

Crawley Borough Council

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Report to the Licensing Committee

5 November 2008

Hackney Carriage Fares, 2008 - 2009

1. Key Points

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to consider proposals for increases to the hackney carriage table of fares for 2008 – 2009.
- 1.2. The last increase in the hackney carriage fares took place in December 2007 and a copy of the current table of fares is set out at **Appendix A**.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. The Committee is requested to consider the following proposals:

2.1.1. The Crawley Hackney Association proposes that the current initial hiring amount of £3.00 for the first 1,759 yards be increased to £3.20 with the meter showing £3.40 for a distance of 1,760 yards and that the distance travelled for each subsequent increase of 20p is reduced from 176 yards to 167 yards. It is also proposed that there are no increases to the 'waiting time', to tariff 2 (Time and a half), to tariff 3 (Double time) and to the extra charges shown on the current table of fares. *(This will effectively show an increased amount on the meter at the commencement of the hiring and increase the charge for each mile travelled on tariff 1 only.)*

2.1.2. Alternatively, the Council's Accountancy Services Section, proposes that the current initial hiring amount of £3.00 for the first 1,759 yards be increased to £3.20 with the meter showing £3.40 for a distance of 1,760 yards and that the amount charged for each subsequent 176 yards be increased to 21p. Also that there are no increases to all other tariffs and extra charges. *(This will effectively increase the overall price to the same level as that proposed by the Crawley Hackney Association while retaining the existing yardage.)*

2.1.3. The introduction of an Emergency Fuel Surcharge should pump prices reach specified levels; the amount of any surcharge and pump

price levels to be decided by the Committee. *(To assist members an example of an Emergency Fuel Surcharge can be found in Mid Sussex District Council's Hackney Carriage Table of Fares included at Appendix D.)*

- 2.2 If the Committee decides to accept one or more of the proposals, that it grants permission to advertise the appropriate recommendations in the local press and resolve to adopt the table of fares as set out in the Appendices together with any other inclusion or exclusion resolved by Members.
- 2.3 Following the advertisement, it is recommended that the Committee meet to consider any objection that may be lodged within the specified time period. If no objection is received it is recommended that the Committee resolve to approve the proposals with an implementation date set for the 1st December 2008.

ANGELA TANNER
Head of Environmental Services

3 Background

- 3.1 The Council as Licensing Authority for the Borough of Crawley is the appropriate authority for the purposes of setting hackney carriage fares in accordance with Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976,(hereinafter referred to as "the Act").
- 3.2. It is the Council's informal policy to consult with the relevant trade association to establish an appropriate 'table of fares' for the forthcoming period.
- 3.3. Following consultation with the trade a report is drafted and presented for the consideration of the Licensing Committee.
- 3.4. The report includes the trade's proposals together with Officers' views and may also propose alternative options.
- 3.5. Following Committee approval based on the information provided, the fare structure for the coming period is published in the form of a public notice in the local press. A statutory period of not less than 14 days is allowed for any objection to be submitted.
- 3.6. A copy of the notice shall at all reasonable times be available to the public for inspection without payment at the Town Hall for a period of fourteen days from the date of first publication.
- 3.7. If objections are received, they are reported back to the Licensing Committee for due consideration. The Committee may then decide to proceed with the advertised table of fares or amend it, having taken into account any objection.
- 3.8. If no objection is received, the proposed table of fares takes effect on the date specified by the Committee.
- 3.9. The table of fares set by the Committee will continue in that form until such time as the Committee determine. The Council's standard practice is to review these fares annually.

4. Content

- 4.1 The current table of fares came into effect on the 6th December 2007 (as set out at **Appendix A**)
- 4.2. Following consultation with the trade, the Council received a letter from the Crawley Hackney Association dated 29th August 2008, which outlined the trade's proposal (a copy of the letter is attached as **Appendix B**).
- 4.3. The Council may propose an alternative table of fares. The Council's proposal is set out at **Appendix C**.
- 4.4. A comparison of the current hackney carriage fare tariff with the alternative proposals for the new tariff can be viewed at **Appendix C**.

4.5. A comparison of charges with that of the neighbouring authorities can also be viewed at **Appendix C**.

4.6 In order to provide further clarity the neighbouring authorities' Hackney Carriage fare cards are attached as **Appendix D**.

5. Ward Members' Views

5.1. The Council on this occasion has not consulted or sought the views of Ward Members as this matter does not relate to any one particular area.

6. Staffing, Financial and Legal Implications/Powers

6.1. There are no extra staffing or financial implications to the Council.

6.2. Following approval of the revised structure of fares, a public notice will be placed in the local press, with a copy available for inspection at the Town Hall; any objection received within the fourteen day period must be considered.

6.3. The legislation sets out a statutory period regarding the time allowed for objection. Unlike other sections of the Act which allow for objectors or aggrieved persons to appeal to a magistrates court, Section 65(4) requires all objections to the proposed table of fares to be referred to the licensing authority which made the original decision.

6.4. Article 1 of the First Protocol of the Human Rights Act 1998 entitles every person to the right to peaceful enjoyment of their possessions, which includes their livelihood or their means of earning it. The impact of a fare tariff may affect a person's livelihood or their means of earning it. In setting a fare tariff the Council must consider the impact on both the public and those whose livelihood may be affected.

7. Links to the Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Plan

7.1 The proposals contained in this report relate to the following key areas of the Sustainable Community Strategy

Community Cohesion	Community Safety	y
Young People and Children	Health and Well Being	
Older People	The Environment	y
The Local Economy	y Social Inclusion	

The following key principles are applicable:-

(i) Working together	y
(ii) Dignity, respect and opportunities for all	y
(iii) Involving People	y
(iv) Making it last	y

The report relates to the following areas in which the Council operates to enhance the town and the quality of life of local people:-

- | | | |
|-------|--|---|
| (i) | <u>Our Communities</u> : (ensuring they are safe, healthy, cohesive and enjoyable) | y |
| (ii) | <u>Our Environment</u> : (ensuring that it is attractive, clean, protected and sustainable) | y |
| (iii) | <u>Our Economy</u> : (ensuring it is thriving, vibrant and prosperous) | y |
| (iv) | <u>Our Council</u> : (ensuring it is engaging, transparent, business-like with a social conscience, cost-effective and a place-shaping community leader) | y |

8 Reasons for the Recommendation

- 8.1. The fares consultation is very important to the hackney carriage trade and to their customers, the general public. Members will need to determine a hackney carriage fare structure which reflects the interests of both the trade and the general public.
- 8.2. The Committee can decide to keep the current table of fares without making any changes or approve one or more of the proposals for increases in the table of fares.
- 8.3. The Committee may also make any changes to the table that it considers reasonable and appropriate.
- 8.4. Although the views of the trade are particularly relevant they are only one factor to be considered.

9 Background Papers

- 9.1 Letter from the Crawley Hackney Association dated 29th August 2008.
2007 -2008 Hackney Carriage Fares Tariff Card.
Correspondence with neighbouring authorities.

Contact Officer: Dave Packham
Direct Line: 01293 438570

Hackney Carriage Table of Fares 2007 – 2008

1. The following charges apply to all hiring's except those mentioned in section 2 and 3

Initial distance not exceeding 1759 yards (1,608 meters)	£3.00
For a distance of 1,760 yards (1,609 meters)	£3.20
For each subsequent 176 yards (160.9 meters)	20p
Waiting Time for each period of 48 seconds	20p

2. The following tariff applies to all hiring's begun between midnight and 6am including all Bank Holidays, plus all hiring's from 18:00 hours to 23:59 on the 24th December and from 18:00hrs on New Year's Eve to 23:59hrs on 1st January.

Initial distance not exceeding 1759 yards (1,608 meters)	£4.50
For a distance of 1,760 yards (1,609 meters)	£4.80
For each subsequent 176 yards (160.9 meters)	30p
Waiting Time for each period of 48 seconds	30p

3. The following tariff will apply for all hiring's from 00:01 hours on the 25th December to midnight on the 26th December

Initial distance not exceeding 1759 yards (1,608 meters)	£6.00
For a distance of 1,760 yards (1,609 meters)	£6.40
For each subsequent 176 yards (160.9 meters)	40p
Waiting Time for each period of 48 seconds	40p

Extra charges:

A soilage charge of £55.00 (minimum)

Subject to the licensed capacity of the vehicle, the driver when carrying more than 4 persons, may be entitled to charge tariff 2.

Where a hackney carriage is hired by distance the proprietor or driver shall not be entitled to demand and take a fare greater than that recorded on the face of the taximeter, save for any extra charges authorised by the above table which may not be recorded on the face of such meter.

The driver may charge any 'road charge or tolls' where applicable (this must be agreed with the customer before hire commences).

LICENSING

12 SEP 2008

Crawley Hackney Association

Mrs T. Elms
Secretary

29 August 2008

For the attention of Enforcement Officer
Licensing Department
Town Hall
The Boulevard
Crawley
Sussex RH10 1UZ

Dear Sir

We, of the above association, request that the following proposals for the Crawley Hackney fares tariff for 2008/09 be submitted to the Select Committee for their consideration. These tariffs were agreed in a show of hands during our last Association Meeting.

- That the initial hiring, up to one mile, be increased from the current £3.00 by 20p to £3.20 and that the charge for subsequent miles be increased from the current £2.00 per mile (20p per 176 yards) to £2.10 per mile (20p per 167 yards).
- All other tariffs to be frozen – majority agreed.

Enclosed for your information are fares comparison charts for current and proposed tariffs.

We therefore request that you submit these proposals to the Select Committee on our behalf with a view to their implementation on or around 1 December 2008.

We sincerely hope that The Committee will recognise that we have attempted to balance the economic realities of the vastly increased costs facing our trade with the need to keep fares as low as possible in today's extremely competitive trading environment.

Yours sincerely



Terry Elms (Mrs)
Secretary



18 Mohammed Ijaz Khan
Chairman

Current Tariff 2007/2008
 £3.00 initial hiring up to 1 mile
 £2.00 per subsequent mile

	Yards	£ p	£ p
Initial Hiring up to one mile	1759	3.00	
At one Mile	1760	3.20	3.20
	1936	3.40	
	2112	3.60	
	2288	3.80	
	2464	4.00	
	2640	4.20	
	2816	4.40	
	2992	4.60	
	3168	4.80	
	3344	5.00	
	3520	5.20	
At two miles (3520 yards)			5.20
	3696	5.40	
	3872	5.60	
	4048	5.80	
	4224	6.00	
	4400	6.20	
At two and a half miles (4400 Yards)			6.20
	4576	6.40	
	4752	6.60	
	4928	6.80	
	5104	7.00	
	5280	7.20	
At three miles (5280 Yards)			7.20
	5456	7.40	
	5632	7.60	
	5808	7.80	
	5984	8.00	
	6160	8.20	
	6336	8.40	
	6512	8.60	
	6688	8.80	
	6864	9.00	
	7040	9.20	
At four miles (7040 Yards)			9.20
	7216	9.40	
	7392	9.60	
	7568	9.80	
	7744	10.00	
	7920	10.20	
	8096	10.40	
	8272	10.60	
	8448	10.80	
	8624	11.00	
	8800	11.20	
At five miles (8800 Yards)			11.20
	8976	11.40	

Proposed tariff
 £3.20 initial hiring up to 1 mile
 £2.10 per subsequent mile

	Yards	£ p	
Initial hiring up to one mile	1759	3.20	
At one mile	1760	3.40	3.40
	1927	3.60	
	2094	3.80	
	2261	4.00	
	2428	4.20	
	2595	4.40	
	2762	4.60	
	2929	4.80	
	3096	5.00	
	3263	5.20	
	3430	5.40	
At two miles (3520 yards)			5.40
	3597	5.60	
	3764	5.80	
	3931	6.00	
	4098	6.20	
	4265	6.40	
	4432	6.60	
At two and a half miles (4400 yards)			6.60
	4599	6.80	
	4766	7.00	
	4933	7.20	
	5100	7.40	
	5267	7.60	
At three miles (5280 yards)			7.60
	5434	7.80	
	5601	8.00	
	5768	8.20	
	5935	8.40	
	6102	8.60	
	6269	8.80	
	6436	9.00	
	6603	9.20	
	6770	9.40	
	6937	9.60	
At four miles (7040 yards)			9.60
	7104	9.80	
	7271	10.00	
	7438	10.20	
	7605	10.40	
	7772	10.60	
	7939	10.80	
	8106	11.00	
	8273	11.20	
	8440	11.40	
	8607	11.60	
	8774	11.80	
At five miles (8800 yards)			11.80
	8941	12.00	

COMPARISON OF CHARGES

October 2008

Appendix C

	Crawley Borough Council					Reigate & Bantead B.C	Horsham D.C.	Mid Sussex D.C.
	Current	Original		Alternative		Current Fares	Current Fares	Current Fares
	Set Dec 07	Proposal	Increase	Proposal	Increase	Set Dec 06	Set Jan 06	Set Apr 08
Multiples of	176 Yards	167 Yards		176 Yards		196 Yards	109.36 Yards	176 Yards
added to	1760 Yards	1760 Yards		1760 Yards		1760 Yards	1367 Yards	598 Yards
unit cost	0.20 £	0.20 £	%	0.21 £	%	0.20 £	0.10 £	0.20 £
a) 1 Mile (1760 yds)	3.20	3.40	6.25	3.41	6.56	3.00	3.40	3.80
b) 2 Miles (3,520 yds)	5.20	5.40	3.85	5.51	5.96	4.80	5.00	5.80
c) 2.5 Miles (4,400 yds)	6.20	6.40	3.23	6.56	5.81	5.60	5.90	6.80
d) 3 Miles (5,280 yds)	7.20	7.60	5.56	7.61	5.69	6.60	6.70	7.80
e) 4 Miles (7,040 yds)	9.20	9.60	4.35	9.71	5.54	8.40	8.30	9.80
f) 5 Miles (8,800 yds)	11.20	11.80	5.36	11.81	5.45	10.20	9.90	11.80
g) 10 Miles (17,600 yds)	21.20	22.20	4.72	22.31	5.24	19.20	17.90	21.80

Waiting Time - cost per	hour	£15.00	£15.00	£15.32	£18.00	£15.00
		48 secs /20p	48 secs /20p	47 secs /20p	20 secs /10p	48 secs /20p

If the waiting time is increased in line with the fare

- 48 secs /21p £15.75 per /HR
- 45 secs /20p £16 per /HR
- 46 secs/20p £15.65 per /HR

Alternative proposal retains the existing yardage but increases the price to be the same
 The difference occurs due to where the price breaks fall

Horsham District Council

Effective from 9th January 2006

TABLE OF MAXIMUM FARES

FOR VEHICLES CARRYING 1 - 4 PERSONS

TARIFF ONE - Effective for hiring begun between 07.00am and 11.29pm

For the first 1250m or 6min 25 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£3.00**

For each additional 100m or 20 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£0.10**

TARIFF TWO - Effective for hiring begun between 11.30pm and 06.59am

For the first 1250m or 6 min 25 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£4.50**

For each additional 100m or 20 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£0.15**

TARIFF THREE - Effective from midnight to midnight on Bank Holidays, Public Holidays, Christmas Day and Good Friday

For the first 1250m or 6min 25 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£6.00**

For each additional 100m or 20 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£0.20**

EFFECTIVE FOR CARRYING 5 - 8 PASSENGERS

TARIFF 4 - Effective for hiring begun between 07.00am and 11.29pm

For the first 1250m or 6 min 25 secs or combination of distance and time (or part) **£4.50**

For each additional 100m or 20 secs or combination of distance and time (or part) **£0.15**

TARIFF 5 - Effective for hiring begun between 11.30pm and 06.59am

For the first 1250m or 6 min 25 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£6.75**

For each additional 100m or 20 secs or combination of distance and time (or part) **£0.22**

TARIFF 6 - Effective for hiring from midnight to midnight on Bank Holidays, Public Holidays, Christmas Day and Good Friday.

For the first 1250m or 6 min 25 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£9.00**

For each additional 100m or 20 secs or combination of distance or time (or part) **£0.30**

EXTRA CHARGES

Where licensed to carry 1-4 passengers, each passenger in excess of two **£0.10**

Where licensed to carry 5-8 passengers, each passenger in excess of six **£0.10**

For each box or package carried outside the passenger compartment of the vehicle **£0.10**

SOILAGE CHARGE

If this vehicle is damaged or soiled by a passenger the driver or proprietor is entitled to recover all costs of cleaning or repairing such damage or soiling from the passenger/person responsible.

Please report any comments or complaints to:
The Licensing Officer, Park House, North Street, Horsham, RH12 1RL
Tel: 01403 215471



MAXIMUM HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES
WITH EFFECT FROM 1st APRIL 2008
Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 Section 65

Tariff 1 Applies to all hiring's except those mentioned in Tariff's 2 & 3

Initial distance not exceeding 546 metres (598 yards) or a combination of distance and time or part thereof.	£2:60p
For each subsequent 161 metres (176 yards or part thereof)	20p
Waiting Time for each period of 48 seconds	20p

Tariff 2

Applies to all hiring's begun between 12 midnight and 6 a.m. on weekdays and 12 midnight and 8:30 a.m. on Sundays, after 8 p.m. on 24th and 31st December, all day 26th December , Good Friday and Public and Bank Holidays

Initial distance not exceeding 546 metres (598 yards) or a combination of distance and time or part thereof.	£3:90p
For each subsequent 161 metres (176 yards or part thereof)	30p
Waiting Time for each period of 48 seconds	30p

Tariff 3

Applies to all hiring's from 00.01 hours on December 25th to midnight December 25th

Initial distance not exceeding 546 metres (598 yards) or a combination of distance and time or part thereof.	£5:20p
For each subsequent 161 metres (176 yards or part thereof)	40p
Waiting Time for each period of 48 seconds	40p

Additional Charges

Subject to the Licensed capacity of the vehicle, the driver when carrying **6 or more passengers** is entitled to charge **Tariff 2**

Soiling charge **£40**

Emergency Fuel Surcharge

To be applied to each £5 of indicated metered fare or part thereof **during periods** when pump prices reach

A	£1:40p to	£1:64p per litre	25p
B	£1.65p	£1.89p pre litre	40p
C	£1.90p		60p

In the event of a complaint please contact :

The Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Licensing Officer

Mid Sussex District Council, Oaklands, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 1SS

Tel. 01444 458166

HACKNEY CARRIAGE TARIFF

FIXED BY THE COUNCIL

The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall be entitled to demand and take for the hire of the carriage the rate or fare prescribed by the following table, the rate or fare being calculated by distance unless the hirer expresses at the commencement of the hiring his desire to engage by time. Provided always that where a hackney carriage furnished with a taximeter shall be hired by distance the proprietor or driver thereof shall not be entitled to demand and take a fare greater than that recorded on the face of the taximeter, save for any extra charges authorised by the following table which it may not be possible to record on the face of the taximeter.

FARES FOR DISTANCE (including VAT)

All distance and time charges include uncompleted parts thereof

RATE 1	
Hirings between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. Mondays to Saturdays (excluding 24 December and 31 December 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.)	
£3.00	for the first 1609.34 metres (one mile)
20p	for each additional 178.816 metres (approx 1/9 mile)
20p	waiting time for each period of 47 seconds
RATE 2	
Hirings between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. Mondays to Fridays Hirings between 10 p.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. Monday Hirings begun on Bank Holidays (excluding Christmas Day, Boxing Day) Excluding 10pm.to midnight 24 and 31 December	
£4.00	for the first 1609.34 metres (one mile)
20p	for each additional 146.304 metres (approx 1/11 mile)
20p	waiting time for each period of 36 seconds
RATE 3 - Christmas and New Year	
Double of Rate 1 - Hirings between 8p.m. on 24 December and 7a.m. on 27 December and hirings between 8p.m. on 31 December and 7 a.m. on 1 January	
£6.00	for the first 1609.34 metres (one mile)
40p	for each additional 178.816 metres (approx 1/9 mile)
40p	waiting time for each period of 47 seconds

EXTRAS

- 20p** For each shopping carrier bag conveyed outside of the passenger compartment of the carriage, subject to maximum charge of 60p per passenger.
- 20p** For each article of luggage (excluding carrier bags) conveyed outside of the passenger compartment of the carriage (no maximum charge)
- 20p** For each person in excess of one (2 children under the age of 10 shall be regarded as one person and children under the age of 3 shall not be reckoned but each must occupy a seat).
- £2.40** Booking charge for a hiring involving a separate journey to pick up hirer.
- £100** Soiling of the carriage leaving it unfit for immediate subsequent hiring unless cleaned.

THIS SCALE OF CHARGES APPLIES ONLY TO JOURNEYS UNDERTAKEN WITHIN THE AREA OF THE BOROUGH OF REIGATE AND BANSTEAD

If the taxi is used in the licensed area for a contract of private hire, where the hiring was not arranged with or through the driver while the carriage was plying for hire or waiting, then the above fares or charges may only be calculated from the point in the district at which the hirer commences the journey. If any journey ends outside of the licensed area **and no rate of fare was agreed before the hiring was effected** then the driver may not charge a fare greater than shown in this table.

R N Clifford, Chief Executive

2 December 2006