

Crawley Borough Council

	Report No: PES/255	B
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Report to the Licensing Committee

11th September 2017

Hackney Carriage Fares 2017 - 2018

Report of the Head of Economic and Environmental Services, *PES/255*

1.0 Key Points

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to consider proposals for a requested vary the Hackney Carriage table of fares for the year 2017 – 2018.
- 1.2. The last variation to the Hackney Carriage table of fares was undertaken February 2014. A copy of the current table of fares is set out in **Appendix A** of this report.
- 1.3. The variation is being requested by the Crawley Hackney Carriage Association further to the discussions with their members.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. The Committee is requested to consider the proposal to vary the table of fares put forward by the Executive of the Crawley Hackney Carriage Association as set out in **Appendix B** to this report.
- 2.2. 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 Economy and Environment, or an officer acting on his 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 Economy and Environment but to be no later than 19th November 2017) in accordance with section 65 of the *Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976*.
- 2.3. 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requested to note that should any objections are made following the publishing of the notice which are not subsequently withdrawn, it will be required to meet again and consider those objections.

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.
- 3.2 It is the Council's informal policy to consult with the relevant trade association when establishing an appropriate 'table of fares' to apply for the following year. The Council is not obliged to increase the fares, and no increase has been made since 3rd February 2014 as the Crawley Hackney Carriage Association have not requested one.
- 3.3 Following consultation with the local hackney carriage trade in 2017 they have requested that an increase to the current table of fares is approved and this report has been drafted and is presented for the consideration of the Licensing Committee accordingly.
- 3.4 The report includes the hackney carriage trade's proposals further to consultation with the Senior Licensing Officer. In response to the Licensing Committee's request in November 2013 for officers to work with the Crawley Hackney Carriage Association, the tariff card has also been simplified. It has not been possible to reduce the number of tariffs to 2 as first desired as this would mean that drivers operating vehicles capable of carrying more than 4 passengers would not have received any increase as they use tariff 2 to account for the additional passengers carried. Tariff 3 has therefore been retained to deal with work undertaken after midnight and special days such as Christmas Day for drivers. Due to the fact the current fleet has a number of vehicles able to carry more than 4 passengers (17%) calendar control of all meters is not currently possible due to technical limitations of the technology.
- 3.5 Subject to the approval of report by the Licensing Committee the table of fares for the following year is published in the form of a public notice in the local press. A statutory period of not less than 14 days is required to allow for objections 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 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 Licensing Committee must then set a further date on which the variation to the table of fares shall come into force with or without further variation as they decide after consideration of the objections.
- 3.8 If no objection is received or objections are received but subsequently withdrawn, the variation to the 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 The table of fares set by the Licensing Committee will continue in that form until such time as the Licensing Committee decide to vary it. However, the Council's standard practice is to consult with the trade and review these fares annually to prevent potential large increases, and should the trade feel an increase is not needed then their views are duly respected.

4.0 Determining the New Hackney Carriage Table of Fares

- 4.1 The last variation to the Hackney Carriage fare table took effect on 3rd February 2014.

The current table of fares is shown in **Appendix A**. The proposed changes are designed to ensure that the trade receive an increase when undertaking short journeys thus the reason for the adjustment to the initial flag drop and absence of any increase in the current running mile.

- 4.2 Following consultation with the Crawley Hackney Carriage Association it was agreed with the chairman of the Hackney Carriage Association that the proposed Hackney Carriage Tariff was acceptable by the association and should be considered by members of the Licensing Committee. The consultation exercise with the drivers and proprietors was undertaken by Crawley Hackney Carriage Association, who contacted their members directly.
- 4.3 Members should also note that not all Hackney Carriage Proprietors and drivers are members of the Crawley Hackney Carriage Association.
- 4.4 The report includes the Hackney Carriage trade's proposals at **Appendix B**. In summary, the effect of the proposed variation to the table of fares is as follows:
- (a) That the initial distance (for Tariff 1) which is currently 1608 meters (1759 yards) be reduced to 183 meters (200 yards). This will equate to an overall rise of 20p per journey.
 - (b) That the initial distance (for Tariff 2) which is currently 1608 meters (1759 yards) be reduced to 183 meters (200 yards). This will equate to an overall rise of 30p per journey.
 - (c) That the initial distance (for Tariff 3) which is currently 1608 meters (1759 yards) be reduced to 183 meters (200 yards). This will equate to an overall rise of 40p per journey.
 - (d) There be no increase to the "running mile" for tariffs 1, 2 and 3.
 - (e) There be no increase in waiting time on any Tariff.
 - (f) The soilage charge to remain at £75.00.
- 4.5 For the purposes of comparison, Tariff cards from neighbouring local authorities is at **Appendix C**. These are based on their current tariffs and it is not known whether or not our neighbouring authorities are planning an increase for the forthcoming year.
- 4.6 The Chairman of the Crawley Hackney Carriage Association has confirmed that the proposals finally reached after consultation with the trade are acceptable, as can be seen in the email at **Appendix D**.

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

(i)	Prosperity	y
(ii)	Community	y
(iii)	Environment	y
(iv)	Value for Money	y

10.0 Reasons for the Recommendation

- 10.1. Members of the hackney carriage trade have requested that the Council consider the current fare structure, in the light of the rising cost of inflation and to also take into account that there has been no increase since February 2014.
- 10.2. The procedure for varying the table of fares requires the Licensing Committee to consider the matter and decide whether to vary the table of fares. This needs to be carried out bearing in mind those affected, namely the members of the hackney carriage trade, their customers, and the public.
- 10.3 Although the views of the trade are particularly relevant they are only one factor to be considered.

- 10.4 The Licensing Committee may also make any changes to the table that it considers reasonable and appropriate.
- 10.5 Members of the Licensing Committee have previously requested that a simplified tariff card is considered and implemented in consultation with the hackney carriage trade.

11.0 Background Papers/Information

11.1 Current Hackney Carriage Table of Fares (Appendix A).

11.2 Proposed Hackney Carriage Table of Fares (Appendix B).

11.3 Tariff Cards from Neighbouring Authorities (Appendix C).

11.4 Response from the Crawley Hackney Carriage Association 2017 (Appendix D).

Contact Officer: Tony Baldock
Environmental Health Manager
Crawley Borough Council
Email: tony.baldock@crawley.gov.uk
Tel: 01293 438220

Crawley Hackney Carriage fares

Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

Valid from February 3, 2014

Tariff 1- Day Tariff Applies to all hirings 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	£4.00
For a distance of 1,609 meters (1,760 yards) or 8 minutes 25 seconds or un-completed part thereof	£4.20
For each subsequent 140 meters (153 yards) or 45 seconds or un-completed part thereof	20p

Tariff 2- Night Tariff and more than 4 passengers Applies to all hirings begun between midnight and 06am including all Bank Holidays, and all hirings from 18:00hrs to 23:59 hrs on the 24 th December and from 18:00hrs on New Years Eve to 23:59 on 1 st January	
Initial distance not exceeding 1,608 meters (1,759 yards) 8 minutes or un-completed part thereof	£4.80
For a distance of 1,609 meters (1,760 yards) or 8 minutes or un-completed part thereof	£5.10
For each subsequent 151 meters (166 yards) or 45 seconds or un-completed part thereof	30p

Tariff 3 – Xmas Tariff Applies to all hirings from 00:01 on the 25 th December to midnight on the 26 th December	
Initial distance not exceeding 1,608 meters (1,759 yards) or 8 minutes or un-completed part thereof	£8.00
For a distance of 1,609 meters (1,760 yards) or 8 minutes or un-completed part thereof	£8.40
For each subsequent 153 meters (168 yards) or 44 seconds or un-completed part thereof	40p

Extra Charges

A soilage charge of £75 (maximum)

Subject to the licensed capacity of the vehicle, the driver when carrying more than 4 persons may be entitled to charge Tariff 2 between 6am and midnight.

Subject to the licensed capacity of the vehicle, the driver when carrying more than 4 persons may be entitled to charge Tariff 3 between midnight and 6am.

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 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).

Licensing Section 2014



Proposed variation to the table of fares

<p><i>Tariff 1- Day Tariff</i> Applies to all hirings except those mentioned in tariff 2 & 3</p>	
Initial distance not exceeding 183 meters (200 yards) or 58.8 seconds or un-completed part thereof	£4.00
For the next 1426 meters (1560 yards) or 458.8 seconds (7 minutes and 38.8 seconds) or un-completed part thereof	20p
For each subsequent 140 meters (153 yards) or 45 seconds or un-completed part thereof	20p
<p><i>Tariff 2- Night Tariff and for vehicles carrying more than 4 passengers during the times of operation of Tariff 1</i> Applies to all hirings begun between midnight and 06.00am including all Bank Holidays, and all hirings from 18:00hrs to 23:59 hrs on the 24th December and from 18:00hrs on New Year's Eve to 23:59 on 1st January</p>	
Initial distance not exceeding 183 meters (200 yards) or 54.2 sec or un-completed part thereof	£4.80
For the next 1426 meters (1560 yards) or 422.9 seconds (7 minutes 2.9 seconds) or un-completed part thereof	30p
For each subsequent 152 meters (166 yards) or 45 seconds or un-completed part thereof	30p
<p><i>Tariff 3 – Xmas Tariff</i> Applies all day 25 and 26 December and for vehicles carrying more than 4 passengers during the times of operation of Tariff 2</p>	
Initial distance not exceeding 183 meters (200 yards) or 52.4 sec or un-completed part thereof	£8.00
For the next 1426 meters (1560 yards) or 408.6 seconds (6 minutes 48.6 seconds) or un-completed part thereof	40p
For each subsequent 154 meters (168 yards) or 44 seconds or un-completed part thereof	40p
<p>Extra Charges</p> <p>A soilage charge of £75 (maximum)</p> <p>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 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>	



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 10th April 2014

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 302 metres (330 yards) or a combination of distance and time, or part thereof.	£3.00p
For the next 146 metres (160 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 302 metres (330 yards) or a combination of distance and time, or part thereof.	£4.50p
For the next 146 metres (160 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 302 metres (330 yards) or a combination of distance and time, or part thereof.	£6.00p
For the next 146 metres (160 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
Booking Fee (Optional / only when advance booking made)	50p
Emergency Fuel Surcharge	

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

A	£1.90 - £2.24p per litre	20p
B	£2.25 - £2.49p per litre	40p
C	£2.50 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

Statement of fares

Fares for distance and/or time from 3 December 2011.
All distance and time charges include uncompleted parts thereof and include VAT.

Rate 1: Basic rate	
Hirings between 7am and 10pm Mondays to Saturdays, excl. 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 10pm and 7am Monday to Friday. Hirings between 10pm Saturday and 7am Monday. Hirings begun on Bank Holidays (excl. 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 8pm on 24 December and 7am on 27 December and between 8pm on 31 December and 7am 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 (maximum charge of 60p per passenger).	£2.40 Booking charge for a hiring involving a separate journey to pick up hirer.
20p For each article of luggage (excluding carrier bags) conveyed outside of the passenger compartment of the carriage (no maximum charge).	£100 Soiling of the carriage leaving it unfit for immediate subsequent hiring unless cleaned.
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).	The carriage of assistance dogs is compulsory and free of charge.

Cab no.

Lost property enquiries, complaints or comments
Reigate & Banstead Borough Council
Town Hall
Castlefield Road
Reigate
Surrey RH2 0SH
01737 276672
licensing@reigate-banstead.gov.uk

- 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.

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Byelaws with respect to Hackney Carriage

The statement of fares overleaf must be exhibited inside the carriage.
It is an offence for a proprietor of a hackney carriage to conceal or render illegible the fare table overleaf when the carriage is plying or being used for hire.

Drivers may wish to note the following maximum charges for exact distances travelled, excluding waiting time and extras.

Distance (miles)	Rate 1 (£)	Rate 2 (£)
1	3.60	4.50
2	5.80	7.30
3	8.00	10.10
4	10.20	12.70
5	12.40	15.50
10	23.20	28.90

Drivers may wish to note how the increment for distance is calculated as a portion of a mile:

Rate 1: 162 yards is just under 1/11 of a mile (e.g. just under £2.20 per mile after the first)

Rate 2: 130 yards is approximately 1/13.5 of a mile (e.g. approx. £2.70 per mile after the first)

MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL – HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES

For journeys within the District of Mole Valley. From 19th May 2014. The Tariff below is the maximum

<u>DISTANCE</u> First 1563 yards (1429.21 metres) or part thereof	£3.90
Each subsequent 156 yards (142.65 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

<u>EXTRA CHARGES</u>	
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.	

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Appendix D

From: Crawley Hackney carriage [<mailto:crawleyhackneys@yahoo.co.uk>]
Sent: 10 August 2017 21:34
To: Nailen, Bill <Bill.Nailen@crawley.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: crawley Final Tariff.doc

Evening Mr Nailen,

After consulting the members of the Taxi group, the proposed tariff sent via email has been looked into and we are happy for you to go ahead with it.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

On Thu, 10 Aug 2017 at 11:28, Nailen, Bill <Bill.Nailen@crawley.gov.uk> wrote:

Good Morning

I have had to include the meters and yards in the attached Tariff as we are using metric now.

Looking at the overall Tariff it looks like there is an increase of 20p in Tariff 1, 30p increase in Tariff 2 and 40p increase in Tariff 3.

The reason behind this is, if a vehicle picked up 5 passengers at Three Bridges during the day then he would be entitled to use Tariff 2. If Tariff 2 stayed the same as previous years then the driver would not get an increase if he used Tariff 2. He would only get an increase if he used Tariff 1.

If the Hackney Carriage trade are happy with these proposals please let me know asap. If you need to discuss please contact me.

Regards

Bill Nailen

Senior Licensing Officer

Crawley Borough Council