

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director of People and Places	Licensing and Public Safety Committee	8 June 2011

HACKNEY CARRIAGE PROPOSED FARE INCREASE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- To bring to the attention of Members a request from the Hackney Carriage Drivers Association Ltd for a hackney carriage fare increase.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

- That Members consider the request for a fare increase and consider any representations the Hackney Carriage Drivers Association Ltd or their representatives may wish to make.
- That the proposed increase in Hackney Carriage fares be agreed, subject to the necessary notice being advertised and no objections being received. Should any objections be received it is intended that they will be presented to the next meeting of the Licensing and Public Safety Committee for consideration.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Strong Family Support		Education and Jobs	
Being Healthy		Pride in Quality Homes and Clean Neighbourhoods	
Safe Respectful Communities		Quality Community Services and Spaces	
Vibrant Local Economy	X	Thriving Town Centre, Local Attractions and Villages	X
A Council that is a consistently Top Performing Organisation and Delivers Excellent Value for Money			

BACKGROUND

- A written request for an increase in hackney carriage fares was received by the Council on 15 March 2011. A copy of the written request is attached at Appendix A.
- Under Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 the Council may fix fares for time and distance, and all other charges in connection with the hire of a hackney carriage.

7. When the Council make or vary a table of fares we have to publish in at least one local newspaper a notice setting out the table of fares and proposed increases. This Notice must allow at least 14 days for objections to be made. In addition a copy of the Notice must be available for viewing at Council offices at all reasonable hours, free of charge.
8. If no objection to the table of fares or variations is made within the period specified in the Notice, or if all objections made are withdrawn, the table of fares or variations shall come into operation on the date of the expiration of the period specified in the notice or the date of withdrawal of the objection.
9. Following a meeting with a representative from the Hackney Carriage Drivers Association Ltd the original request was discussed and simplified as follows: A 10p increase for the first 0.5 mile and an increase from £1.60 to £1.76 for each subsequent mile (equating to an increase from 10p per 1/16 mile to 11p per 1/16 mile).
10. A comparison table of the effect of a hackney fare increase is attached to this report at Appendix B.
11. Hackney Carriage fares were last increased in September 2008 when the charge for the first 0.5 mile was increased from £1.90 to £2.20. At that time no increase was imposed on the subsequent mileage or part thereof.
12. Members should note that since the last fare increase for hackney carriage journeys the cost of motoring has increased significantly with fuel costs alone rising by over 30% since 2008

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

13. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Directors' comments are included:

Finance		Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal	X	No significant implications in this area	

COMMENTS OF THE HEAD OF GOVERNANCE

14. There are no comments to be added to the body of the report.

JAMIE CARSON
DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE AND PLACES

There are no background papers to this report.

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