

Licensing Committee - 26 November 2009**HACKNEY CARRIAGES – REVISED TABLE OF FARES FOR 2010 / 2011****Report of The Licensing Manager**

Statutory Powers: Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

Financial Implications: There are no direct financial implications to the Council from this report.

Purpose of this Report

1. To seek Members approval to change the Table of Fares for Hackney Carriages for 2010/11.

This proposal indirectly links to the Councils priorities of CP2: 'Creating the conditions for the growth and maintenance of quality economic activity' and CP6: 'Improving core service performance in a cost-effective way'. The setting of Hackney Carriage Fares is a statutory requirement.

Recommendations

2. **That the Licensing Committee RESOLVE that:-**
 - a. In respect of Hackney Carriages operating within the South Hams District Council, the maximum fares which may be charged should be set in accordance with the Table of Fares attached as the Appendix to this report, and
 - b. The Table of Fares be advertised and come into effect in accordance with the provisions of Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

Background / The Issues

3. Hackney Carriage fares are generally reviewed annually to allow the trade to keep pace with operating costs and the fares were last reviewed and approved by the Licensing Committee on 16th June 2008. Operating costs have continued to increase and there is expected to be a further operating cost for operators once the VAT element reverts to 17.5%. Fuel prices and insurance costs are likely to continue to rise and these expenses form a major part of the operating costs of hackney carriages.

Consultation

4. A letter was written to all proprietors setting out proposals for increasing fares. The Hackney Carriage Trade were consulted on the new Table of Fares and no objections were received. Before finalising the proposed fares the proposal must be advertised for information purposes.

Summary of Changes

5. The changes to the Table of Fares are detailed in the attached Appendix highlighting the existing and proposed fares. The Table of Fares have been improved to allow for increases in operating costs and to be comparable with neighbouring authorities. The proposed fee increases are not uniform across fares, but as an example the cost of a one mile journey on tariff 1 will increase by 4.3%, a two mile journey by 3.3% and a ten mile journey by 2.9%.

When making comparisons of fares against other Local Authorities the South Hams, even with the suggested increases, will still have one of the lowest taxi tariffs in Devon and Cornwall with a two mile journey during working hours costing just £5.24. (Further information in 'background documents' below).

Risk Assessment

6. Travelling a short distance will only cost an extra 4p – 16p per one / two mile journey on tariff 1 and 23p – 24p on tariff 2 . The increase in operating costs are generally outside the control of this council but if we fail to keep the tariffs under review we will ultimately lose taxi drivers to other occupations. In a rural area where busses are scarce this will have a detrimental effect on residents and visitors to the area. A balance, however, also need to be drawn to keep the tariffs reasonable for the travelling public.

Conclusion

7. In calculating the proposed tariff increases, allowances have been made for normal inflation and to keep pace with tariffs authorised by neighbouring authorities. When comparing tariffs with other local authorities the South Hams will still have one of the lowest rates.

G Munson
Licensing Manager

I J Bollans
Head of Environmental Health

Licensing Committee
26 November 2009

Background Documents

Listed below are a summary of other Local Authorities tariffs which have been carried out by an independent publishing company. [The date the tariff was first introduced is in brackets]:-

Tariff 1 for a one mile journey:

West Devon	£Not metered.
North Cornwall	£Not metered.
Caradon	£4.60 [Sep. 2008]
Exeter	£4.00 [Nov. 2008]
Plymouth	£4.00 [July 2008]
Torbay	£3.85 [July 2008]
Restormel	£3.80 [July 2008]
East Devon	£3.60 [Dec. 2007]
Teignbridge	£3.60 [Aug 2008]
Penwith	£3.50 [July 2008]
Mid Devon	£3.40 [Mar. 2008]
North Devon	£3.25 [July 2005]
Torrige	£3.20 [Mar. 2008]
Carrick	£3.20 [May 2008]
Kerrier	£3.00 [July 2008]
South West Average	£3.62 [Oct. 2009]
National Average	£3.39 [Oct. 2009]

<u>Existing</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
<i>South Hams</i>	£3.30 [July 2008] £3.44 [w.e.f. 2 nd Jan. 2010]

Tariff 1 for a two mile journey:

West Devon	£Not metered.
North Cornwall	£Not metered.
Caradon	£6.60 [Sept. 2008]
Kerrier	£6.00 [July 2008]
Exeter	£6.00 [Nov. 2008]
Restormel	£5.80 [July 2008]
North Devon	£5.75 [July 2005]
Torbay	£5.65 [July 2008]
Carrick	£5.60 [May 2008]
East Devon	£5.40 [Dec. 2007]
Mid Devon	£5.40 [Mar. 2008]
Teignbridge	£5.40 [Aug. 2008]
Penwith	£5.30 [July 2008]
Plymouth	£5.20 [July 2008]
Torrige	£5.10 [Mar. 2008]

South West Average	£5.75 [October 2009]
National Average	£5.06 [October 2009]

<u>Existing</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
<i>South Hams</i>	£5.08 [July 2008] £5.24 [w.e.f. 2 nd Jan. 2010]

Tariff 1 for a ten mile journey:

West Devon	£Not metered.
North Cornwall	£Not metered.
Kerrier	£30.00 [July 2008]
North Devon	£25.75 [July 2005]
Carrick	£24.30 [May 2008]
Caradon	£22.60 [Sept. 2008]
Exeter	£22.50 [Nov. 2008]
Restormel	£21.80 [July 2008]
Mid Devon	£21.00 [Mar. 2008]
Torrige	£19.90 [Mar. 2008]
East Devon	£19.80 [Dec. 2007]
Teignbridge	£19.80 [Aug 2008]
Penwith	£19.70 [July 2008]
Torbay	£19.60 [July 2008]
Plymouth	£15.70 [July 2008]

South West Average	£21.18 [October 2009]
National Average	£18.59 [October 2009]

<u>Existing</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
<i>South Hams</i>	£19.14 [July .2008] £19.69 [w.e.f. 2 nd Jan. 2010]

Tariff 2 for a one mile journey:

West Devon	£Not metered.
North Cornwall	£Not metered.
Kerrier	£6.00 [July 2008]
Caradon	£5.52 [Sept. 2008]
Teignbridge	£5.40 [Aug. 2008]
Mid Devon	£5.10 [Mar. 2008]
Exeter	£5.00 [Nov. 2008]
Restormel	£4.90 [July 2008]
Torrige	£4.85 [Mar. 2008]
Torbay	£4.80 [July 2008]
East Devon	£4.60 [Dec. 2007]
Carrick	£4.60 [May 2008]
Plymouth	£4.50 [July 2008]
Penwith	£4.35 [July 2008]
North Devon	£4.06 [July 2005]

South West Average	£4.99 [October 2009]
National Average	£4.50 [October 2009]

<u>Existing</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
<i>South Hams</i>	£4.24 [July 2008] £4.47 [w.e.f. 2 nd January 2010]

Tariff 2 for a two mile journey:

West Devon	£Not metered.
North Cornwall	£Not metered.
Kerrier	£12.00 [July 2008]
Restormel	£ 8.70 [July 2008]
Mid Devon	£ 8.10 [Mar. 2008]
Teignbridge	£ 8.10 [Aug. 2008]
Carrick	£ 8.00 [May 2008]
Caradon	£ 7.92 [Sept. 2008]
Torrige	£ 7.65 [Mar. 2008]
Exeter	£ 7.50 [Nov. 2008]
Torbay	£ 7.20 [July 2008]
North Devon	£ 7.19 [July 2005]
Penwith	£ 7.05 [July 2008]
East Devon	£ 6.80 [Dec. 2007]
Plymouth	£ 5.70 [July 2008]
South West Average	£7.54 [October 2009]
National Average	£6.69 [October 2009]

<u>Existing</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
<i>South Hams</i>	£6.47 [July 2008] £6.71 [w.e.f. 2 nd January 2010]

Tariff 2 for a ten mile journey:

West Devon	£Not metered.
North Cornwall	£Not metered.
Kerrier	£60.00 [July 2008]
North Devon	£51.50 [July 2005]
Carrick	£34.80 [May 2008]
Restormel	£32.70 [July 2008]
Mid Devon	£31.50 [Mar. 2008]
Torrige	£30.50 [Mar. 2008]
Teignbridge	£29.70 [Aug. 2008]
Penwith	£28.65 [July 2008]
Exeter	£27.50 [Nov. 2008]
Caradon	£27.12 [Sept 2008]
Torbay	£25.80 [July 2008]
East Devon	£24.40 [Dec. 2007]
Plymouth	£16.20 [July 2008]
South West Average	£29.16 [October 2009]
National Average	£24.40 [October 2009]

<u>Existing</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
<i>South Hams</i>	£24.29 [July .2008] £24.65 [w.e.f. 2 nd July 2010]

SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL

MOTOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES

The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall be entitled to demand and take for hire of the carriage the rate of fare prescribed by the following table, the rate of fare being calculated by distance, except that if the distance travelled is more than five miles from the point where the hirer commences the hiring, the hirer and proprietor may agree at the commencement of the hiring to engage by time.

Provided always that where a hackney carriage furnished with a taximeter shall be hired by distance the proprietor or driver thereof shall not be entitled to demand and take a fare greater than that recorded on the face of the taximeter, save for any extra charges authorised by the following table which it may not be possible to record on the face of the taximeter.

FARES FOR DISTANCE

	Existing	<i>Proposed</i>
1. <u>TARIFF 1</u> – Monday to Saturday where the hiring commences between 7am and 11pm.		
For the first 786.38 metres (860 yards) or part thereof	£2.40	
<i>For the first 768.10 metres (840 yards) or part thereof</i>		<i>£2.50</i>
For each subsequent 182.88 metres (200 yards) or uncompleted part thereof	20 pence	
<i>For each subsequent 178.31 metres (195 yards) or uncompleted part thereof</i>		<i>20 pence</i>
 <i>(In effect this means a one-mile journey will increase from £3.30 to £3.44 [+4.3%] a two mile journey will increase from £5.08 to £5.24 [+3.3%] and a ten mile journey will increase from £19.14 to £19.69 [+2.9%]. The South West regional averages for the same distances being £3.62; £5.57 & £21.18. The National averages being £3.39; £5.06 & £18.59).</i>		
 <u>Waiting Time</u>		
For each period of 70 seconds or uncompleted part thereof	20 pence	<i>20 pence</i>
2. <u>TARIFF 2</u> – Sundays and Bank Holidays where the hiring commences between 7am and 11pm and on all other days where the hiring commences between 11pm and 7am and where the hiring commences between		

7pm on 24th December and 7am on 27th December and between 7pm on 31st December and 7am on 2nd January.

For the first 786.38 metres (860 yards) or part thereof £3.10

For the first 768.10 metres (840 yards) or part thereof £3.30

For each subsequent 144.48 metres (158 yards) or uncompleted part thereof 20 pence

For each subsequent 143.56 metres (157 yards) or uncompleted part thereof 20 pence

(In effect this means a one-mile journey will increase from £4.24 to £4.47 [+5.4%], a two mile journey will increase from £6.47 to £6.71 [+3.7%] and a ten mile journey will increase from £24.29 to £24.65 [+1.5%]. The South West regional averages for the same distances being £4.99; £7.54 and £29.16. The National averages being £4.50; £6.69 and £24.40).

WAITING TIME 20 pence 20 pence
 For each period of 48 seconds or uncompleted part thereof

3 TARIFF 3 – Where the hirer specifically requests an eight passenger seat vehicle. There is a stipulation that each seat must be equipped with a three anchorage point seat belt. Daily 24 hours.

For the first 786.38 metres (860 yards) or part thereof £3.70

For the first 768.10 metres (840 yards) or part thereof £3.90

For each subsequent 144.48 metres (158 yards) or uncompleted part thereof 20 pence

For each subsequent 143.56 metres (157 yards) or uncompleted part thereof 20 pence

(In effect this means the Tariff for the hire of an eight passenger seat mini bus will be 60p greater than Tariff 2).

WAITING TIME

For each period of 48 seconds or uncompleted part thereof	20 pence	<i>20 pence</i>
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4. EXTRA CHARGES

For the fouling of the interior or exterior of the carriage	£80.00	<i>£80.00</i>
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For each article of luggage or other article conveyed outside the passenger compartment of the carriage	25 pence	<i>25 pence</i>
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For each animal carried (Assistance dogs are carried free of charge)	25 pence	<i>25 pence</i>
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For each person in excess of one (two children between the ages of 3 years and 6 years shall be regarded as one person. A child under 3 years shall not be reckoned).	25 pence	<i>25 pence</i>
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BOOKING CHARGE

For each hiring which requires the driver to drive to the hirer's Designated pick up point	£1.00	<i>£1.00</i>
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