

Committee and DateStrategic Licensing
Committee30th September 2015Item

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Public

HACKNEY CARRAGE FARES – ZONE 4 (SHREWSBURY & ATCHAM)

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1. Summary

- 1.1 Following a request made to the Licensing Service to reduce the charges for journeys on a Sunday on the current table of fares for Zone 4 – (Shrewsbury and Atcham) the following is proposed:

	Current Charge
Tariff 1 (From 07.00 hrs to 23.00 hrs Mon - Sat) Flag & First Mile (1,760 yards (1,609 metres))	£4.00
For each 176 yards or uncompleted part thereof (equivalent to £1.50 per mile)	£0.15
Waiting time (equivalent to £18 per hour)	£0.15 per 30 sec
	Proposed Charge
Tariff 1 (From 07.00 hrs to 23.00 hrs Mon - Sun) Flag & First Mile (1,760 yards (1,609 metres))	£4.00
For each 176 yards or uncompleted part thereof (equivalent to £1.50 per mile)	£0.15
Waiting time (equivalent to £18 per hour)	£0.15 per 30 sec
	Current Charge
Tariff 2 (23.00 to 07.00 hrs including all day Sunday and Bank Holidays with the exception of those listed below) Flag & First Mile (1,760 yards (1,609 metres))	£6.00
For each 176 yards or uncompleted part thereof (equivalent to £2.50 per mile)	£0.25

Waiting time (equivalent to £30 per hour)	£0.25 per 30 sec
	Proposed Charge
Tariff 2 (23.00 to 07.00 hrs Mon - Sun including all day Bank Holidays with the exception of those listed below)	
Flag & First Mile (1,760 yards (1,609 metres))	£6.00
For each 176 yards or uncompleted part thereof (equivalent to £2.50 per mile)	£0.25
Waiting time (equivalent to £30 per hour)	£0.25 per 30 sec

2. Recommendations

- 2.1.1 That the Strategic Licensing Committee (the Committee) approves the table of fares for Zone 4 Hackney carriages as set out in Appendix B of this report to come into effect on the 16 November 2015 and that consultation in accordance with Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 be undertaken and
- i) where no representations are made, the revised fare card be adopted in Zone 4 on the stated date (16 November 2015);
 - ii) where representations are made in relation to the proposed amendments then these are reported back to the Committee for consideration at a further meeting to be arranged for a date in November 2015 before any of the amendments are implemented.

REPORT

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 3.1 The Committee must ensure that in setting the new fare cards that the principal purpose of protecting the public is retained.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The decreases identified in the table above relate to the charges that hackney carriages make to their customers and not to charges that the Council makes to the hackney carriage proprietors.
- 4.2 There will be a cost to the Council. The Council must produce the new fare cards and distribute them for display in all Zone 4 hackney carriage vehicles. The costs associated with producing the new cards and sending them to the trade will be approximately £100 plus the cost to advertise the proposed fares in a local paper which coverage includes the Zone 4 area.

5. Background

- 5.1 Shropshire Council currently operates five zones for the purpose of licensing hackney carriages; these are based on the previous Borough and District Council Boundaries and are namely Zone 1- Bridgnorth; Zone 2 – North Shropshire; Zone 3 - Oswestry; Zone 4 – Shrewsbury & Atcham and Zone 5 – Ludlow. The fares for each zone have previously been set at the same level, the proposed amendment would result in Zone 4 charging different fares than the rest of the Zones.
- 5.2 The fare cards state the maximum fare that can be charged for each zone. The proprietor may agree a lower fare with the passenger. A meter may also be set at a level lower than the Council's agreed fares on condition that the proprietor displays two fare cards; these being the Council's agreed fare card and one to show the lower fare to which the meter has been set.
- 5.4 Where objections are received and not withdrawn, the Council shall set a further date, not later than two months after the first specified date, on which the tables of fares shall come into force. The Council can decide to make modifications to the advertised tables of fares after consideration of objections.

6. Additional Information

- 6.1 Prior to new fares coming into force, there is a requirement for the table of fares to be advertised in a local paper with a minimum 14 day consultation period. If no representations are received, the fares would be introduced on the date stated; in this case the 16 November 2015. If representations are made, the council must set a date, no later than two months after the proposed original implementation date, for the fares to come into effect, with or without changes.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

- Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy 2015 – 2019
- Current Table of Fares
- Request for an amendment to the Zone 4 Table of Fares
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Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)

Councillor Malcolm Price

Local Member

Cover all areas of Shropshire

Appendices

A –Request for an amendment to the Zone 4 Table of Fares

B – Proposed Hackney Carriage Table of Fares – Zone 4 (Shrewsbury and Atcham)