

## Report to Environment and Licensing Committee

**Subject:** Rates of Fares  
**Date:** Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023  
**Author:** Report of Head of Environment

### Purpose

To request Members to make changes and amendments to the current Hackney Carriage Rates of Fares

### Recommendation(s)

#### THAT:

- 1) That Members do not approve the proposed changes to the times in which a 25% surcharge will be applied between 23:00 and 06:00 hours, as set out in Appendix A.
- 2) That Members retain the current times the 25% surcharge apply – Additional fare for each hiring commencing between 00:01 hours and 06:00 hour.
- 3) That Members approve all the other proposed Rates of Fares detailed below,

Current		Proposed	
If the whole distance does not exceed 1 mile for the whole distance	£3.50	<b>£3.90</b>	
If the distance exceeds 1 mile for the first mile	£3.50	<b>£3.90</b>	
For each subsequent 80 yards or part thereof	10p	10p	For each subsequent <b>70</b> yards
Waiting time – for each period of 20 seconds	10p	10p	Waiting time – for each period of <b>15</b> seconds
<b>Surcharges</b>			
Additional fare for each hiring commencing between 00:01 hours and 6.00	25%	25%	
Additional fare for each hiring commencing on a Bank Holiday	25%	25%	
Additional fare for each hiring commencing between 18:00 hours 24 December and 6:00 hours on 27 December	50%	50%	
Additional fare for each hiring commencing between 18:00 hours 31 December and 6:00 hours on 2	50%	50%	

January			
For the carriage of animals (Guide Dogs, Hearing Dogs and Assistance Dogs exempt)	£2		<b>£3</b>
Soiling Charge	£50		£50

- 4) That Members approve the Rates of Fares detailed above are advertised in accordance with Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 Section 65 for a minimum period of 14 days;
- 5) That Members approve that the Director, in consultation with the Chair of the Environment & Licensing Committee be authorised to agree the final Rates of Fares, after taking into account any comments received during the consultation period.

And

- 6) That following approval, Members approve final Rates of Fares become effective from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023.

## 1 Background

1.1 Under Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 a district council may fix and vary the rates or fares within the district. This is the maximum amount of fare that the driver can charge a passenger. The current Rates of Fares have been in place since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020.

1.2 Following a request from the taxi trade a meeting was held with the trade representatives who have proposed changes to the current rates of fares are attached at Appendix 1.

1.3 Officers are of the opinion that the majority of the proposed fees requested by the trade representatives are reasonable. However officers feel that the request to extend the hours where a 25% surcharge will be applied to each fare should not be extended. The current times where the additional 25% surcharge applied to each fare is between the hours of 00:01 and 06:00. It is felt that extending those hours to between 23:00 and 06:00 would not be reasonable as 23:00 is considered to be too early for the surcharge to be applied.

## 2 Proposal

2.1 That Members approve the Rates of Fares as set out at Recommendation 3

2.2 Under the above legislation there has to be a consultation of not less than 14 days by publishing a notice in a local newspaper. If the proposed rates of fares is approved the proposed Rates of Fares will commence on 1<sup>st</sup> May

2023.

**3 Resource Implications**

3.1 None

**4 Appendices**

4.1 Appendix A – Proposal to change the current Rates of Fare

## APPENDIX A

We would like to thank Members of the Licensing Committee for their time in considering the proposal listed below:

### Rates of Fares

In view of the Cost of Living Crisis and the subsequent hardship falling on drivers.

For instance:

1. Since 2020 general inflation has been rising and currently stands at around 10% with food and home cost even higher.
2. The energy costs cap, despite government intervention, has risen from around £1,200 in 2019 to £2,500 in 2022
3. Diesel was £1.30 per litre in 2019 and now stands close to £1.90, an increase of 46%
4. Parts and servicing have also increased, in some cases as much as 50%.
5. There have also been moderate increases in licensing charges.

We request that members of the Licensing Committee consider our proposal for a new Rate of Fares to reflect the increase in costs. Proposed changes are shown in bold.

Current		Proposed	
If the whole distance does not exceed 1 mile for the whole distance	£3.50	<b>£3.90</b>	
If the distance exceeds 1 mile for the first mile	£3.50	<b>£3.90</b>	
For each subsequent 80 yards or part thereof	10p	10p	For each subsequent <b>70</b> yards
Waiting time – for each period of 20 seconds	10p	10p	Waiting time – for each period of <b>15</b> seconds
<b>Surcharges</b>			
Additional fare for each hiring commencing between 00:01 hours and 6.00	25%	25%	Additional fare for each hiring commencing between <b>23:00</b> hours and 6.00
Additional fare for each hiring commencing on a Bank Holiday	25%	25%	
Additional fare for each hiring commencing between 18:00 hours 24 December and 6:00 hours on 27 December	50%	50%	
Additional fare for each hiring commencing between 18:00 hours 31 December and 6:00 hours on 2 January	50%	50%	
For the carriage of animals (Guide Dogs,	£2	<b>£3</b>	

Hearing Dogs and Assistance Dogs exempt)			
Soiling Charge	£50	£50	

Please find below a worked example comparing typical journeys.

Current			Proposed		Increase
2 Mile Trip	Base	£3.50	2 Mile Trip	Base	£3.90
	1 x £2.20	£2.20	1 x £2.50	£2.50	
	Total	£5.70	Total	£6.40	<b>12%</b>
3 Mile Trip	Base	£3.50	3 Mile Trip	Base	£3.90
	2 x £2.20	£4.40	2 x £2.50	£5.00	
	Total	£7.90	Total	£8.90	<b>12%</b>
5 Mile Trip	Base	£3.50	5 Mile Trip	Base	£3.90
	4 x £2.20	£8.80	4 x £2.50	£10.00	
	Total	£12.30	Total	£13.90	<b>13%</b>

Although we need an increase in fares, we have been careful to balance our needs with those of the customers that we serve. Therefore we have kept the increases very reasonable.

We trust members of the Licensing Committee will approve our proposals.

Jon Tarke

Gedling Licensed Drivers Association