

# LICENSING COMMITTEE



Report subject	<b>Review of the Hackney Carriage maximum fares and charges tariff</b>
Meeting date	10 March 2022
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	<p>A request has been received by Mr David Lane on behalf of BCP taxi private hire association for a 7% increase in the current Hackney Carriage Tariff.</p> <p>The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 allows the council to fix the rates or fares within the district for time as well as distance.</p> <p>Any change in the tariff will be reflected across all three current Hackney Carriage zones within BCP Council conurbation.</p>
Recommendations	<p><b>It is RECOMMENDED that:</b></p> <p><b>Members consider the request for an adjustment in the current fares and charges. Members can either</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>I. Approve the changes</b></li><li><b>II. Approve the changes with amendments</b></li><li><b>III. Refuse the proposed change</b></li></ul>
Reason for recommendations	<p>Section 65 (1) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 allows the council to fix the rates of fares and charges to be paid in respect of the hire of a Hackney Carriage.</p> <p>The taxi trade has requested a change to the current rates and charges.</p>



Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Bobbie Dove
Corporate Director	Jess Gibbons - Chief Operations Officer
Report Authors	Nananka Randle – Licensing Manager
Wards	Council-wide
Classification	For decision

## Background

1. On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2022, Mr David Lane on behalf of BCP taxi private hire association emailed the Licensing Manager with a request for a change to the current fares and charges which are published in the form of Tariff charts. This request is attached at Appendix 1
2. The current tariff was agreed by the Licensing Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020, shortly after this meeting Covid 19 lockdown occurred and the trade asked for the implementation of the increase to be delayed. The agreed increase was implemented as of 1<sup>st</sup> May 2021. (see Appendix 2)
3. Mr Lane has been invited by the Chair to present the reasons for this request during the meeting.

## Consultation

4. Section 65 (2 a and b) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 require that when any change is made to the fares and charges for hackney carriages, the council must publish a notice of the amended charges in at least one local newspaper and must specify the period of not less than 14 days, for objections to be made.
5. A copy of the notice must also be published at the council offices for the period of 14 days from the date of first publication.
6. If no objections are received the change will come into operation on the date of expiration of the notice.
7. If objections are made and not withdrawn, then the committee will have to consider the objections and any agreed changes or modifications would then come into operation on a specific date no more than 2 months after the original consultation period.

## Options Appraisal

Members consider the request for an adjustment in the current fares and charges. The current rate of inflation is 5.5% with the Bank of England predicting it could rise to 7% during the year.

For information to compare our fares with other areas the Private Hire and Taxi Monthly magazine publishes a fare chart. You can search by local authority. [Hackney Taxi Fare Tables \(phtm.co.uk\)](https://www.phtm.co.uk) The proposed increase will change the fare from £7:20 to £7:80.



Members can either

- I. Approve the changes as requested. The proposed chart reflecting the changes as requested is attached at Appendix 3.
- II. Approve the changes with amendments as agreed by members, a new fare chart will then be created.
- III. Refuse the proposed change and retain the current fare tariff.

**Summary of financial implications**

8. The costs of the public notices in the paper are met within current budget.

**Summary of legal implications**

9. Not applicable

**Summary of human resources implications**

10. Not applicable

**Summary of sustainability impact**

11. Not applicable

**Summary of public health implications**

12. Not applicable

**Summary of equality implications**

13. Not applicable

**Summary of risk assessment**

14. Not applicable

**Background papers**

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 section 65

[Local Government \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1976 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1976/65)

**Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Letter from BCP taxi private hire association

Appendix 2 - Current Hackney Tariff Fare Chart 2021

Appendix 3 - Proposed Hackney Tariff Fare Chart 2022