

**TO CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF AN EARLY
INCREASE IN HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES 2008/2009
LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS
PROVISIONS) ACT 1976**

**REPORT For: Head of Environmental Health and
Trading Standards**

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

1. To consider an early review for Hackney Carriage Fares in Herefordshire.

Legislation

2. Section 65(1) The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 allows the local authority to fix the rates/fares within the Authority for time, distance and all other charges in connection with the fare of a vehicle or with the arrangements for the hire of a vehicle, by means of a table of fares.
3. Section 65(2)(a) dictates a minimum of 14 day period of advertisement, if no objections are received fares increase can take effect from the specified date, if objections are made or if objections are not withdrawn the Local Authority shall set a further date not later than two months after the date specified for the increase in fares to take effect following consideration of the objections at Regulatory Committee.

Background

4. The current taxi fares were reviewed at Regulatory Committee on 23rd October 2007 and increased in November 2008 (appendix 1). This process is carried out on an annual basis.
5. A table showing % increase on the starting fare can be seen at (appendix 2)
6. John Jones (Trade Member) has requested consideration be given to an early fares increase due to the rises in fuel costs (appendix 3).
7. It is proposed that the early fares increase should take effect from 8 September 2008, following 14 days of advertisement and remain in force until a scheduled review in October/November 2009.

Considerations

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
Paul Nicholas Acting Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards 01432 261989.

8. In the year to June, the price of fuel increased by 31.9%, according to Government statistics taken from statistics.gov.uk.
9. Pre-consultation has not been carried out owing to the urgent nature of this matter. Therefore, the Licensing Unit has produced the table of % increases on the starting fare as an indicator of increases.

Risk Management

10. If the fares are not increased this could affect the number of taxis available for the public to use. With increasing costs to the taxi trade and a finite number of customers they will need to make their businesses viable in order to continue providing the service. Therefore if the fees are not set at an appropriate level the Herefordshire ambition to provide an integrated transport system for Herefordshire may not be achieved.
11. There are no nighttime buses and with the constant reduction of the daytime bus service within Herefordshire the only means of transport for some is by taxi.
12. Vehicle proprietors can decide not to alter their meters if they feel the increase would adversely affect their business.
14. An advert will be placed for 14 days in the Hereford Times and all vehicle proprietors will be sent notification of the Regulatory Committee's decision.

Options

- **To agree in principal to the % fare increase (appendix 2), providing there are no public objections during the consultation period ending 4 September 2008; delegating the implementation of the fare increase on 8 September 2008 to the Acting Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards. If any objections are received the matter should be brought back to the Regulatory Committee.**
- **To agree in principal to Mr Jones' proposal for fare increase (appendix 3), providing there are no public objections during the consultation period ending 4 September 2008; delegating the implementation of the fare increase on 8 September 2008 to the Acting Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards. If any objections are received the matter should be brought back to the Regulatory Committee.**
- **To reject the proposed fares and keep them at the present level.**
- **To set an alternative fare increase.**

Documents:

Appendix 1 Current taxi fares

Appendix 2 Provides for examples of the fare increases in terms of % increase on starting fare.

Appendix 3 Mr Jones' proposal for fare increase.

Appendix 1

COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES

2007/2008

TARIFF ONE	INCLUSIVE OF VAT
For each journey not exceeding 965 metres	£2.40
For each subsequent 90 metres or part thereof	£0.10
WAITING TIME FOR EACH PERIOD OF 28 SECONDS OR PART THEREOF	£0.10
TARIFF TWO	150% OF
For hirings begun between 11.00pm and 8.00am and public Holidays other than Christmas and New Year	Tariff One
TARIFF THREE	200% of
For hirings begun between 11.00pm on 24 th December to 8.00am On 27 th December and 11.00pm on 31 st December to 8.00am On 2 nd January	Tariff One
Extra Charges	
For each package other than hand luggage	£0.20
For each bicycle or perambulator	£0.20
For each person in excess of two	£0.50
For cleaning a vehicle where it has been fouled by passengers	£50.00



MR M HAINGE
DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT

**IT IS AN OFFENCE TO CHARGE MORE THAN THE AMOUNT
SHOWN ON THE METER EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY
ALLOWED BY THE ABOVE TABLE OF FARES**

Appendix 2

Starting fare	% increase	New fare
£2.40	5%	£2.50
£2.40	10%	£2.60
£2.40	15%	£2.80
£2.40	20%	£2.90
£2.40	25%	£3.00
£2.40	30%	£3.10
£2.40	35%	£3.20

Appendix 3

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
Paul Nicholas Acting Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards 01432 261989.

Mr Jones – “I’ve copied the proposed tariff increase and the working out.”

ExistingTariff. For each journey not exceeding 965 metres	£2.40
For each subsequent 90 metres or part thereof	£0.10
Waiting time for each period of 28 seconds or part thereof	£0.10

|1 mile =1609.344 metres (1760yds)
 1609.344mtr divided by 90 = 17.8816 times by £1.79
 0.10P

Current running mile	£1.79
increase of	£0.18
10%	
proposed running mile	<u>£1.97</u>

Waiting time 28secs	£0.10
increase of	
10% of 25secs	£0.10

1st flag (drop) = 965mtrs =	£2.40
increase of	
10%	£0.24
new flag	<u>£2.64</u>
would be	

make flag £2.6 then deduct .04 of .10P drop from flag
 making flag 930 mtrs

Continued...

start			start		
METRES	by 90	EXISTING	METRES	by 81.5	PROPOSED
965		£2.40	930		£2.60
1055		£2.50	1011.5		£2.70
1145		£2.60	1093		£2.80
1235		£2.70	1174.5		£2.90
1325		£2.80	1256		£3.00
1415		£2.90	1337.5		£3.10
1505		£3.00	1419		£3.20
1595		£3.10	1500.5		£3.30
1685		£3.20	1582		£3.40
1775		£3.30	1663.5		£3.50
1865		£3.40	1745		£3.60
1955		£3.50	1826.5		£3.70
2045		£3.60	1908		£3.80
2135		£3.70	1989.5		£3.90
2225		£3.80	2071		£4.00
2315		£3.90	2152.5		£4.10
2405		£4.00	2234		£4.20
2495		£4.10	2315.5		£4.30
2585		£4.20	2397		£4.40
2675		£4.30	2478.5		£4.50
2765		£4.40	2560		£4.60
2855		£4.50	2641.5		£4.70
2945		£4.60	2723		£4.80
3035		£4.70	2804.5		£4.90
3125		£4.80	2886		£5.00
3215		£4.90	2967.5		£5.10
3305		£5.00	3049		£5.20
3395		£5.10	3130.5		£5.30
3485		£5.20	3212		£5.40
3575		£5.30	3293.5		£5.50