



Communities Directorate

Friday 5 September 2014

Licensing and Control Committee 'A'

Date: 16 September 2014

Time: 6.30pm

Venue: Gordon Room, Town Hall, Worthing

Committee Membership: Councillors: Paul High (Chair), Mark Nolan (Vice-Chair), Roy Barraclough, Keith Bickers, Callum Buxton, Diane Guest, Paul Howard, Kevin Jenkins, Sean McDonald, Dr Heather Mercer, Louise Murphy, Luke Proudfoot, Norah Fisher, James Doyle, Susan Jelliss

Agenda

Part A

1. Declarations of Interest / Substitute Members

Members and Officers are invited to make any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests that they may have in relation to any items on this Agenda. The declaration should refer both to the nature of the interest as well as its existence.

Members and Officers may seek advice upon any relevant interest from a Legal or Democratic Services Officer prior to the meeting.

Any substitute members should declare their substitution if appropriate.

2. Confirmation of Minutes

To approve the minutes of the meeting of Licensing and Control Committee 'A' that took place on 28 July 2014

3. **Public Question Time**

To receive any questions from Members of the public in accordance with Standing Order 3.12.

(**Note:** Public Question Time will last for a maximum of 15 minutes)

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

To consider a report by the Director for Customer Services, copy attached as item 4

Part B - Not for Publication – Exempt Information Reports

For Democratic Services enquiries relating to this meeting please contact:

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

Report by the Director for Customer Services

1.0 Summary

1.1 Members are requested to consider an application received from Worthing Voluntary Taxi Association for an increase in the Hackney Carriage Tariff.

2.0 Background

2.1 Worthing Borough 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 1 June 2010. A copy of the current Worthing Taxi tariff structure is attached marked **Appendix A**

2.3 There are 82 Hackney Carriage Licensed drivers 64 are members of the Voluntary Taxi Association.

2.4 All 64 members and 17 non-members voted in favour of the tariff proposal.

3.0 Proposal

3.0 Worthing Voluntary Taxi Association has presented a proposal letter dated 14 July 2014 to the Adur & Worthing Councils' Licensing Unit for an increase to the current Worthing hackney carriage tariff. **Appendix B**

3.1 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 If members are of a mind to provisionally approve the increase 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 Worthing Voluntary Taxi association for a new Tariff Scheme.

Jane Eckford
Director for Customer Services

Contact Officer:
Teresa Bowley
Licensing Officer
Commerce Way
Lancing
BN15 8TA
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Email: teresa.bowley@adur-worthing.gov.uk

Local Government Act 1972

Background Papers:
Appendix A – Current Taxi Tariff
Appendix B – Proposed Tariff

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

Worthing Borough Council
Hackney Carriage Fares

Appendix A

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.

Tariff 1. Daytime, (0600 – 2300):

To apply at all times except when Tariff 2, 3 or Tariff 4 applies.
For the first 5/9 mile or 250 seconds, or part of £3.00
For each subsequent 1/9 mile, or 50 seconds, or part of £0.20
(For 5 passengers or more, Tariff 2 applies, with no extras)

Tariff 2. Night Time, (2300 – 0600),

Between 0600 on 1st January and 0600 on 2nd January
And other Public Holidays except when Tariff Three applies:
For the first 8/11 mile, or 360 seconds, or part of £4.00
For each subsequent 1/11 mile, or 45 seconds, or part of £0.25

Tariff 3. Christmas and New Year:

Between 2000 hr on 24th December and 0600 on 27th December and
Between 2000 hr on 31st December and 0600 on 1st January:
For the first 10/12 mile or 450 seconds, or part thereof £6.00
For each subsequent 1/12 mile or 45 seconds or part of £0.30

Tariff 4. Special Night time rate (2300 – 0600), when starting with five or more passengers

No passenger extras may be charged.
For the first 8/11 mile, or 360 seconds, or part of £6.00
For each subsequent 1/11 mile or 45 seconds or part £0.25

Extras.

For each passenger in excess of one £0.20
No passenger extras shall apply when a higher rate tariff is in effect because of the number passengers being carried.
For each article of luggage carried in the luggage area £0.10
Total of extras shall not exceed £0.80.

SOILING OR FOULING CHARGE must not exceed £150

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 1st June 2010

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

The Licensing Officer

Unit 9

Commerce Way

Lancing

West Sussex

BN15 8TA

Telephone 01273-263144 (Noting the Licence Number of taxi and driver)

Appendix B

WORTHING VOLUNTARY TAXI ASSOCIATION
1 CANADA CLOSE BN13 2FJ
TEL: 07738947521

24th JULY 2014

Ref: 2014 proposed Fare increase

For the attention of Worthing licensing officers & licensing Committee.

Please consider the following as our fare increase for 2014.

Tariff 1: 06.00hrs to 23.00hrs

To apply at all times except when Tariff 2 or 3 or Tariff 4 applies.

First 880 yards or 350 seconds	£3.00
For each subsequent 176 yards or 50 seconds	£0.20p

Tariff 2: Night Time Rate/Bank Holidays/Public Holiday Rates.

First 1232 yards or 250 seconds	£4.20p
For each subsequent 176 yards or 50 seconds	£0.30p

(For 5 Passengers & above 06.00hrs to 23.00hrs)

Tariff 3: From 20.00hrs on 24th Dec to 06.00hrs on 27th Dec &
From 20.00hrs on the 31st Dec to 06.00hrs on 1st Jan.

First 880 yards or 250 seconds	£6.00p
For each subsequent 176 yards or 50 seconds	£0.40p

Tariff 4: 5 to 8 passengers From 23.00hrs to 06.00hrs.

First 1232 yards or 350 seconds	£6.20p
For each subsequent 176 yards or 50 seconds	£0.30p

Maximum extras to be charged	£1.00p
For each passenger in excess of one	£0.20p
For each article carried in the luggage area	£0.10p

Appendix B

Page 2 continued

No extras to be charged on Tariff 2 / 3 / or tariff 4 unless authorised by Worthing borough council.

Maximum soiling Charge £75.00p

Waiting time:

Tariff 1 : £14.40 (No Change)

Tariff 2 : £23.20

Tariff 3 : £32.00

Tariff 4 : £23.20

Please note our Drivers have declined a fare increase for the last 4 years due to the economic climate but now our driver feel it's the right time to apply for an increase as we used to be 9th in the uks hackney carriage fare table, We are now currently 186th.

I will leave my report until the increase goes in front of the licencing committee.

Regards

Tom Carman (officer) 