

Crawley Borough Council

	Report No: PES/098	C
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Report to the Licensing Committee

12 November 2012

Hackney Carriage Fares, 2012 - 2013

1.0 Key Points

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to consider proposals from the hackney carriage association for increases to the Hackney Carriage table of fares for 2012 – 2013.
- 1.2. The last increase in the Hackney Carriage fares took place in January 2012 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 following proposal put forward by the Executive of the Crawley Hackney Carriage Association:**
 - (a) **That the starting tariff (for Tariff 1) which is currently £3.60 be increased to £3.80, and**
 - (b) **The starting tariff (for Tariff 2) which is currently £4.50 be increased to £4.80.**
- 2.3 **If the Committee resolves to vary the existing table of fares (as proposed above or otherwise), the Committee is asked to authorise the Head of Environmental Services and Planning, or officer acting on her behalf, to publish a public notice of the variation and the period within which objections can be made (the expiry date of the period to be set by the Head of Environmental Services and Planning but to be no later than 15 December 2012) in accordance with section 65 of the *Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976*.**
- 2.4 **If the Committee resolves to vary the existing table of fares, the Committee is requested to note that should any objections are made following the publishing of a notice and are not withdrawn, it will be required to meet and consider those objections.**

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 It is the Council's informal policy to consult with the relevant trade association when establishing an appropriate 'table of fares' for the forthcoming financial 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 with officer's 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 on 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 is required to be available at all reasonable times to the public for inspection without payment at the Town Hall for a period of 14 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 or objections are received but subsequently withdrawn, the proposed table of fares takes effect on the date the public notice expires or the date the last objection is withdrawn, whichever is later.
- 3.9 Any variation to the table of fares will continue in that form until such time as the Committee subsequently review and vary the table. The Council's standard practice is to review these fares annually.

4.0 Content

- 4.1 The last increase in the Hackney Carriage fare took place on 6 January 2012. The Hackney Carriage trade requested a 20p increase on the initial flag fare and Committee decided that an increase of 20p on the flag fare would be approved. The current table of fares is shown in **Appendix A**.
- 4.2 Following consultation with the Crawley Hackney Carriage Association who represent most of those who have hackney carriage vehicle licences issued by the Council, the Council received a letter dated 25 September 2012 which outlined the Association's proposal (as set out in **Appendix B**). The Hackney Carriage Association also undertook a ballot of hackney carriage proprietors and the result of this ballot is attached as **Appendix C**.
- 4.3 The Council may propose an alternative table of fares, however it is the view of officers that the proposals put forward by the trade this year are reasonable and require no further amendment.
- 4.4 The report includes the Crawley Hackney Carriage Association's proposals (**Appendix B**) and a comparison of charges with that of the neighbouring authorities

can also be viewed at (**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.

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 is not ward specific. There is also a formal consultation process, as described above.

6.0 Staffing, Financial and Legal Implications/Powers

6.1. The increase of Hackney Carriage fares is controlled by statute and set independently of the procedure used to set the Council's general fees and charges.

6.2. 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.

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

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.

7.0 Risk Implications

7.1 None.

8.0 Environmental Implications

8.1 None.

9.0 Links to the Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Plan

9.1 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 |

10.0 Reasons for the Recommendation

- 10.1. Members of the Crawley Hackney Carriage Association have requested that the Council consider the current fare structure.
- 10.2 Although the views of the trade are particularly relevant they are only one factor to be considered.
- 10.3 The Committee may also make any changes to the table that it considers reasonable and appropriate.
- 10.4 The procedure for changing the fares requires the Committee to consider the matter and decide a fare structure that they consider to be appropriate. This needs to be carried out bearing in mind those affected, namely the members of the trade and their customers, the public. The proposed fares are then subject to consultation using an advertisement in the local newspaper, as required by the legislation.

11 Background Papers

- 11.1 Letter from the Crawley Hackney Association dated 25th September 2012
Ballot Results from Hackney Carriage Association
2012 Hackney Carriage Fares Tariff Card.
Taxi Tariffs from neighbouring authorities.

Contact Officer: Bill Nailen
Direct Line: 01293 438734

Appendix A

CRAWLEY HACKNEY CARRIAGE –FARES Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

Valid from the 6th January 2012

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	£3.60
For a distance of 1,609 meters (1,760 yards) or 8 minutes 25 seconds or un-completed part thereof	£3.80
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

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).

Appendix B

6 Spring Plat,
Pound Hill,
Crawley,
West Sussex.
RH10 7BE

25th September 2012

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

For the attention of Bill Nailen.

Dear Bill

The Hackney Trade have recently held a ballot of members in order to establish drivers' preferences for the tariff for 2012/13.

Of 100 drivers consulted the following proposals were chosen:

TARIFF ONE To increase the first hiring figure up to one mile from £3.60 to £3.80. (running mile unchanged).

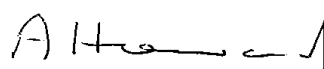
TARIFF TWO To increase the first hiring figure up to one mile from £4.50 to £4.80. (running mile unchanged)

TARIFF THREE No change from current tariff.

We therefore request that these proposals be forwarded to the Licensing Committee for consideration at the next available licensing meeting.

I have enclosed a copy of the full ballot result and also a full tariff sheet as we would wish it to be amended.

Yours Sincerely



Alan Howard
Secretary
Crawley Hackney Association.

Tariff proposal for 2012/13

Tariff One

Initial distance not exceeding 1759 yards or uncompleted part thereof	£3.80
For a distance of 1760 yards (one mile)	£4.00
For each subsequent 167 yards	£0.20

Tariff Two

Initial distance not exceeding 1759 yards or uncompleted part thereof	£4.80
For a distance of 1760 yards (one mile)	£5.10
For each subsequent 176 yards	£0.30

Tariff Three

Initial distance not exceeding 1759 yards or uncompleted part thereof	£6.00
For a distance of 1760 yards (one mile)	£6.40
For each subsequent 176 yards	£0.40

Waiting Time

To remain unchanged at 20p/30p/40p respectively for each 48 seconds

Appendix C

Tariff Review 2012/13 VOTING RESULT

Tariff One

<u>Option One</u>	No Change	9
<u>Option Two</u>	To increase First Hiring figure from £3.60 to £3.80 (running mile unchanged)	55
<u>Option Three</u>	To increase running mile from £2.10 per mile to £2.30 per mile (start figure to remain unchanged)	19
<u>Option Four</u>	To increase First Hiring figure from £3.60 to £3.80 and increase running mile from £2.10 per mile to £2.20 per mile	16

Tariff Two

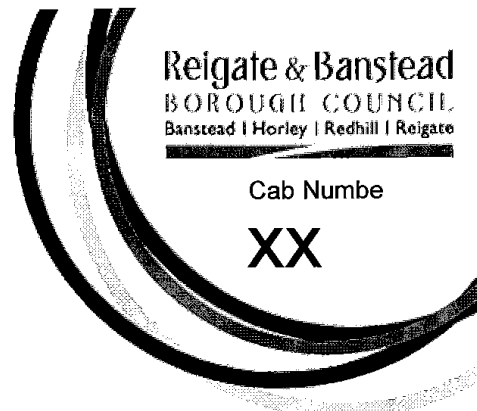
<u>Option One</u>	No Change	33
<u>Option Two</u>	To Increase First Hiring figure from £4.50 to £4.80 (running mile unchanged)	44
<u>Option Three</u>	To increase running mile from £3.00 per mile to £3.30 per mile (start figure to remain unchanged)	10
<u>Option Four</u>	To increase First Hiring figure from £4.50 to £4.80 and increase running mile from £3.00 per mile to £3.15 per mile.	6
<u>Option Five</u>	For Tariff Two to become equivalent to Tariff One plus 50%	4

Tariff Three

<u>Option One</u>	No Change	45
<u>Option Two</u>	To Increase First hiring Figure from £6.00 to £6.40 per mile (running mile unchanged)	39
<u>Option Three</u>	To increase running mile from £4.00 per mile to £4.40 per mile (start figure to remain unchanged)	4
<u>Option Four</u>	To increase First Hiring figure from £6.00 to £6.40 and increase running mile from £4.00 per mile to £4.20 per mile	8
<u>Option Five</u>	For Tariff Three to become equivalent to Tariff One plus 100%	3

HACKNEY CARRIAGE REGULATIONS

- Before hiring a taxi make sure you have the means to pay. Deliberate failure to make payment after the journey is a **criminal offence**.
- The driver of this vehicle is required to wear an identity/licence badge.
- The driver must, unless they have a reasonable excuse, accept any hiring within the Borough.
- The meter must be engaged at the commencement of the hiring and the fare on the meter must clearly be visible to passengers at all times.
- Meters display the **maximum** chargeable fare.
- Mileage rates may be charged from point of pick up only.
- If the journey takes the cab outside the borough of Reigate & Banstead, the driver **MUST** still charge in accordance with the above scale unless he or she agrees otherwise with the hirer **before the journey has started**.



LOST PROPERTY ENQUIRIES,
COMPLAINTS OR COMMENTS

Reigate & Banstead Borough Council,
Town Hall, Castlefield Road, Reigate,
Surrey RH2 0SH
T: 01737-276672
licensing@reigate-banstead.gov.uk

STATEMENT OF FARES: Fares for distance and/or time from 3rd December 2011.
All distance and time charges include uncompleted parts thereof, and include VAT

Rate 1: Basic Rate

Hirings between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. Mondays to Saturdays, excluding bank holidays, Christmas and New Year.

£3.60 first mile (1609 metres)
20p each additional 162 yards (148 metres) or 39 seconds of waiting time.

Rate 2: Late Evenings and Nights, Sundays and Bank Holidays

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 and 10pm.to midnight 24 and 31 December)

£4.50 first mile (1609 metres)
20p each additional 130 yards (118 metres) or 31 seconds of waiting time.

Rate 3: Christmas and New Year

Hirings between 8p.m. on 24 December and 7a.m. on 27 December, and
between 8p.m. on 31 December and 7a.m. on 1 January

Double Rate 1

Extras that may be Charged

- 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.

The carriage of assistance dogs is compulsory and free of charge.



**Horsham
District
Council**

serving our towns and villages

Effective from 25th July 2012

TABLE OF MAXIMUM FARES

FOR VEHICLES CARRYING 1 - 4 PERSONS

TARIFF 1 - Effective for hiring begun between 07.00am and 11.29pm

For the first 1200m or 6min 25 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£3.80**
For each additional 85m or 20 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£0.10**

TARIFF 2 - Effective for hiring begun between 11.30pm and 06.59am

For the first 1200m or 6 min 25 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£5.70**
For each additional 85m or 20 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£0.15**

**TARIFF 3 - Effective from midnight to midnight on Bank Holidays,
Public Holidays, Christmas Day and Good Friday and from 6pm New Years Eve**

For the first 1200m or 6min 25 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£7.60**
For each additional 85m or 20 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£0.20**

FOR VEHICLES CARRYING 5 - 8 PASSENGERS

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

For the first 1200m or 6 min 25 secs or combination of distance and time (or part) **£5.70**
For each additional 85m 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 1200m or 6 min 25 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£7.65**
For each additional 85m or 20 secs or combination of distance and time (or part) **£0.20**

**TARIFF 6 - Effective for hiring from midnight to midnight on Bank Holidays,
Public Holidays, Christmas Day and Good Friday and from 6pm New Years Eve**

For the first 1200m or 6 min 25 secs or combination of distance & time (or part) **£10.20**
For each additional 85m 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 from 1st June 2012



Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 Section 65

Tariff 1-	Applies to all hirings except those mentioned in Tariffs 2 and 3
Initial distance not more than 385 metres (422 yards) or a combination of distance and time, or part thereof.	£2.80p
For the next 161 metres (176 yards, or part thereof)	20p
Waiting time for each period of 40 seconds	20p

Tariff 2-	Applies to all hirings begun between 12 midnight and 6am on weekdays and 12 midnight and 8.30am on Sundays, after 8pm on 24 and 31 December, all day 26 December, Good Friday, Easter Sunday and public and bank holidays, and all Sundays which are followed by a bank holiday in lieu.
Initial distance not more than 385 metres (422 yards) or a combination of distance and time, or part thereof.	£4.20p
For the next 161 metres (176 yards, or part thereof)	30p
Waiting time for each period of 40 seconds	30p

Tariff 3 -	Applies to hirings from 00.01 hours on December 25 until midnight December 25
Initial distance not more than 385 metres (422 yards) or a combination of distance and time, or part thereof.	£5.60p
For the next 161 metres (176 yards, or part thereof)	40p
Waiting time for each period of 40 seconds	40p

Additional Charges	
Subject to the licensed capacity of the vehicle, the driver, when carrying five passengers or more is allowed to charge Tariff 2 when Tariff 1 charges apply, and Tariff 3 charges at times when Tariff 2 charges apply.	
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	£1.40 - £1.64p per litre 25p
B	£1.65p - £1.89p per litre 40p
C	£1.90p per litre 60p

Any enquiries, please contact:

01444 458166
www.midsussex.gov.uk/taxi

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

For journeys within the District of Mole Valley. From 2nd April 2012. The Tariff below is the maximum

<u>DISTANCE</u>	
First 1645 yards (1504.18 metres) or part thereof	£3.90
Each subsequent 165 yards (150.87 metres) or part thereof	.20p
<u>WAITING TIME</u>	
Each 45 seconds or part thereof	.25p

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

EXTRA CHARGES

Each passenger in excess of two	.35p
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.