

LICENSING REGULATORY COMMITTEE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976 – PROPOSED VARIATION OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES

9th June 2011

Report of Licensing Manager

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The report is to enable Members to reconsider the proposed variation of hackney carriage fares following the receipt of objections.

This report is public.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee is requested to consider the objection to the proposed variation of hackney carriage fares and determine whether or not to modify the table of fares approved by the Committee at its last meeting, and to set the commencement date for any new table of fares.

1.0 Report

1.1 Members will recall that at its last meeting held on 31st March 2011, the Committee considered a proposed variation of the current level of hackney carriage fares. A copy of the report and the 5 proposals received from the trade considered by Members at the above meeting is attached at Appendix 1.

1.2 The Committee approved in principle the proposed variation as set out below:

Tariff one – normal daytime charge

£2.60 for the first 880 yards or uncompleted part thereof

20p for each subsequent 220 yards or uncompleted part thereof

15p waiting time for each period of 60 seconds or uncompleted part thereof

Tariff two – between midnight and 7.00am

£3.90 for the first 880 yards or uncompleted part thereof

30p for each subsequent 220 yards or uncompleted part thereof.

20p waiting time for each period of 60 seconds or uncompleted part thereof

Tariff 3 –Christmas period

5.20 for the first 880 yards or uncompleted part thereof

40p for each subsequent 220 yards or uncompleted part thereof

30p waiting time for each period of 60 seconds or uncompleted part thereof

To include the wording on the tariff card:-

'The driver may, at his/her discretion require the payment of an agreed amount in advance of the journey. A receipt will be given. The amount will be set against the metered fare.'

- 1.3 The Committee authorised the Head of Governance to place a public notice in a locally distributed newspaper about the proposed variation. The statutory procedure under Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 is for a public notice to be published in a local newspaper, with a copy being deposited in the Town Halls in Lancaster and Morecambe. From the date of publication, a period of 14 days must then be allowed for any objections to be made. If any objections are received, these must be considered by the Committee. The public notice stated that subject to no objections being made, the revised table of fares would come into force on 27th April 2011.
- 1.4 In response to the Council's proposed variation of fares, one objection has been received from the Lancaster City Hackney Proprietors Association, attached at Appendix 2.
- 1.5 Members should be aware that the proposal from the LCHPA was available for consideration in March when members resolved to approve in principle the proposed fares as set out above. Members should also be aware that any tariffs set by the Council are the maximum chargeable.
- 1.6 A further factor to consider is that we as an authority only need to set tariff one as tariff two is based on tariff one at time and a half, and tariff 3 is based on double time. The proposal that was approved in principle in April set out the tariffs in clear divisions of a mile. When setting hackney carriage fares the Council should have regard to the need of the travelling public to understand how much they will be expected to pay.
- 1.7 Under Section 65 (4) of the above Act, if any objections are duly made and are not withdrawn, the District Council shall set a further date, not later than two months after the first specified date, on which the table of fares shall come into force with or without modification as decided by them after consideration of the objections.

2 Conclusion

- 2.1 Members are therefore asked to consider the objection appended to this report, and to determine whether or not to modify the table of fares previously approved in accordance with the timescale set out in 1.5 above. The revised table of fares with or without modification must come into force by no later than 27th June 2011, although it is open to the Committee to set an earlier date.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT (including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)

None applicable to this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications to the Council as a result of this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

These are contained within the report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Email of objection to proposed variation of
hackney carriage fares received in April 2011

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