

Crawley Borough Council

	Report No: PES/12	B
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Report to the Licensing Committee

3 November 2010

Hackney Carriage Fares, 2010 - 2011

1.0 Key Points

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to consider proposals for increases to the Hackney Carriage table of fares for 2010 – 2011.
- 1.2. The last increase in the Hackney Carriage fares took place in December 2008 and a copy of the current table of fares is set out at **Appendix A**.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. **The Committee is requested to consider the decision on the Hackney Carriage fare structure to come into effect from 1 December 2010.**

ANGELA TANNER
Head of Planning and Regulatory Services

3.0 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 The purpose of this report is to consider the Hackney Carriage fare tariff structure for the year 2010-2011.
- 3.3 The last increase in the Hackney Carriage fare took place on 1 December 2008. The Hackney Carriage trade did not want an increase for the year 2009/2010 and Committee decided that no increase would be set. The current table of fares is shown in **Appendix A**.
- 3.4 Members are requested to make a decision on the Hackney Carriage fare structure to come into effect from 1 December 2010.
- 3.5 It is the Council's procedure to consult with the relevant trade association to establish an appropriate 'table of fares' for the forthcoming financial period.
- 3.6 The report includes the trade's proposals (**Appendix B**) and neighbouring authority's current tariffs (**Appendix D**).
- 3.7 If Committee decides to approve the proposal based on the enclosed information there is a legal requirement to advertise these changes in the local media for a period of 14 days and any representations will need to be considered.

4.0 Consultation

- 4.1 The Trade Proposal - In **Appendix B** - is for the starting tariff of £3.20 to increase to £3.40. The running mile is to remain the same. This equates to an overall rise of 20p per journey regardless of the distance.
- 4.2 In order to provide further clarity the neighbouring authorities' Hackney Carriage fare cards are attached as **Appendix D** .These are based on last year's tariffs and it is not known whether or not our neighbouring authorities are planning an increase for the forthcoming year
- 4.3 A letter has been received by the Crawley and Gatwick Chamber of Commerce regarding the Taxi Fares and this is attached as **Appendix C**.

5.0 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.

6.0 Staffing, Financial and Legal Implications/Powers

- 6.1. The Council's policy for fees and charges is to increase overall by 3%.
- 6.2 There are no extra staffing or financial implications to the Council.

- 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	Social Inclusion	y

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 trade in general have stated that they do require the fares to be considered due to no increase since December 2008 and the rising cost of inflation.
- 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 27th July 2010.
2009 -2010 Hackney Carriage Fares Tariff Card.
Letter from Crawley and Gatwick Chamber of Commerce dated 2nd August 2010
Taxi Tariffs from neighbouring authorities.

Contact Officer: Bill Nailen
Direct Line: 01293 438734

CRAWLEY HACKNEY CARRIAGE –FARES

Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976
Valid from the 1st December 2009

Tariff 1 Applies to all hiring’s except those mentioned in tariff 2 & 3	
Initial distance not exceeding 1,608 meters (1,759 yards) or 8 minutes 25 seconds or un-completed part thereof	£3.20
For a distance of 1,609 meters (1,760 yards) or 8 minutes 25 seconds or un-completed part thereof	£3.40
For each subsequent 153 meters (167 yards) or 48 seconds or un-completed part thereof	20p

Tariff 2 Applies to all hirings begun between midnight and 06am including all Bank Holidays, and all hiring’s from 18:00hrs to 23:59 hrs on the 24th December and from 18:00hrs on New Years Eve to 23:59 on 1st January	
Initial distance not exceeding 1,608 meters (1,759 yards) 8 minutes or un-completed part thereof	£4.50
For a distance of 1,609 meters (1,760 yards) or 8 minutes or un-completed part thereof	£4.80
For each subsequent 161 meters (176 yards) or 48 seconds or un-completed part thereof	30p

Tariff 3 Applies to all hiring’s from 00:01 on the 25th December to midnight on the 26th December	
Initial distance not exceeding 1,608 meters (1,759 yards) or 8 minutes or un-completed part thereof	£6.00
For a distance of 1,609 meters (1,760 yards) or 8 minutes or un-completed part thereof	£6.40
For each subsequent 161 meters (176 yards) or 48 seconds or un-completed part thereof	40p

Extra Charges
<p>A soilage charge of £55 (minimum) Subject to the licensing capacity of the vehicle, the driver when carrying more than 4 persons may be entitled to charge tariff 2. When 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 authorized 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).</p>

Crawley Hackney Association,

27th July 2010

Licensing Department,
Crawley Borough Council,
Town Hall,
Crawley,
West Sussex.
RH10 1UZ

With regard to the Annual Taxi Fare Tariff Review the Committee of the Hackney Association have been in consultation with the trade at large in order to ascertain their preferred proposals for the year 2010/2011. Initially the Committee, together with three Ordinary Representatives from the trade, discussed various options for increases to the tariff, having careful consideration to any possible adverse effect on trade and also the likelihood of our proposals being approved by the Licensing Committee. Some of the options discussed involved leaving the initial hiring figure unchanged whilst reducing the initial hiring distance so that no increase would be immediately discernible to the customer. We decided against this approach, however, partly because we were uneasy about deceiving the customer into believing that no increase had taken place but also because this would not benefit drivers who may have waited on the rank for an hour or more for a fare of less than one mile as is often the case, especially from the Boulevard rank. Very few, if any, drivers regard the fares for longer distance journeys to be in need of an increase.

The two options which we decided to submit to the drivers' vote were;
To increase the initial hiring from £3.20 to £3.40 whilst leaving subsequent miles unchanged at £2.10 per mile.
Or to increase the initial hiring from £3.20 to £3.30 and increase the subsequent miles from £2.10 to £2.20.

These two options were submitted to drivers' ballot, together with an option of no increase.

The result of the ballot was as follows;
Option One. No change. 10 votes
Option Two. To increase initial hiring from £3.20 to £3.40 with running mile remaining unchanged. 63 votes.
Option Three. To increase initial hiring from £3.20 to £3.30 and increase running mile from £2.10 to £2.20. 7 votes.

We therefore respectfully request that Option Two; to increase initial hiring for up to one mile (1759 yards) from £3.20 to £3.40 and to retain current figure of £2.10 for running mile be submitted to the Licensing Committee with a view to implementation on or around 1st December. This would increase the price of a 2 ½ mile journey from £6.40 to £6.60 or 3.12 %, roughly in line with the current CPI inflation figure.

Drivers were also balloted on their preference for abolition or retention of tariffs two and three. Of the 80 votes cast, 10 were in favour of abolition, with 70 voting in favour of retention.

Accordingly, we propose that tariffs two and three remain frozen at their current rates, no increase.

I have included a comparison chart for your convenience although this year's proposal simply entails a 20p increase on any journey regardless of distance.

If you wish, I can let you have sight of the voting papers when we next meet up.

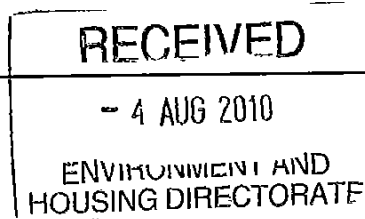
Yours Sincerely

Secretary
Crawley Hackney Association

Current tariff

Proposed tariff

	YARDS	£		YARDS	£	
START up to 1 mile	1759	3.20	START up to 1 mile	1759	3.40	
AT 1 mile	1760	3.40	AT 1 mile	1760	3.60	
	1927	3.60		1927	3.80	
	2094	3.80		2094	4.00	
	2261	4.00		2261	4.20	
	2428	4.20		2428	4.40	
	2595	4.40		2595	4.60	
	2762	4.60		2762	4.80	
	2929	4.80		2929	5.00	
	3096	5.00		3096	5.20	
	3263	5.20		3263	5.40	
	3430	5.40		3430	5.60	
AT 2 miles	3520	5.40	AT 2 miles	3520	5.60	
	3597	5.60		3597	5.80	
	3764	5.80		3764	6.00	
	3931	6.00		3931	6.20	
	4098	6.20		4098	6.40	
	4265	6.40		4265	6.60	
AT 2.5 miles	4400	6.40	AT 2.5 miles	4400	6.60	Increase of 3.12%
	4432	6.60		4432	6.80	
	4599	6.80		4599	7.00	
	4766	7.00		4766	7.20	
	4933	7.20		4933	7.40	
	5100	7.40		5100	7.60	
	5267	7.60		5267	7.80	
AT 3 miles	5280	7.60	AT 3 miles	5280	7.80	
	5434	7.80		5434	8.00	
	5601	8.00		5601	8.20	
	5768	8.20		5768	8.40	
	5935	8.40		5935	8.60	
	6102	8.60		6102	8.80	
	6269	8.80		6269	9.00	
	6436	9.00		6436	9.20	
	6603	9.20		6603	9.40	
	6770	9.40		6770	9.60	
	6937	9.60		6937	9.80	
AT 4 miles	7040	9.60	AT 4 miles	7040	9.80	
	7104	9.80		7104	10.00	
	7271	10.00		7271	10.20	
	7438	10.20		7438	10.40	
	7605	10.40		7605	10.60	
	7772	10.60		7772	10.80	
	7939	10.80		7939	11.00	
	8106	11.00		8106	11.20	
	8273	11.20		8273	11.40	
	8440	11.40		8440	11.60	
	8607	11.60		8607	11.80	
	8774	11.80		8774	12.00	
AT 5 miles	8800	11.80	AT 5 miles	8800	12.00	
	8941	12.00		8941	12.20	

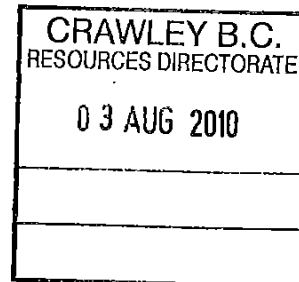


Administrator
 c/o Richard Place Dobson
 29 High Street Crawley RH10 1BQ
 Mobile: 07813 885529
 Email: info@crawleychamber.co.uk
 Web: www.crawleychamber.co.uk

Please reply to: 35, Turnpike Place, Crawley RH11 7UA

2nd August, 2010

Dear Sir/Madam,



Taxi Fares

At this time of recession the Crawley and Gatwick Chamber of Commerce requests that serious consideration be given to lowering taxi fares in and out of Crawley, so as to attract more visitors to the Town.

Whilst the Chamber appreciates that the income from taxis equates with the livelihood of the driver/owners, it has increasingly come to our attention that many of the cab drivers are finding business tough, and that they are having to 'hang around' sometimes for several hours without picking up fares.

If, therefore, the approved fares could be lowered, we believe that the number of journeys would increase thus benefiting the taxi drivers themselves, and also the prosperity of the Town, which has been hit hard by the current recession.

Please be assured that this letter comes to you after due research by members of the Executive Committee.

Yours sincerely,

**Rev. Francis Pole M.Inst.T.A,
 F.R.S.A.
 Transport Lead**

cc. Chief Exec.

Horsham

Effective from 17th November 2008

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 1350m or 6min 25 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£3.40**

For each additional 90m 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 1350m or 6 min 25 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£5.10**

For each additional 90m 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 1350m or 6min 25 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£6.80**

For each additional 90m 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 1350m or 6 min 25 secs or combination of distance and time (or part) **£5.10**

For each additional 90m 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 1350m or 6 min 25 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£7.65**

For each additional 90m 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 1350m or 6 min 25 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£10.20**

For each additional 90m 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**

Borough of Reigate & Banstead
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.)	
£3.20	for the first 1609.34 metres (one mile)
20p	for each additional 168.25 metres (approx 10.45% of a mile)
20p	waiting time for each period of 44 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 134.42 metres (approx 8.35% of a mile)
20p	waiting time for each period of 35 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	
£6.40	for the first 1609.34 metres (one mile)
40p	for each additional 168.25 metres (approx 10.45% of a mile)
40p	waiting time for each period of 44 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.

MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL – HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES
For journeys within the District of Mole Valley. From 1st September 2008. The Tariff below is the maximum

<u>DISTANCE</u> First Mile (1609.34 metres) or part thereof	£3.90
Each subsequent 184 yards (168.25 metres) or part thereof	.20p
<u>WAITING TIME</u> Each 42 seconds or part thereof	.20p

Hiring commencing within the following times:	
23:00hrs (11pm) – 07:30am Monday to Saturday	1½ x normal fare
23:00hrs (11pm) Saturday to 07:30am Monday	1½ x normal fare
All Bank Holidays (Except Christmas & New Year)	1½ x normal fare
18:00hrs (6pm) Christmas Eve to Midnight Christmas Day	2 x normal fare
18:00hrs (6pm) New Year's Eve to Midnight New Year's Day	2 x normal fare

<u>EXTRA CHARGES</u>	
Each passenger in excess of two	.30p
Booking Charge for hiring involving a separate journey to pick up hirer	£1.00
THE FARE ON THE METER, WHEN IN USE, MUST BE CLEARLY VISIBLE TO THE PASSENGER AT ALL TIMES	
The table of fares shall not apply to Hackney Carriages hired in pursuance of a written contract with the local education authority for the conveyance of children to and from school.	
N.B. If the journey takes the cab outside the Mole Valley district the driver must still charge in accordance with the above scale unless he/she has agreed otherwise with the hirer BEFORE the journey started.	
THE DRIVER OF THIS VEHICLE IS REQUIRED TO WEAR AN IDENTITY / LICENCE BADGE	
ANY COMPLAINTS should be reported to Mole Valley District Council, Pippbrook, Dorking, Surrey, quoting if possible the Vehicle Plate No. and / or the Driver's name.	