

**REPORT TO THE PERSONNEL, LICENSING
AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Report No. 10

Date of Meeting	14 January 2008
Title of Report	Taxi Trade Tariff Fees Increase
Link to Corporate Priorities	To safeguard and enhance the assets and resources of North Wiltshire and the wider community.
Public Report	Yes

Summary of Report

For the Committee to approve the proposed fare charges as put forward by Officers in Appendix 1.

Officer Recommendations**That the Committee:**

- 1) Approve the Table of Fares as set out in Appendix 1, for advertisement in accordance with Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.**
- 2) Authorise the Environmental Health Manager to implement the revised Table of Fares, subject to no objections being received within 14 days of the publication of the Notice of Variation, no earlier than 1st March 2008.**

Other than those implications agreed with the relevant Officers and referred to below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Financial Implications	Legal Implications	Community & Environmental Implications	Human Resources Implications	Equality & Diversity Implications
Yes	None	Yes	None	None

Contact Officer

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Council has the power under Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 to set the maximum fares that may be charged for the hire of a hackney carriage in the District. These fares are reviewed annually by this Committee.
 - 1.1.1 Section 65(a) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, requires that a Council shall publish in at least one local paper a notice setting out the new table of fares and a period of no less than 14 days in which objections can be made.
 - 1.1.2 Should objections be received set a further date, not later than two months after the specified first date, on which the table of fares shall come into force with or without modifications as decided after consideration of the objections.

2. Options and Options Appraisal

- 2.1 In considering the proposal The Committee is asked to:
 - 2.1.1 Make a decision not to change the Fares.
 - 2.1.2 Agree the implementation of the revised maximum tariff (fare card) as soon as possible, subject to no objections.
 - 2.1.3 Propose an alternative Fare structure.

3. Background Information

- 3.1 The current taxi fare card became effective on 1st April 2007, following a report to Personnel, Licensing and Administration Committee on 15th January 2007. The current fare card is attached in Appendix 2.
- 3.2 A taxi trade meeting was held on 18th September 2007, where the trade discussed a proposal that was received prior to the meeting and a proposal put forward by North Wiltshire District Council Officers, which was the proposal agreed.
- 3.3 The tariff agreed is a significant increase on the current tariff and is in line with the average for Wiltshire. Officers felt that this was appropriate to bring the tariffs of North Wiltshire in line with that of West Wiltshire, Kennet and Salisbury District Councils. Appendix 3 shows these comparisons.
- 3.4 Taxi trade, Staffing and other costs have increased since April 2007, hence why the request has been put forward. Consideration has also been given to Unitary Authority and Fares being brought in line with the rest of Wiltshire.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The cost of advertisement of the proposal has to be met by the Council and is catered for in the existing budget.

5. Community and Environmental Implications

- 5.1 There will be an increase in the fares paid by hackney carriage users who are charged at the maximum tariff. However, the increase in maximum tariff is felt to fairly reflect the increase in running costs since the last change and it is likely that some operators will offer discounted rates.
- 5.2 Overall, this increase will apply to 170 hackney carriage vehicles.
- 5.3 There should be no significant environmental impact of this proposal.

Appendices:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appendix 1 – Proposed Fare Card• Appendix 2 – Current Fare Card• Appendix 3 – Fare Comparisons with other District Councils in Wiltshire
Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Notes of Consultation Meeting with Taxi Trade – 18th September 2007.

Previous Decisions Connected with this Report

Report	Committee & Date	Minute Reference
None		

FARECARD WITH EFFECT FROM (TBC)			
UNDER s.65 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976 , North Wiltshire District Council has fixed the fares (being the maximum that can be charged) for the hiring of Hackney Carriages by time and distance.			<i>North Wiltshire District Council</i>
TARIFF	APPLICABLE	COST PER 6/10 MILE	WAITING TIME
1	7.00am to 9.00pm	£2.30 for the first 6/10 of a mile or part thereof. Thereafter 18 pence per 1/10th mile or part thereof - £1.80 per mile	30 pence per minute
2	9.00pm to 7.00am Also Sundays and Bank Holidays. Excluding Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day	£3.20 for the first 6/10 of a mile or part thereof. Thereafter 22 pence per 1/10th mile or part thereof - £2.20 per mile	30 pence per minute
An additional charge of £1.00 will be made during the following hours: - 2.00am to 5.30am Monday to Thursday 3.00am to 5.30am Friday to Sunday			
3	From 8.00pm on Christmas Eve and New Years Eve. All Day Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day	£5.50 for the first 6/10 of a mile or part thereof. Thereafter 25 pence per 1/10th mile or part thereof - £2.50 per mile	30 pence per minute
4	In Carriages licensed to carry more than 4 passengers and whilst carrying more than 4 passengers	The appropriate Tariff plus 50%	
ADDITIONAL CHARGES	May be made by the Operator to cover any additional costs included in the journey i.e., Bridge Tolls, Congestion Charges A Booking Charge may be made where the passenger has pre-booked a pick-up at a location other than a rank.		
VAT	The above charges are inclusive of VAT where the taxi operator is VAT registered.		
SOILING CHARGE	£100		
COMPLAINTS	Please contact the Licensing Officer at: Community and Environment, North Wiltshire District Council, Monkton Park, Chippenham, Wilts. SN15 1ER. Telephone: 01249 706438		

FARECARD WITH EFFECT FROM 1ST APRIL 2007			
UNDER s.65 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976 , North Wiltshire District Council has fixed the fares (being the maximum that can be charged) for the hiring of Hackney Carriages by time and distance.			<i>North Wiltshire District Council</i>
TARIFF	APPLICABLE	COST PER 6/10 MILE	WAITING TIME
1	7.00am to 9.00pm	£2.20 for the first 6/10 of a mile or part thereof. Thereafter 10 pence per 1/16th mile or part thereof	30 pence per minute
2	9.00pm to 7.00am Also Sundays and Bank Holidays. Excluding Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day	£3.00 for the first 6/10 of a mile or part thereof. Thereafter 10 pence per 1/19th mile or part thereof	30 pence per minute
An additional charge of £1.00 will be made during the following hours: - 2.00am to 5.30am Monday to Thursday 3.00am to 5.30am Friday to Sunday			
3	From 8.00pm on Christmas Eve and New Years Eve. All Day Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day	£5.40 for the first 6/10 of a mile or part thereof. Thereafter 10 pence per 1/23rd mile or part thereof	30 pence per minute
4	In Carriages licensed to carry more than 4 passengers and whilst carrying more than 4 passengers	The appropriate Tariff plus 50%	
ADDITIONAL CHARGES	May be made by the Operator to cover any additional costs included in the journey i.e., Bridge Tolls, Congestion Charges A Booking Charge may be made where the passenger has pre-booked a pick-up at a location other than a rank.		
VAT	VAT included where applicable		
SOILING CHARGE	£100		
COMPLAINTS	Please contact the Licensing Officer at: Community and Environment, North Wiltshire District Council, Monkton Park, Chippenham, Wilts. SN15 1ER. Telephone: 01249 706438		

TARIFF COMPARISONS

Authority	TARIFF 1					TARIFF 2				
	FLAG	1 MILE	2 MILE	5 MILES	10 MILES	FLAG	1 MILE	2 MILE	5 MILES	10 MILES
Salisbury	2.20	3.40	5.20	10.60	19.60	3.00	4.50	6.75	13.50	24.75
West Wilts	2.10	3.54	5.14	9.78	17.62	3.15	5.31	7.71	14.67	26.43
Swindon	1.90	3.30	5.10	10.30	16.80	3.20	4.60	6.40	11.60	18.10
Kennet	3.00	3.00	4.80	10.00	18.40	4.50	4.50	7.20	15.00	27.60
North Wilt	2.20	2.90	4.50	9.40	17.30	3.00	3.80	5.70	11.40	20.90
Average	2.28	3.23	4.95	10.01	17.98	3.37	4.54	6.75	13.23	23.55
NW Proposal	2.30 first 6/10 mile 18p per tenth of a mile £1.80 per mile	3.20	5.00	10.40	19.40	3.20 first 6/10 mile 22p per tenth of a mile £2.20 per mile	4.45	6.65	13.25	24.25

L/Auth	AM											PM											
	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Salisbury	[Solid Black]											[Solid Grey]											
WWDC	[Hatched]											[Solid Grey]											
Swindon	[Hatched]											[Solid Grey]											
Kennet	[Solid Black]											[Solid Grey]											
NWDC	[Solid Black]											[Solid Grey]											

[Solid Grey]	Tariff 1
[Solid Black]	Tariff 2
[Hatched]	Tariff 3 – anti-social hours / Xmas etc – NWDC currently operates additional charge of £1.00 between hours 2am to 5.30am Mon to Thurs and 3am to 5.30am Fri to Sun