


Agenda Item No:	4	
Committee:	Licensing	
Date:	25 April 2019	
Report Title:	OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION ON HACKNEY CARRIAGE PROPOSED TARIFF	

1 Purpose / Summary

- To update Members of the responses received during the consultation period in relation to the amendment of the Hackney Carriage Taxi Tariff. This was agreed by members of the Licensing committee on 18 January 2019 to hold a formal consultation in relation to this request.

2 Key issues

- Last tariff increase was the 24 April 2012.
- Local Authorities have a power to set fares for hackney carriages under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.
- Request from the Taxi trade for an additional tariff was received on 05 August 2018.
- On the 18th January Licensing Committee considered the request. All information relating to the request and the Committee discussion is found on the following link: <https://www.fenland.gov.uk/localgov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=138&MId=1288&Ver=4>
- Formal consultation ended on 31 March 2019.
- The Council has received 16 responses to the proposed changes to the taxi tariff as outlined in the Table of Fares.
- The Table of fares is to come into force with or without modification, as decided, by 30 May 2019.

3 Recommendations

- To approve or refuse the proposed Table of Fares taking into consideration this report and the responses received during the consultation period.

Wards Affected	All
Forward Plan Reference	Not applicable
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor David Oliver, Portfolio holder with responsibilities for licensing doliver@fenland.gov.uk
Report Originator(s)	Michelle Bishop, Licensing Manager, 01354 622542, mbishop@fenland.gov.uk

Contact Officer(s)	Dan Horn, Head of Housing & Community Support, 01354 654321, dhorn@fenland.gov.uk Richard Cassidy, Corporate Director, 01354 622300, richardcassidy@fenland.gov.uk
Background Paper(s)	Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1976 Part Two

Report:

1 Background / introduction

- 1.1** The Council has 129 Licensed Drivers; 85 of these are Hackney Carriage Drivers, 30 are Private Hire Drivers and 14 are Dual Drivers. We currently have 130 Licensed Vehicles, 95 of these are Hackney Carriage and 35 are Private Hire. From the 95 Licensed Hackney Carriage vehicles we have 22 registered that are able to carry more than 4 passengers
- .
- 1.2** The fare structure currently in place was set by Members on 24 April 2012 and shows 3 tariffs set for vehicles carrying a maximum of 4 passengers. There is an Extra Charge in place on this tariff for each person in excess of 4 passengers. This equates to 0.20p per person to a maximum of 0.80p. The current tariff is at **APPENDIX A**
- 1.3** A licensed Hackney Carriage Driver wrote to the Council on the 05 August 2018 outlining a proposal for an additional tariff. The proposal outlines an additional tariff for vehicles carrying more than 4 passengers.

The request equated to a proposed increase of 50% for journeys undertaken on tariff 1, 100% increase for tariff 2 and no change to tariff 3.

- 1.4** On 18 January 2019 Licensing Committee decided to not approve the requested additional tariff but they did approve an increase in the tariff and the proposed tariff went out for consultation from 18 February 2019 until 31 March 2019. This is over the statutory 14 days. A copy of the proposed tariff agreed by the committee members for consultation can be seen at **APPENDIX B**. Details and reports of the 18th January meeting can be accessed on the following link:

<https://www.fenland.gov.uk/localgov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=138&MId=1288&Ver=4>

- 1.5** Along with the formal Notice of proposed changes sent to all licensed drivers, a newspaper advert was placed in the Fenland Citizen on 6th March 2019 outlining the proposed changes.

The consultation was also promoted via our social media channels.

Response forms and proposed changes were also available to download from the website and copies were made available from all of the Fenland@your service shops or from Business reception at Fenland Hall.

A copy of the advert and letter can be seen at **APPENDIX C**

- 1.6** During the consultation period the Council received 16 responses. The results received are broken down as follows:

- Hackney Carriage Drivers - 13
- Private Hire Drivers - 2
- Other persons (Hackney Carriage Proprietor) - 1

The schedule of Responses can be seen at **APPENDIX D**

Agree - Xmas Eve/NYE as Bank Hol	Disagree - Xmas Eve/NYE as Bank Hol	Agree - Extra charge per person over 4 passengers	Disagree - Extra charge per person over 4 passengers	No Opinion	Alternative
8	4	6	6	2	2

- 1.7** It is at the discretion of the Council as licensing authority to set a meter tariff for licensed Hackney Carriages operating within the district if it chooses to do so.

Councils are not obliged to set a maximum fare for their area, they could decide instead to rely on market forces to establish the going rate and at the same time promote competition. Comparisons with neighbouring authorities have taken place and are shown at **APPENDIX E**

- 1.8** In the past Fenland District Council has chosen to set a tariff. The Office of Fair Trading does not recommend that Councils remove pricing restrictions for taxis and recognises that whilst there may be some good reason for deregulating fares, on balance, those for applying controls are stronger. It does however, recommend that local authorities should only set fare tariffs which represent the maximum that can be charged, and not set fixed or minimum fares.
- 1.9** It should be emphasised that any tariff set is the maximum any hackney carriage driver can charge. They are at liberty to charge less than the approved tariff if they choose to do so.
- 1.10** The tariff does not apply to private hire drivers who set their fares, via market forces, without Council involvement.

2 Legal Considerations

- 2.1** The authority for the Council to fix fares for hackney carriages is given under Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. The Act states that:
- When a Council makes or varies a table of fares (which may be by time and/or distance), it must publish in at least one local newspaper a notice setting out the table of fares, or variations to the table, specifying the period (not less than 14 days) within which, objections to the table, or variations can be made.
 - A copy of the proposed tariff must be available at the Council's offices for the public to inspect, free of charge, at all reasonable hours.
 - If there are no objections, the table, or variation, will come into effect on the expiration date of the period specified in the notice.
 - If there are objections the Council must set a further Licensing Committee date within two months after the consultation end date, on which the table is to come into force with or without modification, as decided. The Table of Fares must be in place by 30 May 2019

3 Financial Considerations

- 3.1** The cost of re-calibrating individual meters will be met by individual hackney carriage proprietors and the meters will then be checked by Licensing Officers as part of the compliance checks. This is a normal part of the work undertaken by Officers

4 Community impact

- 4.1** The District Council as the Licensing Authority has a duty to ensure that there is a safe, secure and confident 'taxi' service provided for the public.

5 Conclusions

- 5.1** Members are requested to consider the content of this report and decide whether they wish to either:
- Agree the proposed increase to the Table of Fares
 - Make no changes to the existing Hackney Carriage tariff
 - Amend the proposed Table of Fares for an alternative, if this option is decided then a further consultation period would be required to take place.


Current Tariff - APPENDIX A

TABLE OF FARES FARES FOR DISTANCE (inclusive of VAT) For vehicles carrying a maximum of 8 Passengers	
Tariff 1: Between 07:00 – 23:00 hour Mon – Sat inclusive If the distance does not exceed 1609m (one mile) for the whole distance If a distance exceeds 1609m (one mile), first 1609m (one mile) For each subsequent 160.9m (1/10 mile) or part thereof	Pence £3.30 £3.30 £0.20
Tariff 2: Between 23:00 – 07:00 hour Mon – Sat inclusive & all day Sundays If the distance does not exceed 1609m (one mile) for the whole distance If a distance exceeds 1609m (one mile), first 1609m (one mile) For each subsequent 160.9m (1/10 mile) or part thereof	£4.90 £4.90 £0.30
Tariff 3: for Public Bank Holidays including Christmas, New Year Period If the distance does not exceed 1609m (one mile) for the whole distance If a distance exceeds 1609m (one mile), first 1609m (one mile) For each subsequent 160.9m (1/10 mile) or part thereof	£6.60 £6.60 £0.40
Waiting Time For each period of 114.2 seconds or part thereof	£0.40
Extra Charges: For each person carried in excess of four (two children under 16 years old shall count as one person and children under the age of 3 years shall not be counted)	£0.20 (Maximum charge of £0.80)
Extra Charges: not calculated by taximeter For persons soiling the carriage resulting in cleaning of vehicle, the maximum sum of	£80.00

By Order 24 April 2012

Paul Medd, Chief Executive

APPENDIX B – PROPOSED TARIFF

<p>HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARE AMENDED TARIFF</p>	
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Please complete and return this form to the Licensing Support Team, Fenland Hall, County Road, March, Cambridgeshire, PE15 8NQ or email Licensing@fenland.gov.uk by 31 March 2019. Forms received after this date will not be counted.

Name:		Signature:		
Telephone:		Email:		
Date:				
TABLE OF FARES				
<p>FARES FOR DISTANCE (inclusive of VAT)</p> <p>For vehicles carrying no more than 8 Passengers</p>	Current	Proposed	I am in favour of the proposed changes	I am against the proposed changes
<p>Tariff 1: Between 07:00 – 23:00 Mon – Sat inclusive</p> <p>If the distance does not exceed 1609m (one mile) for the whole distance</p> <p>If a distance exceeds 1609m (one mile), first 1609m (one mile)</p> <p>For each subsequent 160.9m (1/10 mile) or part thereof</p>	<p>Pence</p> <p>£3.30</p> <p>£3.30</p> <p>£0.20</p>	<p>Pence</p> <p>£3.30</p> <p>£3.30</p> <p>£0.20</p>		
<p>Tariff 2: Between 23:00 – 07:00 Mon – Sat inclusive & all day Sundays</p> <p>If the distance does not exceed 1609m (one mile) for the whole distance</p> <p>If a distance exceeds 1609m (one mile), first 1609m (one mile)</p> <p>For each subsequent 160.9m (1/10 mile) or part thereof</p>	<p>£4.90</p> <p>£4.90</p> <p>£0.30</p>	<p>£4.90</p> <p>£4.90</p> <p>£0.30</p>		
<p>Tariff 3: for Public bank Holidays including Christmas, New Year Period</p> <p>If the distance does not exceed 1609m (one mile) for the whole distance</p>	<p>£6.60</p> <p>£6.60</p> <p>£0.40</p>	<p>£6.60</p> <p>£6.60</p> <p>£0.40</p> <p>The proposal is for this Tariff to include</p>		

APPENDIX B – PROPOSED TARIFF

<p>If a distance exceeds 1609m (one mile), first 1609m (one mile)</p> <p>For each subsequent 160.9m (1/10 mile) or part thereof</p>		<p>Christmas Eve & New Year's Eve as bank holidays</p>		
<p>Waiting Time</p> <p>For each period of 114.2 seconds or part thereof</p>	<p>£0.40</p>	<p>£0.40</p>		
<p>Extra Charges:</p> <p>For each person carried in excess of four (two children under 16 years old shall count as one person and children under the age of 3 years shall not be counted)</p>	<p>£0.20</p> <p>(Maximum charge of £0.80)</p>	<p>£0.30</p> <p>(Maximum charge of £1.20)</p>		
<p>Extra Charges: not calculated by taximeter</p> <p>For persons soiling the carriage resulting in cleaning of vehicle, the maximum sum of</p>		<p>£80.00</p>		
<p>After you have indicated if you are in favour or against the proposed changes to the tariff, please add any comments you would like us to take into account:</p>				

APPENDIX C – NEWSPAPER ADVERT

HACKNEY CARRIAGE TABLE OF FARES For licensed vehicles fitted with a 'Taximeter'

In response to representations from Hackney Carriage proprietors and in accordance with Section 65 of Part II of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, Fenland District Council proposes to revise the Hackney Carriage Table of Fares, as follows:

TABLE OF FARES FARES FOR DISTANCE (inclusive of VAT) For vehicles carrying no more than 8 Passengers	Current	Proposed
Tariff 1: Between 07:00 – 23:00 Mon – Sat inclusive	Pence	Pence
If the distance does not exceed 1609m (one mile) for the whole distance	£3.30	£3.30
If a distance exceeds 1609m (one mile), first 1609m (one mile)	£3.30	£3.30
For each subsequent 160.9m (1/10 mile) or part thereof	£0.20	£0.20
Tariff 2: Between 23:00 – 07:00 Mon – Sat inclusive & all day Sundays		
If the distance does not exceed 1609m (one mile) for the whole distance	£4.90	£4.90
If a distance exceeds 1609m (one mile), first 1609m (one mile)	£4.90	£4.90
For each subsequent 160.9m (1/10 mile) or part thereof	£0.30	£0.30
Tariff 3: for Public bank Holidays including Christmas, New Year Period		
If the distance does not exceed 1609m (one mile) for the whole distance	£6.60	£6.60
If a distance exceeds 1609m (one mile), first 1609m (one mile)	£6.60	£6.60
For each subsequent 160.9m (1/10 mile) or part thereof	£0.40	£0.40
		The proposal is for this Tariff to include Christmas Eve & New Year's Eve as bank holidays
Waiting Time For each period of 114.2 seconds or part thereof	£0.40	£0.40
Extra Charges: For each person carried in excess of four (two children under 16 years old shall count as one person and children under the age of 3 years shall not be counted)	£0.20 (Maximum charge of £0.80)	£0.30 (Maximum charge of £1.20)
Extra Charges: not calculated by taximeter For persons soiling the carriage resulting in cleaning of vehicle, the maximum sum of		£80.00

Written representations/objections regarding the above may be made to the Licensing Department, Fenland District Council, Fenland Hall, County Road, March, PE15 8NQ by 31st March 2019.

APPENDIX D - COLLATED RESULTS

Date received	<u>Agree - Include Xmas Eve & New Years Eve as bank Holidays</u>	<u>Disagree - Include Xmas Eve & New Years Eve as bank Holidays</u>	<u>Agree - Extra charge per person to increase to 0.30p for over 4 passengers</u>	<u>Disagree - Extra charge per person to increase to 0.30p for over 4 passengers</u>	No Opinion	Alternative	Additional Comments
14/02/19	Agree			Disagree			
25/02/19		Disagree		Disagree			I am against the proposed changes to the tariff too expensive for Wisbech people
27/02/19		Disagree		Disagree			
04/03/19	Agree		Agree				
04/03/19						Alternative	I think it should be £3.50 stand in charge, the 20p every 12th of a mile. Thus giving a standard pay rise of 40pence per mile plus the extra 20p for the first mile. I think the Xmas Eve should be time and a half and the same for new Years eve. Double Time kills the Taxi trade. 40 pence per mile extra would give an average of £70 - £80 per week for a hard working Taxi driver. We have not had a pay rise for 6 years and diesel has doubled in price since then.
05/03/19	Agree		Agree				
08/03/19					No Opinion		Neither for or against
08/03/19					No Opinion		Neither for or against
12/03/19	Agree		Agree - But would like more				I think extra charges should be at least 50p or more for 5 people or more. At least this way it makes it worth while doing 6 seater jobs round town and not doing them for an extra 60p worth adding extras for these jobs.
14/03/19		Disagree		Disagree			To recalibrate meters for these changes is not worth changing
15/03/19	Agree		Agree				
20/03/19	Agree			Disagree			I still feel that 20-30p over a journey per persons over 4 isn't right. Over a Heathrow job that is approx £240 for 8 people we could charge an extra £1.20 big woop. The extra costs of fuel and insurance etc just aren't covered by £1.20 we theoretically save people the cost of a second taxi (i.e. £240) but get paid an extra £1.20
20/03/19		Disagree		Disagree			
22/03/19	Agree		Agree				10p per person is not worth changing the programming in meters
16/03/19						Alternative	This email is in regards to a proposal put forward in regards to fares being Bank Holiday rate IE double time on Christmas and New Years Eve. I think a good compromise would be to have the meters set to charge this from 6pm in the evening on both nights. This would then be fair all around. The people during the day that use taxis for work and shopping would only have to pay the normal cost. This then gives chance for taxis to earn more if they so wish by working Christmas and New Years eve night. I know at present it is a struggle to get drivers to work these special nights and this could be the added incentive. A majority of other boroughs/Districts do make an allowance and tariffs are increased for these special nights. Please could this be added in to the consultation responses.
28/03/19	Agree		Agree				

APPENDIX E – COMPARISON TABLE

Council	Current Tariff(not bank holiday and normal hours)	Additional charge for more than 4 passengers	Separate tariff for more than 4 passengers
FDC Current	£3.30 for first mile	0.20p for every passenger over 4 to a maximum of 0.80p for the whole trip. NB..... 2 children under 16 shall count as 1 person and children under 3 shall not be counted	No
FDC Proposed for over 4 persons	£3.30 for the first mile	0.30p for every passenger over 4 to a maximum of 0.80p for the whole trip. NB..... 2 children under 16 shall count as 1 person and children under 3 shall not be counted	No
Huntingdon District Council	£4.10 for the first mile	No	No
East Cambs District Council	£4.00 for the first mile	0.25p for each passenger in excess of 1 over the age of 18	No
Peterborough City Council	£3.30 for the first mile	No	No
Kings Lynn & West Norfolk	£4.00 for the first mile	In respect of multi-passenger vehicles (5-8 seats) where more than 4 passengers are being carried an additional charge of 50% may be levied	No

HUNTINGDOON DISTRICT COUNCIL

[Home](#) / [Licensing](#) / [Taxis & Private Hire](#) / [Taxi Fares](#)**Taxi Licensing News and Updates**

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The policies and processes for taxi and private hire licensing are changing - for further information please read the [latest licensing news and updates](#).



Taxi Fares

Fares for distance (inclusive of VAT)

Taxis & Private Hire**Maximum fares**

Scroll for more

Taxis & Private Hire	Tariff 1	£
Taxi Licensing News and Updates	If the distance does not exceed 234.6666 yards (214.58 metres)	2.70
Become a Taxi Driver	For each subsequent 234.6666 yards (214.58 metres) or uncompleted part thereof	0.20
Renew a Taxi or Private Hire Driver Licence	Flag fall at 1760 yards (1609.34 metres)	4.10
Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licences	For each subsequent 234.6666 yards (214.58 metres)	0.20
Private Hire Operators Information for Passengers and the Public	Waiting Time	
Taxi Fares	For each period of 27 seconds or uncompleted part thereof	0.10
	Tariff 2	£
	For hires started between 11.30pm and 7.30am and any hires started on any Bank Holiday or Sunday	2.70
	If distance does not exceed 160 yards (146.3 metres)	0.20
	For each subsequent 176 yards (160.93 metres) or uncompleted part thereof	0.20
	Flag fall at 1760 yards (1609.34 metres)	4.70
	For each subsequent 176 yards (160.93 metres) or uncompleted part thereof	0.20
	Waiting Time	
	For each period of 27 seconds or uncompleted part thereof	0.10
	Extra Charges	
	For persons soiling the taxi	50.00

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EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

East Cambridgeshire District Council resolved on 12 September 2018 for the following table of maximum fares to come into force immediately.

Fares are calculated on a combination of distance or time of parts thereof. The meter must only be switched on when you enter the vehicle. Please be aware that all journeys within the East Cambridgeshire boundary must be charged on the meter. Journeys ending outside the district boundary must also be charged by the meter unless you pre-agree a fare with the driver before the journey commences.

Rate	First mile (1760 yards / 1609 metres)	For each 167.6 yards (153 metres) or uncompleted part thereof	Waiting time per minute
Rate 1 (7am to 11pm Monday to Saturday) (excl. Bank Holidays)	£4.00	£0.20	£0.40
Rate 2 (11pm to 7am Monday to Saturday)(excl. Bank Holidays)	£5.50	£0.20	£0.40
Rate 3 (7am Sunday to 7am Monday) (excl. Bank Holidays)	£4.50	£0.20	£0.40
Rate 4 (All Bank Holidays from midnight to 7am the following day)	£7.00	£0.30	£0.40

Each passenger in excess of one (persons under the age of 18, and person(s) accompanying a passenger who requires assistance due to their physical or mental condition shall not be counted)	£0.25 per person, per trip
Soiling charge	Not to exceed to £150

City of Peterborough
HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES
(INCLUSIVE OF VAT)

FOR DISTANCE AND TIME

AT ALL TIMES
BOTH DAY AND NIGHT

FOR THE FIRST MILE OR PART THEREOF £3.30P

FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT MILE £1.70p

XMAS AND NEW YEAR

1800Hrs DEC 24th TO 0600Hrs DEC 27th AND 1800Hrs DEC 31st to 0600 HRS JAN 2nd

FOR THE FIRST MILE OR PART THEREOF £4.00P

FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT MILE £2.00p

WAITING TIME

AT ALL TIMES
BOTH DAY AND NIGHT £12.00 PER HOUR

THIS VEHICLE LICENCE
NUMBER IS:-

**HACKNEY
CARRIAGE**

A FEE OF £25 IS PAYABLE FOR PERSONS SOILING THIS VEHICLE.

COMPLAINTS

THE PASSENGER SHOULD CONTACT THE LICENSING OFFICER,
PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL, (TEL: 01733 747474) ON ANY MATTER CONCERNING THE FARE OR ANY OTHER ASPECT OF THE
JOURNEY AFTER HAVING FIRST OBTAINED A RECEIPT FROM THE DRIVER STATING NAME AND BADGE NUMBER.

Environmental Health – Licensing
King's Court, Chapel Street, King's Lynn,
Norfolk PE30 1EX
Tel: (01553) 616200

Borough Council of
**King's Lynn &
West Norfolk**



HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES

With effect from 4th January 2016

THIS VEHICLE'S LICENCE NUMBER IS

1. Distance	
If the distance does not exceed 1 mile (1.609km) For whole distance	£4.00
If the distance exceeds 1 mile (1.609km) For the first mile	£4.00
For each subsequent 160 yards (146 metres) or uncompleted part thereof (Which equates to approximately £1.76 per mile)	£0.16
2. Waiting Time	
For each period of 1 minute or uncompleted part thereof	£0.25
3. Extra Charge	
(i) For hirings beginning on any day between the hours of 11.30pm and 6.00am and at any time on Bank Holidays – 50% excess on the above charges.	
(ii) For hirings on Sundays beginning between the hours of 06.00am and 11.30pm – 25% excess on the above charges.	
(iii) A fee of £90.00 may be charged to persons soiling a hackney carriage.	
(iv) In respect of multi-passenger vehicles (5-8 seats) where more than 4 passengers are being carried an additional charge of 50% may be levied.	

NOTES

ALL CHARGES ARE INCLUSIVE OF VALUE ADDED TAX, WHERE APPLICABLE

ALL CHARGES ARE THE MAXIMUM PERMITTED – IF YOU ARE NOT SATISFIED ASK THE DRIVER TO EXPLAIN.

IF YOU HAVE ANY COMPLAINTS PLEASE NOTIFY ME OF THE DETAILS OF THE JOURNEY AND THE NUMBER OF THE HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND DRIVERS BADGE.

Executive Director, Environment & Planning