

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

meeting date: 18 SEPTEMBER 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the period specified in the notice referred to in subsection (2) of this section, or if all objections so made are withdrawn, the table of fares or variation shall come into operation on the date of the expiration of the period specified in the notice or the date of withdrawal of the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(4) If objection is duly made as aforesaid and is not withdrawn, the district council shall set a further date, not later than two months after the first specified date, on which the table of fares, shall come into force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. Committee considered this matter on 13 June 2017 and resolved to authorise the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to consult licence holders and other relevant persons upon the proposal to review fares.

2.3 On 21 June 2017 the Council wrote to all Hackney Carriage Licence holders and consulted them upon the proposal to review the fares. A copy of the consultation letter is enclosed as **Appendix 1** to this report. The Council has not received any response to this letter.

3 ISSUES

3.1 As Committee have been informed previously here has been no request from licence holders that the fares be reviewed and in light of there being no response either to the

consultation it is proposed that the Hackney Carriage Fares should remain as those set on 10 August 2006 but that they should be reviewed every 3 years going forward.

4. RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications

- Resources – No implications identified
- 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 Resolve that the Hackney Carriage Fares remain as those set on 10 August 2006

5.2 Resolve to consider whether to review Hackney Carriage Fares every 3 years.

MAIR HILL
SOLICITOR

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

For further information please ask for Mair Hill, extension 3216
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