

**NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**LICENSING COMMITTEE – 1 MARCH 2011**

Title of report	<b>VARIATION TO HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARE TABLE</b>
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Purpose of report	To advise members of a recommendation made by the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers' Consultative Forum to vary the hackney carriage fare table.
Strategic aims	Strong and Safer Communities Prosperous Communities
Implications:	
Financial/Staff	The Local Authority is required to pay for a public notice in at least one local newspaper specifying any change to the hackney carriage table of fares.
Link to relevant CAT	Safer CAT
Risk Management	Not applicable
Equalities Impact Assessment	Not applicable
Human Rights	Not applicable
Transformational Government	Not applicable
Comments of Head of Paid Service	Report is satisfactory
Comments of Section 151 Officer	Report is satisfactory

Comments of Monitoring Officer	Report is satisfactory
Consultees	Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers' Consultative Forum.
Background papers	Minutes of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers' Consultative Forum held on 2 November 2010.
Recommendations	<p><b>A) TO AGREE IN PRINCIPLE, PENDING THE RESULT OF A CONSULTATION PROCESS, THAT THE HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARE TABLE BE VARIED AS FOLLOWS:</b></p> <p><b>THE FARE FOR UP TO AND INCLUDING THE FIRST MILE IS INCREASED TO £3.50 AND</b></p> <p><b>B) TO DELEGATE AUTHORITY TO THE DIRECTOR OF SERVICES TO RESOLVE ANY OBJECTIONS RECEIVED AND TO DECIDE WHETHER TO DRAW UP A NEW FARE TABLE.</b></p> <p><b>C) TO AGREE IN PRINCIPLE, PENDING THE RESULT OF A CONSULTATION PROCESS, THAT THE HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARE TABLE BE VARIED AS FOLLOWS:</b></p> <p><b>THE FARE FOR UP TO AND INCLUDING THE FIRST MILE IS INCREASED TO £3.60 ONCE THE PRICE OF DIESEL REACHES 136.9P AND REMAINS SO FOR 14 DAYS.</b></p> <p><b>D) TO DELEGATE AUTHORITY TO THE DIRECTOR OF SERVICES IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER TO AGREE FUTURE VARIATIONS TO THE HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARE TABLE.</b></p>

## 1.0 Background

- 1.1 The District Council has power under Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 to set fares for hackney carriages.
- 1.2 This report is presented after representations were made by the trade at the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers' Consultative Forum.
- 1.3 At this meeting the trade were in agreement that there should be an increase in the fare table. An increase in 10p from £3.40 to £3.50 up to and including the first mile was requested to be put to the Licensing Committee for approval.
- 1.4 If the Committee approves the recommendation, officers will need to publish the proposed variations in a local newspaper, giving at least 14 days for objection. If no objections are received, then the new fares will take effect on a date specified in the notice. However, the local authority must consider any objections received and can either revise the fare table in

the light of those objections or the fare table as originally proposed will come into effect on a new date, within 2 months of the original date.

- 1.5 The last increase in the hackney carriage fare table took place in July 2008 when the cheapest price for a litre of diesel, locally, was 127.9p. Since that date the price of a litre of fuel did fall to less than £1 but has since risen due to the cost of crude oil and various tax rises. The cost of a litre of diesel is currently (24/1/2011) 131.9p and expected to rise further in the short term. A barrel of Brent crude oil on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2011 was \$97.93.
- 1.6 The Council's current hackney carriage fare table is attached as Appendix A.
- 1.7 There is also concern amongst the trade that the Council will not be able to react quickly enough when further sharp increases in fuel prices occur. With the time between Committee meetings running into several months drivers are concerned that they would have to endure erosion to their earnings before members could agree to start the fare increase procedure. Further fuel increases are predicted over the next few months and the trade would be appreciative if members could resolve to agree a mechanism for implementing a further fare increase.
- 1.8 It is recommended that members also agree to a further fare increase with its implementation being deferred until the price of a litre of diesel reaches 136.9p and remains at that level for 14 days. This price will be based on the displayed price at Morrisons Supermarket on Whitwick Road, Coalville.
- 1.9 If the above requirements are met the fare increase will be from £3.50 to £3.60 for the first mile travelled. It must be borne in mind that the usual advertisement of the increase and 28 days consultation period will still apply.
- 1.10 It is recommended that in order to respond quickly to increases in fuel prices that the matter of approving a variation of the hackney carriage fare table be delegated to the Director of Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder.
- 1.11 It is proposed to draft a table of fares linked to fuel prices. The trade will be consulted at the driver consultative forum in March 2011. Once agreed by the trade, the table will be used as a basis on which future variations of the fare table will be made.



## APPENDIX A

### NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

#### HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES

	<b>FARE</b>
<b>1. DISTANCE</b>	
Up to and including one mile (1.61 kilometres)	£3.40
For each additional one tenth of a mile (161 metres)	16p
<b>2. WAITING TIME</b>	
For each completed period of 1 minute	25p
<b>3. EXTRA CHARGES</b>	
(a) For each journey begun or ended on a bank holiday or begun or ended between midnight and 6.00am (other than Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day).	Normal fare + 33%
(b) For each journey begun or ended on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day and for each journey made after 6.00pm on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve and for each journey begun or ended between midnight and 6.00am on 27 December and 2 January.	Double fare
(c) For all journeys made by vehicles which can accommodate between 5 and 8 passengers.	Normal fare + 50%
(d) For each dog carried (except guide dogs which travel free)	58p per journey
(e) Soiling charge	£50.00

This fare table has been fixed by the Council. These fares are to be charged per vehicle per journey, **NOT** per person.

#### ANY COMPLAINT ABOUT THIS VEHICLE OR DRIVER SHOULD BE MADE TO:

**Head of Environmental Health Services  
North West Leicestershire District Council  
Council Offices  
Coalville  
Leicestershire  
LE67 3FJ**

#### PLEASE QUOTE THE NUMBER OF THE VEHICLE AND/OR THE DRIVER'S BADGE

21 July 2008

