCLUSION

Your officers feel that, owing to the increases in fuel, vehicle maintenance and insurance, and that there has been no request for an increase to the fare tariff since 2008 that there is merit in Members giving consideration to this request.

BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR THE DECISION

None

APPENDIX

Appendix A – Letter from Tendring Taxi Driver Association - Dated 25 January 2012

Appendix A – Letter from Mr Alan Kirkham - Dated 28 March 2012

Appendix B – Comparison Fare Tables

Appendix D – Letters of Objection

Tendring Taxi Drivers Association

APPENDIX 'A'

25th January 2012

Proposed fare increase.

Existing fares			Proposed fares
Up to 352 yds.	£2.60		£3.00
704	2.90		3.35
1056	3.20		3.70
1408	3.50		4.05
1760	3.80	1 mile	4.40
2112	4.10		4.75
2464	4.40		5.10
2816	4.70		5.45
3168	5.00		5.80
3520	5.30	2 miles	6.15
3872	5.60		6.50
4224	5.90		6.85
4576	6.20		7.20
4928	6.50	3 miles	7.55
5280	6.80		7.90

Due to the existing state of the economy, we have tried to keep fare increases to a minimum. However, with fuel prices at 50% more than the last increase in 2008, this is necessary to keep profit margins acceptable.

APPENDIX 'A'

Mr Alan Kirkham
16 Castle Road
Clacton-On-Sea
Essex
CO15 1JG
28-03-12

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter asking for the licensing committee to consider a rate increase for the Tendring taxi trade, it has been 4 years since our last increase, in that time insurance, fuel, license plates, taxi license's and general running of a taxi have all gone up, there are two proposal's listed below,

1- Putting 20p on the ring on,

	Old Rate	New Rate
6am-midnight---- Car	£2-60p	£2-80p
6am-midnight---- 5-8people	£3-90p	£4-20p
Midnight-6am----- Car	£3-90p	£4-20p
Midnight-6am----- 5-8people	£5-20p	£5-60p

2-If possible putting the 20p on the yardage, this would make every fifth of a mile 34p, I think no2 is more complex, but this is a idea from some of the driver's, my preference is no1 proposal 20p on the ring on, i hope these can be read and an answer be given at your earliest convenience, many thanks in dealing with this matter, this proposal amount's to an 8% increase over the last four year's which since our last increase in2008 works out at 2% per year,

Yours sincerely



Mr Alan Kirkham

Badge number T 722

ITEM A.2 - APPENDIX 'B'

COMPARISON FARE TABLES – OTHER LOCAL AUTHORITIES

HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARE TARIFFS – COMPARISON WITH OTHER AUTHORITIES

1.

<u>DISTANCE</u>	<u>TENDRING TAXI ASSOCIATION</u> [Proposed]	<u>COLCHESTER</u> [as at 11/12/11]	<u>ROCHFORD</u> [as at June 2011] N.B. ALSO TIME ACTIVATED
	£	£	£
1 mile	4.40	4.70	3.60
2 miles	6.15	6.50	4.20
3 miles	7.55	7.60	4.80
4 miles	9.30	9.10	5.40

2.

<u>DISTANCE</u>	<u>MR ALAN KIRKHAM</u> [Proposed]	<u>COLCHESTER</u> [as at 17/09/03]	<u>ROCHFORD</u> [as at June 2011] N.B. ALSO TIME ACTIVATED
	£	£	£
1 mile	4.16	4.70	3.60
2 miles	5.86	6.50	4.20
3 miles	7.56	7.60	4.80
4 miles	9.26	9.10	5.40

ITEM A.2 - APPENDIX 'C'

COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING EFFECT OF TARIFF CHANGES

1.

CURRENT CHARGES	CURRENT TARIFF £	NEW TARIFF £	COST £
Not exceeding 352 yards	2.60	3.00	15.4%
Exceeding 352 yards	2.60	3.00	15.4%
Each subsequent 352 yards or part thereof	0.30	0.35	16.1%

2.

CURRENT CHARGES	CURRENT TARIFF £	NEW TARIFF £	COST £
Not exceeding 352 yards	2.60	2.80	7.6%
Exceeding 352 yards	2.60	2.80	7.6%
Each subsequent 352 yards or part thereof	0.30	0.34	13.3%

Name: M. STEVENS

Badge Number: T 903

Tendring District Council
Licensing Officer
Westleigh House
Carnarvon Road
Clacton on Sea
Essex

Dear Sir/madam

With reference to the request for a taxi meter rate increase. I object to the rate rise for the following reasons.

- Local Clacton companies are already giving 20% off local metered journeys and up to 50% off long distance metered fares.
- Companies outside the Clacton area do not use their taxi meters and base their fares on a fixed fare rate basis.
- We are experiencing a double recession and a rate increase will be unfair to the customer in an already difficult climate.
- Fuel prices have risen but are now starting to descend.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Stevens', written over a horizontal line.

Name: *Rickie Wallington*
Badge Number: *1173*

Tendring District Council
Licensing Officer
Westleigh House
Carnarvon Road
Clacton on Sea
Essex

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Yours sincerely



Name: HENSHAW

Badge Number: T.062

Tendring District Council
Licensing Officer
Westleigh House
Carnarvon Road
Clacton on Sea
Essex

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Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'A' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Name: *TERRY O'SULLIVAN*

Badge Number: *1929*

Tendring District Council
Licensing Officer
Westleigh House
Carnarvon Road
Clacton on Sea
Essex

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Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Terry O'Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Name: IAN RAE

Badge Number: T 710-

Tendring District Council
Licensing Officer
Westleigh House
Carnarvon Road
Clacton on Sea
Essex

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Yours sincerely

J W Rae

Name: K WILLIAMS

Badge Number: 1803

Tendring District Council
Licensing Officer
Westleigh House
Carnarvon Road
Clacton on Sea
Essex

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Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'K Williams', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Name: MARK THIRLWELL

Badge Number: T 958

Tendring District Council
Licensing Officer
Westleigh House
Carnarvon Road
Clacton on Sea
Essex

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Yours sincerely



Name: M Williams
Badge Number: T982

Tendring District Council
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Westleigh House
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Name: JAMES REYNOLDS

Badge Number: T864

Tendring District Council
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Westleigh House
Carnarvon Road
Clacton on Sea
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Name: IVAN WIGGINS

Badge Number: T941

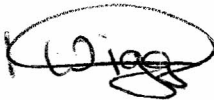
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Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ivan Wiggins', enclosed within a hand-drawn oval.

Name: S BALL
Badge Number: TS35

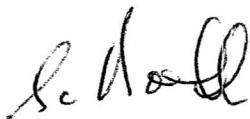
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Name: R.S. PRICE

Badge Number: T 978

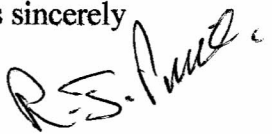
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Yours sincerely



Name: CLIVE STEVENS.

Badge Number: T 827

Tendring District Council
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Carnarvon Road
Clacton on Sea
Essex

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Name: JOHN LYNCH

Badge Number: T956

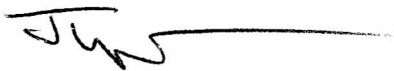
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Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JLynch', followed by a horizontal line.

Name: DAVID GRANGER

Badge Number: T390

Tendring District Council
Licensing Officer
Westleigh House
Carnarvon Road
Clacton on Sea
Essex

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Yours sincerely



Name: P. GLEASER

Badge Number: T531

Tendring District Council
Licensing Officer
Westleigh House
Carnarvon Road
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Essex

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