

**RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REPORT TO LICENSING COMMITTEE**

Agenda Item No. 8

meeting date: 13 JUNE 2017
 title: HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES
 submitted by: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
 principal author: MAIR HILL

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To seek Committee's view about whether Hackney Carriage fares should be reviewed.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities

- Community Objectives - }
- Corporate Priorities - } Consideration of these issues will promote the Council's aim to be a well-managed Council.
- Other Considerations - }

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Local Authorities have the power to set fares for Hackney Carriages pursuant to Section 65 of the Local Government (miscellaneous provisions) Act 1976. Section 65 provides that:

“(1) A district council may fix the rates or fares within the district as well for time as distance, and all other charges in connection with the hire of a vehicle or with the arrangements for the hire of a vehicle, to be paid in respect of the hire of hackney carriages by means of a table (hereafter in this section referred to as a “table of fares”) made or varied in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(2)(a) When a district council make or vary a table of fares they shall publish in at least one local newspaper circulating in the district a notice setting out the table of fares or the variation thereof and specifying the period, which shall not be less than fourteen days from the date of the first publication of the notice, within which and the manner in which objections to the table of fares or variation can be made.

(b) A copy of the notice referred to in paragraph (a) of this subsection shall for the period of fourteen days from the date of the first publication thereof be deposited at the offices of the council which published the notice, and shall at all reasonable hours be open to public inspection without payment.

(3) If no objection to a table of fares or variation is duly made within the period specified in the notice referred to in subsection (2) of this section, or if all objections so made are withdrawn, the table of fares or variation shall come into operation on the date of the expiration of the period specified in the notice or the date of withdrawal of the objection or, if more than one, of the last objection, whichever date is the later.

(4) If objection is duly made as aforesaid and is not withdrawn, the district council shall set a further date, not later than two months after the first specified date, on which the table of fares, shall come into force with or without modifications as decided by them after consideration of the objections.

(5) A table of fares made or varied under this section shall have effect for the purposes of the Act of 1847 as if it were included in hackney carriage byelaws made thereunder.

(6) On the coming into operation of a table of fares made by a council under this section for the district, any hackney carriage byelaws fixing the rates and fares or any table of fares previously made under this section for the district, as the case may be, shall cease to have effect....”

- 2.2 The Hackney Carriage fares were set by Committee on 10 August 2006 and last reviewed in 2009. Those fares are set out in the table at **Appendix 1** to this report.
- 2.3 Once fares are set it is an offence under Section 58 of the Town Police Clauses Act (“**TPCA**”) 1847 to charge more than the fare shown on the meter, plus any legitimate extras and this is punishable by a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale (currently £1,000).
- 2.4 Section 54 of the TPCA however allows agreement to be made in advance of hiring of a hackney carriage that a sum less than that shown at the end of the hiring will be paid, and once such an agreement has been made it is an offence for the driver to demand more than was agreed in advance.

3 ISSUES

- 3.1 There has been no request from licence holders that the fares be reviewed, but given the significant period which has now elapsed since the last review it is thought prudent that the issue is considered.
- 3.2 It may be that licence holders have not requested a review of the fares because in reality they often agree fares in advance which are less than those shown on the meter. It is also recommended that should Committee wish to review the fees that the Council consult Hackney Carriage licence holders before proceeding to do so.

4. RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications

- Resources – Resources will be expended in consulting upon and advertising the proposed change.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – No implications identified.
- Political – No implications identified.
- Reputation – The Council's reputation will be enhanced through consideration of this matter.
- Equality & Diversity –No implications identified

5. **RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

- 5.1 Consider whether Hackney Carriage Fares should be reviewed;
- 5.2 Authorise the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to consult licence holders and other relevant persons upon the proposal to review fares if necessary.

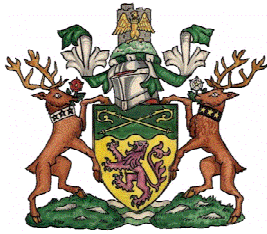
MAIR HILL
SOLICITOR

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

For further information please ask for Mair Hill, extension 3216
REF: MJH/Licensing Committee/13 June 2017



RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

BOROUGH OF RIBBLE VALLEY HACKNEY CARRIAGE TABLE OF FARES (AS FROM 2009)

For a journey of up to 1 mile £3.30

For a journey exceeding 1 mile:
for the first mile £3.30

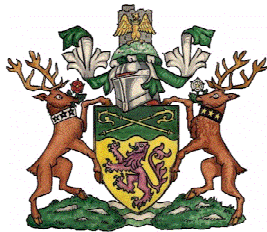
PLUS for each 1/5th mile or part of £0.40

Waiting Time

For each period of one minute or uncompleted part thereof £0.35

Extra Charges

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| (a) For hiring begun between 12 midnight and 6am | the standard rate or fare plus 50% | } £4.95 up to 1 mile + 60p
for each 1/5 mile |
| (b) For hiring begun between 7pm and 12 midnight on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve | the standard rate or fare plus 50% | |
| (c) For hiring begun between 12 midnight on Christmas Eve until 6am on 27 December and 12 midnight on New Year's Eve until 6am on 2 January | the standard rate or fare plus 100% | £6.60 up to 1 mile + 80p
for each 1/5 mile |
| (d) Valeting for fouling in a vehicle | | £25.00 |



RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

BOROUGH OF RIBBLE VALLEY HACKNEY CARRIAGE TABLE OF FARES (AS FROM 1 DEC 2006)

For a journey of up to 1 mile £3.30

For a journey exceeding 1 mile:
for the first mile £3.30

PLUS for each 1/5th mile or part of £0.40

Waiting Time

For each period of one minute or uncompleted part thereof £0.35

Extra Charges

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| (a) For hiring begun between 12 midnight and 6am | the standard rate or fare plus 50% | } £4.95 up to 1 mile + 60p
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