

## GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

5 SEPTEMBER 2019

### HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARE REVIEWS

#### **1.0 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 For Members to consider the consultation responses from the trade to the proposals for a review of Hackney Carriage fares.

#### **2.0 Introduction**

- 2.1 At the General Purposes Committee meeting in June the Committee resolved to consult the Hackney Carriage trade on the following proposal for a fare increase.

Number of Miles						
Flag	1	2	3	4	5	10
£2.88	£4.32	£6.23	£8.14	£10.05	£11.96	£21.51

- 2.2 A letter setting out the proposal has been sent to all drivers and proprietors of Hackney Carriages licensed within Newark and Sherwood. This has been supported by telephone calls to ensure that there was a good response to the consultation.

- 2.3 The proposal shown above is for Tariff 1. The remaining tariffs for evening and weekend rates are simple multipliers of the above.

Tariff 2	Evenings, Sundays and Bank Holidays (not covered by T3)	= Tariff 1 X 1.5
Tariff 3	Christmas/New Year	= Tariff 1 X 2
Tariff 4	When carrying 5 or more passengers	see attached

#### **3.0 Consultation Responses**

- 3.1 There were 175 letters sent to the taxi trade seeking views on the proposals. A full copy of the responses and the comments made are attached as **Appendix One** to the report.

- 3.2 A summary of the responses is set out below.

Total number Consulted	Number in Favour	Number against
175	17	3

- 3.3 It can be seen that the majority of the respondents are in favour of the proposal, although the overall response was very low.

#### **4.0 Proposals**

- 4.1 The local authority are required to advertise the new fares in a local newspaper for 14 days and to have them available for viewing at the Council offices.

- 4.2 It is proposed that the fares as set out in paragraph 2.1 above are advertised in the Newark Advertiser for a period of 14 days.

- 4.3 The proposals have already been seen by the trade so it is not expected to generate many comments from them, however, members of the public have the ability to comment and therefore these will need to be taken into consideration should any be received.
- 4.4 Once the 14 day period has elapsed the Council will need to consider any objections. In order to avoid any undue delay it is proposed that the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Business Manager – Public protection consider the objections and confirm the adoption of the new fares. If the objections are such that the Chairman feels they should be considered by Committee these will be brought to the General Purposes Committee in November.
- 4.5 It is proposed that the new fares shall become effective from Monday, 21 October – subject to 3.4 above.

## **5.0 Equalities Impacts**

- 5.1 There are no equalities impacts from this report.

## **6.0 Financial Implications**

- 6.1 The taximeters are required to be set so as to reflect the new fares. This is done at the expense of the vehicle owner, therefore there are no financial implications for the authority other than the cost of advertising the fares. There is an existing budget for this purpose.

## **7.0 Community Plan – Alignment to Objectives**

- 7.1 ***Objective 7: Enhance and sustain Newark Town Centre:*** having a buoyant taxi trade will support the town centre.

## **8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS that:**

- (a) the advertising of the new Hackney Carriage Fares as set out in Appendix Two be approved;**
- (b) the proposed implementation date of 21 October be agreed; and**
- (c) delegated authority be given to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Business Manager - Public Protection to determine the relevance of any objections raised.**

For further information please contact Alan Batty on 01636 655467

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