

# LICENSING AND REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

17 JANUARY 2022

## REPORT OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, PARTNERSHIPS

### A.2 Hackney Carriage Fares

[Report prepared by Michael Cook]

#### PART 1 – KEY INFORMATION

##### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To consider the proposed changes agreed by Members on 14 October 2021, to increase in the scale of fares, and a change in distance for which the fare is calculated that is currently operative within the District. The public consultations are attached as **Appendix A** to the report.

##### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

At your meeting held on 14 October 2021, minute 105 refers, Members considered a request from the Tendring Taximeter Forum to grant an increase to the table of fares.

After due consideration of the request the Committee decided to pass the following resolutions:-

- a) The Committee is minded to grant the Tendring Taximeter Forum's request for an increase in the Hackney Carriage Fare Scale;
- b) Public Notice to 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 by the Tendring Taximeter Forum;
- c) That any representations received in response to the said public notice be considered at the next meeting of the Committee; and
- d) That if no representations are received to the said public notice, or if all representations that are received are in favour of the fare increase, the Licensing Manager in consultation with the Chairman (or failing him the Vice-Chairman) of the Committee be authorised to implement the new Hackney Carriage Fare Scale within the District with effect from 28 days following the end of the public consultation period.

5 representations have been received as a result of the public notice having been placed in the local press and letters sent to all licensed drivers within the District. The letters / emails are attached as Appendix B to the report.

##### **RECOMMENDATION**

- a) **That consideration be given to the Tendring Taximeter Forum's request for an increase in the Hackney Carriage Fare Scale be reconsidered in the light of the objection received.**
- b) **That subject to (a) above the new fare scale, with or without modification, be brought into operation with effect 28 days following the decision of this Committee.**

## **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**

If Members are minded to reconsider their previous decision in this matter and to approve the proposed amendments to the fare scale either in a modified form or as provisionally agreed at your meeting of 14 October 2021, it has been your policy in the past to publish a further advertisement in the local press to advise the public of the commencement date of the new fare tariff.

#### **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**

The action proposed is within the Council's discretionary powers. Should Members reconsider their decision in this matter there is no legal requirement to advertise the agreed fare scale again, but it is considered good practice to do so.

### **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 was advertised in the local press for the prescribed 14 days.

#### **AREA/WARDS AFFECTED**

All wards

### **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 2018 that there is merit in Members giving consideration to this request.

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR THE DECISION**

None

**APPENDIX**

Appendix A	-	Proposed changes agreed at previous meeting of 14 October 2021.
Appendix B	-	Representation from Mr S Reeve
	-	Representation from Mr M Davies
	-	Representation from Mr A Al-Mamun
	-	Representation from Mr C Francis
	-	Representation from Mr C Thomas
Appendix C	-	Tendring Taxi Forum Update Email (Mr C Thomas)