

6 TO CONSIDER THE AMENDED ADOPTION OF INCREASE IN HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES 2005/2006 THE TOWN POLICE CLAUSES ACT 1847 AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976

REPORT BY: Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

1. To consider the proposed amended price review for Hackney Carriage Fares in Herefordshire.

Legislation

2. The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 allows the local authority to fix the rates/fares within the Authority as well for time as distance and all other charges in connection with the fare of a vehicle or with the arrangements for the hire of a vehicle, means of a table of fares.
3. If objections are made or if objections are not withdrawn the Local Authority shall set a further date not later than two months after the date specified for the increase in fares to take affect.

Background

4. The taxi fare increase was agreed in principle by the Committee on 25th October 2005, as long as no objections were received. The wrong Tariff increase was advertised in the Newspaper and an objection has been received from Mr J Clyde (chairman of the Steering Group), (Appendix 1). The advertisement had been put in using the first proposal that the Steering Group had put forward instead of the correct second version.
6. It is proposed the amended fare increase should take affect from 12 December 2005 if agreed by the Committee.

Considerations

7. The amended table of fares is shown in Appendix 2. The amendment from the last committee report only involves the metres which were reported as 1130 but should have been 1100.
8. The period over which the price indices are measured is July 2004 to July 2005. The changes are as follows

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
Suzanne Laughland Licensing Manager 01432361675.

- The RPIX 2005 increase from July 2004 is 2.3% (excluding mortgages).
- Increase in fuel prices in excess of 11%.

9. As shown in the comparison table of charges (Appendix 3) changes have been made to the initial distance travelled and the initial starting fare for the journey within the Hackney Carriage. Also changes have been made to the ongoing travelling distances.

Consultees

14. With Herefordshire Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Association.
15. Members of the General Public were consulted through a public notice placed in the Hereford Times on 20 October 2005. The closing date for consultation was Thursday 3 November 2005. Also a public notice was displayed at the taxi office. No objections have been received from members of the public or Trade other than that of the Chairman's letter (Appendix 1).

Options

- To agree the amended fare increase.
- To reject the proposed fares and keep them at the present level.
- To set an alternative fare increase.

Documents:

Appendix 1 Letter of objection

Appendix 2 Current taxi fares

Appendix 3 Comparison of present and proposed fares