

Report for: ACTION
Item Number:



<b>Contains Confidential or Exempt Information</b>	<b>NO PART 1</b>
<b>Title</b>	Objection to Proposed Increase to Hackney Carriage Fares
<b>Responsible Officer(s)</b>	Craig Miller Community Protection and Enforcement Lead
<b>Contact officer, job title and phone number</b>	Steve Johnson – Enforcement Principal 01628 683555
<b>Member reporting</b>	Cllr Asghar Majeed
<b>For Consideration By</b>	Licensing Panel
<b>Date to be Considered</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> July 2014
<b>Implementation Date if Not Called In</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> August 2014
<b>Affected Wards</b>	All
<b>Keywords/Index</b>	Hackney Carriage, Fares

**Report Summary**

1. At the last Licensing Panel in April 2014 Members resolved to increase RBWM Hackney Carriage fares by 3% with a 20p increase per additional passenger for fares of more than 2 passengers
2. Statute requires such a resolution to be the subject of a notice to be published in at least one of the local papers specifying a period of 14 days from the date of the first publication for any objections to be raised.
3. A representative of the Hackney Carriage trade, Mr Mohammed Yasin, has submitted a formal objection to the proposed new tariff and has made alternative proposals.
4. Members are requested to consider these proposed amendments.

<b>If recommendations are adopted, how will residents benefit?</b>	
Benefits to residents and reasons why they will benefit	Dates by which residents can expect to notice a difference
Residents can be assured in a continuing high standard of vehicles which will be used for the taxi service in the	18 <sup>th</sup> August 2014

Royal Borough. If drivers' incomes drop there may well be a drop in the standard of vehicle as drivers will not be able to change vehicles so frequently and to keep maintenance standards.	
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## 1. Details of Recommendations

### RECOMMENDATION:

**That Members consider the proposed amendments to the new tariff in accordance with the request from the Trade.**

## 2. Reason for Recommendation(s) and Options Considered

- 2.1 At the previous Panel on 15<sup>th</sup> April Members resolved to increase RBWM Hackney Carriage fares by 3% with a 20p increase per additional passenger for fares of more than 2 passengers
- 2.2 This proposed increase had been requested by the drivers and Members had chosen one of three possible tariffs suggested by the provider of taxi meters in the area.
- 2.3 Statute requires such a resolution to be the subject of a notice to be published in at least one of the local papers specifying a period of 14 days from the date of the first publication for any objections to be raised.
- 2.4 In response to this statutory consultation, Mr Mohammed Yasin, a representative of the Hackney Carriage trade, has submitted an objection on the basis that some of the calculations in the three tariffs put before Members at the April Panel contained errors.
- 2.5 He feels that the distances and waiting times covered by the chosen 20p rate need to be lowered in order to achieve the desired 3% increase. Copies of an email from Mr Yasin containing his own proposed amendments are attached in the Appendix to this report – and Mr Yasin will attend the Panel in person to give a verbal explanation.
- 2.6 Whatever Members decide, they are respectfully requested to approve the changes to take effect on 18<sup>th</sup> August to give sufficient time to change all of the taxi meters and fare charts for the vehicles.

Option	Comments
1. Leave the fares as per the resolution of the April Licensing Panel.	Cost to residents and visitors would not increase but the drivers' view is that this would give them less net income with which to maintain vehicles and could result in a poorer service to residents.
2. To increase RBWM Hackney Carriage fares as per Mr Yasin's proposal.	If members agree with Mr Yasin then this will ensure that drivers have sufficient funds to maintain their vehicles but would increase costs

for residents and visitors to the area.
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### 3. Key Implications

What does success look like, how is it measured, what are the stretch targets

Defined Outcomes	Unmet	Met	Exceeded	Significantly Exceeded	Date they should be delivered by
Date of Increase in Hackney Carriage fare tariffs	New rates not coming into force until after 18 <sup>th</sup> August 2014	New rates effective from 18 <sup>th</sup> August 2014	New rates effective before 18 <sup>th</sup> August 2014	N/A	18 <sup>st</sup> August 2014

### 4. Financial Details

None

### 5. Legal Implications

The power to fix the rates or fares is set out in Section 65 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

The statutory consultation has now taken place and as a result, Members are being asked to deal with a formal objection to the proposal.

### 6. Value for Money

Not relevant at this stage.

### 7. Sustainability Impact Appraisal

None

### 8. Risk Management

Identify any potential risks associated with the options and the proposed course of action. If none, say so.

Risks	Uncontrolled Risk	Controls	Controlled Risk
Objections received to publication of notice to increase fares	LOW	Request will be referred back to the next panel meeting for members to decide.	LOW

### 9. Links to Strategic Objectives

This links to work for safer and stronger communities. Increasing fares means that the travelling public will be safe and secure due to the fact that the vehicles will be able to be maintained to current standards.

## **Our Strategic Objectives are:**

### **Residents First**

- Support Children and Young People
- Encourage Healthy People and Lifestyles
- Improve the Environment, Economy and Transport
- Work for safer and stronger communities

### **Value for Money**

- Deliver Economic Services
- Improve the use of technology
- Increase non-Council Tax Revenue
- Invest in the future

### **Delivering Together**

- Enhanced Customer Services
- Deliver Effective Services
- Strengthen Partnerships

### **Equipping Ourselves for the Future**

- Equipping Our Workforce
- Developing Our systems and Structures
- Changing Our Culture

## **10. Equalities, Human Rights and Community Cohesion**

A full EQIA is not anticipated at this stage.

## **11. Staffing/Workforce and Accommodation implications:**

None

## **12. Property and Assets**

None

## **13. Any other implications:**

None

## **14. Consultation**

Should an increase be proposed then any person will be able to make their views known during the notice period.

The draft conditions will be on the Councils website and all drivers and operators will be written to direct.

## **15. Timetable for Implementation**

If members are minded to increase the fares then the increase could be implemented with effect from June 2014 if no objections are received.

## **16. Appendices**

Appendix A – email from Mr Yasin with note of explanation and amended notice

**17. Background Information**

Sections 65 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

**18. Consultation (Mandatory)**

<b>Name of Consultee</b>	<b>Post held and Department</b>	<b>Date sent</b>	<b>Date received</b>	<b>See comments in paragraph:</b>
<b>Internal</b>				
Cllr Burbage	Leader of the Council	21/08/2014	23/07/2014	
Cllr Cox	Lead Member	18/07/2014	18/07/2014	
Cllr Majeed	Licensing Panel Chairman	18/07/2014	19/07/2014	
Cathryn James	Strategic Director of Operations	18/07/2014		
Roxana Khakinia	Shared Legal Services	18/07/2014	23/07/2014	

**Report History**

<b>Decision type:</b>	<b>Urgency item?</b>
Non-key decision	No

<b>Full name of report author</b>	<b>Job title</b>	<b>Full contact no:</b>
Steve Johnson	Enforcement Principal	01628 683555

## Alan Barwise

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**From:** Alan Barwise  
**Sent:** 27 June 2014 12:12  
**To:** Alan Barwise  
**Subject:** FW: FW: rate change  
**Attachments:** Windsor and MaidenheadMay14.doc

**From:** Yasin [<mailto:yasinf@aol.com>]  
**Sent:** 15 May 2014 14:38  
**To:** Michael Johnson; Alan Barwise  
**Subject:** Re: FW: rate change

Hi Alan,

Based on the price breakdown we just got emailed, you can see were worse of then before. At no point did i approve the chart Tony sent. It seems he had his own agenda and made a chart on his on behalf with out ever enquiring with me or the council. Therefore I would like to make a **formal objection on the behalf of the hackney carriage drivers**, and therefore could you please refer this matter to the panel again in order to have the correct prices issued/approved. And therefore cancel the price change that is due to come into effect on the 19th. Clearly the prices need to be adjusted to take account the 3% rise approved. The chart that was presented in the last meeting was wrong. As clearly were now worse of as highlighted in yellow in the document of the price comparison.

Regards

M.Yasin

Windsor and Maidenhead  
Existing rates v new rates

Rate	Flag	distance	drop	distance	
1	2.73	1070	21	220	existing
1	2.80	1066	20	210	new

Fare shown on meter											
Half mile	1 mile	2 mile	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
2.73	3.57	5.25	6.93	8.61	10.29	11.97	13.65	15.12	16.80	18.48	20.16
2.80	3.60	5.20	7.00	8.60	10.20	12.00	13.60	15.40	17.00	18.60	20.40

Rate	Flag	distance	drop	distance	
2	4.09	1070	31	220	existing
2	4.20	1066	30	210	new

Fare shown on meter											
Half mile,	1 mile	2 mile	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
4.09	5.33	7.81	10.29	12.77	15.25	17.73	19.90	22.07	24.55	27.03	29.51
4.20	5.40	7.80	10.50	12.90	15.30	18.00	20.40	23.10	25.50	27.90	30.60

**Explanation**

The distance and penny reduction means that for every drop the old fare is 1p more but the distance reduction on the new fare means that on some miles the shorter distance has more 20p drops than the existing fare so the longer the distance the more 20p drops happen so the difference between new and old increases

This shows more on rate 2 as the existing fare of 31p is not 50% which should be 31.5p, which cannot be shown on any meter as half pennies are no longer legal tender The new rate 2 is 50% more than rate 1 so on every drop the half penny is in effect gained back increasing the difference

The aim of the change is to get rid of pennies so drivers no longer need to carry 1p, 2p, or 5p pieces.

**THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF WINDSOR & MAIDENHEAD**

**HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES INCREASE**

**SECTION 65 LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**(MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976 \* corrected**

On 15th April 2014, the Royal Borough's Licensing Panel decided to increase the fares for Hackney Carriages as set out in the schedule below.

If you wish to object to the increase, please send your objection in writing to the Licensing Team at the address shown below by 15<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

If no objections are received then the proposed increases will take effect from 19<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

**SCHEDULE**

<b>DISTANCE</b>	<b>CURRENT</b>	<b>PROPOSED**</b>
If the distance does not exceed <b>1066</b> yards (975m), or for the first 190 seconds, for the whole distance	£2.73 (1070 yards)	<b>£2.80</b>
For each subsequent <b>200</b> yards (183m) or uncompleted part thereof	21 pence (per 220 yards)	<b>20 pence</b>
Waiting Time For each period of <b>44 seconds</b> or uncompleted part thereof provided that where a hiring by distance terminates at the place at which it commenced, the rate of fare for which the proprietor or driver shall be entitled to demand and take for the hiring shall be three quarters of the rate or fare prescribed by the foregoing table.	21 pence (for 48 seconds)	<b>20 pence</b>
<b>Extra Charges</b> <b>Booking Fee</b> For each hiring under Section 67 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976	£1.00	£1.00
<b>Luggage</b> For each package carried outside the vehicle	21 pence	20 pence
<b>Extra Passengers for Each Person Carried Above the Number of Two for the Whole or Part of the Distance</b>	21 pence	20 pence
<b>11 p.m. to 6 a.m. and Bank Holidays</b> For any hiring when part of the hirer's journey takes place between the above hours or during Bank Holidays		50% above the normal rate or fare
<b>Soiling of Vehicle</b> Passengers who soil the inside of a vehicle Passengers who soil the outside of a vehicle	£80.00 £20.00	£80.00 £20.00

Craig Miller Interim, Head of Public Protection, Town Hall, St Ives Road, Maidenhead SL6 1RF

Ref: AGB/15/5/1

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2014