

REPORT TO	DATE OF MEETING
GENERAL LICENSING COMMITTEE	25th November 2014

Report template revised July 2004



SUBJECT	PORTFOLIO	AUTHOR	ITEM
REQUEST FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE TARIFF INCREASE	REGENERATION, LEISURE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES	NIKY BARRETT	4

SUMMARY AND LINK TO CORPORATE PRIORITIES

Section 65 (1) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 authorises the Local Authority to set the table of fares for Hackney Carriages within the Borough.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Committee consider the following report and determine whether it wishes to authorise Licensing Officers to carry out a formal consultation on the proposed tariff increase.
2. If Committee do wish to consult on a proposed tariff increase and all the responses fully support the proposals, authorisation is to be delegated to the Chairman in consultation with the Public Health Manager to approve the tariff increase.

DETAILS AND REASONING

The Licensing Unit has received a request from the South Ribble Taxi Owners Association (Appendix 1), to increase hackney carriage fares. A petition containing 63 hackney carriage driver signatures and 2 private hire drivers signatures was submitted with the request.

The current Hackney tariffs were last increased on 1st September 2011 and the Association point out in their letter that since then, bus and train fares have both risen, as have their own costs.

Their proposal seeks to amend the tariffs in line with the table below:

Distance	Current tariff 1	Proposed tariff 1	Northern Average (PHTM Nov 14)
1 mile	£3.40	£3.80	£3.50
2 miles	£5.40	£5.80	£5.21
5 miles	£11.40	£11.80	£10.34
Distance	Current tariff 2	Proposed tariff 2	
1 mile	£4.50	£5.00	£4.34
2 miles	£6.90	£7.50	£6.52
5 miles	£14.10	£15.00	£13.05
Distance	Current tariff 3	Proposed tariff 3	
1 mile	£5.00	£6.80	-
2 miles	£8.20	£10.30	-
5 miles	£17.80	£20.80	-

Committee may wish to consider the Council's position in relation to neighbouring authorities in the region, so detailed below is the equivalent tariff 1, two mile rate for the rest of Lancashire.

Blackpool	£5.80
Fylde	£5.80
Wyre	£5.60
Lancaster	£5.40
Ribble Valley	£5.30
Preston	£5.20
Chorley	£4.90
Rossendale	£4.90
Blackburn	£4.70
Hyndburn	£4.70
West Lancs	£4.70
Burnley	£4.50
Pendle	£4.40

Should the Committee be minded to approve the suggested amendment, a public notice will be advertised for a period of 14 days in the press and on the Council's website, during which time representations either in favour of, or against the proposal, may be made to the Licensing Unit.

If the Licensing Unit receives mixed responses to the consultation, a further report detailing these will be presented to this Committee when it next meets on 20th January 2015.

If, on the other hand, the response from the trade is all positive, it is proposed that approval of the proposed tariff increase be delegated to the Chair of General Licensing Committee and the Public Health Manager.

WIDER IMPLICATIONS

In the preparation of this report, consideration has been given to the impact of its proposals in all the areas shown below. A risk assessment has also been carried out. The table shows the implications in respect of each of these.

FINANCIAL	The Licensing Authority must pay the cost of advertising the amendment to the tariff in the local press, in accordance with legislative requirements.		
LEGAL	The decision may be challenged by the trade.		
RISK			
THE IMPACT ON EQUALITY	None		
OTHER (see below)			
<i>Asset Management</i>	<i>Corporate Plans and Policies</i>	<i>Crime and Disorder</i>	<i>Efficiency Savings/Value for Money</i>
<i>Equality, Diversity and Community Cohesion</i>	<i>Freedom of Information/ Data Protection</i>	<i>Health and Safety</i>	<i>Health Inequalities</i>
<i>Human Rights Act 1998</i>	<i>Implementing Electronic Government</i>	<i>Staffing, Training and Development</i>	<i>Sustainability</i>

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Request from the trade