

LICENSING AND REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

11 APRIL 2017

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR [OPERATIONAL SERVICES]

A.2 Hackney Carriage Fares

(Report prepared by Emma King)

PART 1 – KEY INFORMATION

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To consider a letter from the Tendring District Taxi Association (TDTA) requesting both an increase in the scale of fares, and a change in distance for which the fare is calculated that is currently operative within the District, which was received on 6 December 2017. The letter is attached as Appendix 'A' to the report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Members last granted a fare increase effective from 29 July 2012.

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, 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.
- c) That, subject to (b) 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 2018/2019 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.

AREAS/WARDS AFFECTED

All wards

PART 3 – SUPPORTING INFORMATION

BACKGROUND

Below is the current Fare Tariff which came into effect on 29 July 2012.

1. MILEAGE		
(a)	If the distance does not exceed 322 metres [352 yards] for the whole distance	£2.80
(b)	If the distance exceeds 322 metres [352 yards] for the first 322 metres	£2.80
(c)	For each subsequent 322 metres [352 yards] or uncompleted part thereof in addition to (b) above	.35
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 [Luggage means suitcases or trunks but not smaller items such as a briefcase or carrier bag]	.20
(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

A comparison table of cost of the existing tariff and the proposed tariff is attached as Appendix B to this report.

A comparison table of the proposed tariff and other local authorities within the Essex area is attached as Appendix C to this report.

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 2012; that there is merit in Members giving consideration to this request.

BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR THE DECISION

None

APPENDIX

Appendix A - Letter from Tendring District Taxi Association - Dated 6 December 2017

Appendix B - Comparison Fare Table Showing Effect of Tariff Changes

Appendix C - Comparison Fare Table – Comparison with Other Authorities in Essex
