

LICENSING REGULATORY COMMITTEE

Amendment to the Procedure for Varying the Hackney Carriage Table of Fares 13 February 2014

Report of Licensing Manager

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To enable Members to consider whether to introduce a new procedure in relation to the variation of the Hackney Carriage Table of Fares

This report is public.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are requested to approve the proposed amendment to the procedure in relation to the variation of the Hackney Carriage Table of Fares.

1.0 Report

- 1.1 This report has been brought as a result of a request from some members of the trade to reconsider the current procedure for amending the Hackney Carriage Table of Fares.
- 1.2 Currently fare proposals are received from hackney carriage proprietors at the beginning of the year. The proposals are collated and discussed at the Taxi and Private Hire Forum in April. The proposals are then considered by the Licensing Regulatory Committee, following which the statutory procedure is followed.
- 1.3 Members will recall that in 2012 this method caused problems in as much as there were conflicting views within the trade as to what had or should have been proposed. In any case it is very rare that all members of the trade will agree on any particular proposal
- 1.4 With the above in mind Members are asked to consider whether a more efficient method would be for the Council to recommend an annual increase in line with the Retail Price Index (RPI)
- 1.5 Officers propose that it would seem reasonable for a recommendation to come from the Licensing Regulatory Committee in March of each year, following which hackney carriage proprietors could be consulted on whether

an increase is required that year or not. It is envisaged that the question will require a yes or no answer.

- 1.6 The results could be reported back to the Committee in May. If the Committee are then minded to approve the increase, a notice could be placed in the newspaper outlining the proposed variation as required by the legislation. Members may recall that this Council would then allow a 21 day period in which objections could be made. If no objections were received or objections were received but then withdrawn the variation would be applied.

2.0 Conclusion

Members are asked to approve the change in procedure in relation to the variation of the Hackney Carriage table of Fares.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)

The proposed changes do not have the potential to cause negative impact or discriminate against different groups in the community based on age, disability, gender, race/ethnicity, religion or religious belief (faith), sexual orientation, or rural isolation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications, other than advertising the notice of the changes and these costs would be met from existing advertising budgets. Finance would advise the Licensing department in relation to the prevailing RPI rate.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

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