

**Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976  
Proposed Increase in the Taxi Tariff**

**Report by the Director of Customer Services**

**1.0 Summary**

1.1 Members are requested to consider an application received from an Adur Taxi proprietor for an increase in the Hackney Carriage Tariff.

**2.0 Background**

2.1 Adur District Council has powers under Section 65, of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 to set a tariff for Hackney Carriages, (Taxis).

2.2 The last such increase was authorised in September 2008. A copy of the current Adur Taxi tariff structure is attached marked **Appendix A**

2.3 Members of the Adur Taxi Trade hold local trade meetings at least once a year. Officers from the Adur & Worthing Licensing Unit are usually invited to attend.

2.4 At such a meeting it was agreed by the trade to seek a tariff increase and the request was put before the licensing committee on the 15 March 2011. The proposal was considered but refused by members.

2.5 The matter was further discussed by the trade at their meeting on the 5 October 2011. A proposed tariff increase proved controversial so a secret ballot was carried out and resulted in a majority vote to keep the current tariff unchanged

2.6 Since that time and until November 2013 no further proposal for a tariff increase gained popular support

**3.0 Proposal**

3.1 At the Adur Taxi Trade meeting in 27 November 2013 the matter of a tariff increase was revisited by members of the trade. At the meeting a majority voted to seek an increase and Mr Stephen Fleming, an Adur Taxi Driver and Proprietor, was nominated to put a proposal to the council.

3.2 Mr Fleming has presented a proposal letter of 3 March 2014 to the Adur & Worthing Councils' Licensing Unit for an increase to the current hackney carriage tariff.  
**Appendix B**

3.3 The proposed tariff has been checked and officers can confirm that the tariff is mathematically consistent and can be programmed into taximeters.

#### **4.0 Legal**

4.1 The Council has powers under Section 65, Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 (“the Act”) to set a tariff for Hackney Carriages, (Taxis). It is important that the tariff set is consistent and unambiguous.

4.2 The suggested tariff must be advertised in a local paper giving the proposed variation in fares, a copy of the notice must be lodged at the Council offices, available for inspection by the public “at all reasonable hours”, and at least 14 days must be allowed after such publication for any objections.

4.3 If there are no objections, or any objections made are withdrawn, the new tariff may come into effect on a date which is not less than 14 days after the date of publication, or the date of withdrawal of the last objection, whichever is later.

4.4 If there are objections, the Council must consider them unless previously withdrawn. The new tariff, if imposed by members after such consideration, will then come into effect on a date set by the Committee, which is not more than two months after the first specified day.

#### **5.0 Financial implications**

5.1 There are no direct financial implications for the Council.

5.2 Members should bear in mind that the vast majority of taxi drivers are small sole trader businesses, whose income is indirectly regulated by the Council.

5.3 The tariff set is a maximum tariff, and drivers are not obliged to charge the full amount shown on the meter, in every case.

#### **6.0 Recommendation**

6.1 Members are requested to determine the request from the Adur licensed proprietor and driver for a new Tariff Scheme.

**Jane Eckford**  
**Director of Customer Services**

#### **Principal Author & Contact Officer:**

Teresa Bowley

Licensing Officer

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#### **Local Government Act 1972**

**Background Papers:**

Appendix A – Current Taxi Tariff

Appendix B – Proposed Tariff

Appendix C - Letter to Carson Albury dated March 2014

## **Schedule of other matters**

### **1.0 Council Priority**

1.1 Taxi licensing is directly related to public safety issues.

### **2.0 Specific Action Plans**

2.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

### **3.0 Sustainability Issues**

3.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

### **4.0 Equality Issues**

4.1 Dealt with in the body of the report.

### **5.0 Community Safety Issues (Section 17)**

5.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

### **6.0 Human Rights Issues**

6.1 Applicants have the right to expect applications to be properly and fairly considered.

### **7.0 Reputation**

7.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

### **8.0 Consultations**

8.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

### **9.0 Risk Assessment**

9.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

### **10.0 Health & Safety Issues**

10.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

### **11.0 Procurement Strategy**

11.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

### **12.0 Partnership Working**

12.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

The table of fares made by the Council under Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, provides that the proprietor or driver of a Hackney Carriage shall be entitled to demand for the hire of the carriage the rate or fare prescribed by the following table. The fare payable shall be by way of a combination of time and distance automatically calculated and displayed by the taximeter fitted to the carriage. The taximeter must be switched on at the start of each journey.

<b><u>Tariff (1)</u></b>	<b>Mileage</b>
	For the first 549 meters (600 yards) or 2 minutes 44 seconds or Uncompleted part thereof.....£2.80p
	For each subsequent 146 meters (160 yards) or 44 seconds or Uncompleted part thereof.....20p

**Authorised Surcharges**

<b><u>Tariff (2)</u></b>	For hirings begun between 2200Hrs and 0600Hrs on any day, all day Sunday and Bank Holidays including Good Friday (except where Tariff 3 applies)....., + £1.00 p
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<b><u>Tariff (3)</u></b>	For hirings begun between 2200Hrs on 24 <sup>th</sup> December to 0600Hrs on 27 <sup>th</sup> December ..... + 100% Extra of Tariff 1
	For hirings begun between 2200Hrs on 31 <sup>st</sup> December to 1000Hrs on 1 <sup>st</sup> January..... + 100% Extra of Tariff 1

**Extra Charges**

More than four passengers carried in vehicles.....	Relevant Tariff
licensed to carry 5-8 passengers	+ 50% of Tariff 1

**SOILING OR FOULING CHARGE.....£60.00**

Where a Hackney Carriage is hired and the taximeter is used to automatically calculate the fare payable for the hiring, the proprietor or driver shall not be entitled to demand or take a fare greater than that recorded on the face of the taximeter.

Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> Day of September 2008

Any complaints regarding the taxi or taxi driver should be reported to:-

The Licensing Officer  
Adur District Council  
Unit 9 Commerce Way  
Lancing  
West Sussex  
BN15 8TA  
Telephone 01273-263144

(Noting the Licence Number of taxi and driver)  
ADUR DISTRICT COUNCIL  
HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES





Carson Aubrey  
Chairman  
Licensing Committee  
Adur District Council  
Shoreham by Sea  
BN43 6PR

By Hand

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014

Dear Mr. Carson Aubrey,

**Adur Hackney Tariff Review- Proposal February 2014**

1. On 27<sup>th</sup> November 2013 there was a Taxi Trade meeting of which Hackney Carriage drivers had been notified. It was decided by a majority vote that an application for an increase should be made.
2. There has been no tariff increase since September 2008, nearly 6 years.
3. The proposed increase would mean:
  - a. A current fare of £3.80p would be £4.60p
  - b. A current fare of £5.00p would be £5.80p
  - c. A current fare of £10.00p would be £11.00p
  - d. It is perhaps worth noting, customers are already charged £1.00p extra for a £10.00p fare on Sundays. This goes unremarked.
4. The above examples can be seen on the comparison chart marked 'A'  
The alterations proposed for Tariff 1 are shown on the attachment marked 'B'  
These increases are in line with the general inflation figures provided by the Licensing Office.
5. It is common knowledge that fuel and motoring costs over the past few years have been greater than general inflation. Bus and train fares have gone up several times.
6. This application, supported by a process, is intended to cover the unavoidable increase in our business costs, and in the circumstances, is reasonable.

If you or any of your members of the committee have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

  
S.V. Fleming

Chairman Taxi Trade Meetings.

L.O. COPY



CURRENT TARIFF 1

600	760	920	1080	1240	1400	1560	1720	1880	2040	2200	2360	2520	2680	2840	3000	3160	3320	3480	3640	3800	3960
£ 2.80	£ 3.00	£ 3.20	£ 3.40	£ 3.60	£ 3.80	£ 4.00	£ 4.20	£ 4.40	£ 4.60	£ 4.80	£ 5.00	£ 5.20	£ 5.40	£ 5.60	£ 5.80	£ 6.00	£ 6.20	£ 6.40	£ 6.60	£ 6.80	£ 7.00

4120	4280	4400	4560	4720	4880	5040	5200	5360	5520	5680	5840	6000	6160	6320	6480	6640	6800	6960	7120	7280
£ 7.20	£ 7.40	£ 7.60	£ 7.80	£ 8.00	£ 8.20	£ 8.40	£ 8.60	£ 8.80	£ 9.00	£ 9.20	£ 9.40	£ 9.60	£ 9.80	£ 10.00	£ 10.20	£ 10.40	£ 10.60	£ 10.80	£ 11.00	£ 11.20

PROPOSED TARIFF 1



YARDS

200	350	500	650	800	950	1100	1250	1400	1550	1700	1850	2000	2150	2300	2450	2600	2750	2900	3050	3200	3350	3500
£ 3.00	£ 3.20	£ 3.40	£ 3.60	£ 3.80	£ 4.00	£ 4.20	£ 4.40	£ 4.60	£ 4.80	£ 5.00	£ 5.20	£ 5.40	£ 5.60	£ 5.80	£ 6.00	£ 6.20	£ 6.40	£ 6.60	£ 6.80	£ 7.00	£ 7.20	£ 7.40

3650	3800	3950	4100	4250	4400	4550	4700	4850	5000	5150	5300	5450	5600	5750	5900	6050	6200	6350	6500	6650	6800	6950
£ 7.60	£ 7.80	£ 8.00	£ 8.20	£ 8.40	£ 8.60	£ 8.80	£ 9.00	£ 9.20	£ 9.40	£ 9.60	£ 9.80	£ 10.00	£ 10.20	£ 10.40	£ 10.60	£ 10.80	£ 11.00	£ 11.20	£ 11.40	£ 11.60	£ 11.80	£ 12.00

**Attachment B**

**Adur Hackney Tariff Proposal February 2014**

Tariff 1 £2.80p to read £3.00p

600 yards to read 200 yards

160 yards to read 150 yards

Minutes and seconds to be adjusted to give £20 per hour waiting time