



Regulatory Panel

Date: Wednesday, 09 February 2022

Time: 14:00

Venue: Flensburg Room

Present: Councillor Mrs Marilyn Bowman, Councillor Mrs Linda Mitchell, Councillor David Morton, Councillor Miss Lee Sherriff, Councillor Peter Sunter, Councillor Miss Jeanette Whalen, Councillor James Bainbridge (for Councillor John Collier), Councillor John Mallinson (for Councillor Keith Meller), Councillor Ms Lucy Patrick (for Councillor Dr Les Tickner)

Officers: Head of Legal and Democratic Services
Licencing Manager

RP.01/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor John Collier, Councillor Keith Meller and Councillor Dr Les Tickner.

RP.02/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were submitted.

RP.03/22 PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED - That the agenda as circulated be agreed.

RP.04/22 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLVED - It was noted that Council, at its meeting of 4 January 2022, received and adopted the minutes of the meetings held on 27 October and 1 December 2021. The Chair signed the minutes.

RP.05/22 HACKNEY CARRIAGE TABLE OF FARES REVIEW 2022

The Licensing Manager submitted report GD.04/22 which set out the current review of the Table of Fares for Hackney Carriages (Taxis) carried out in the district and proposed changes to the Tariff from 1 April 2022.

In considering the report, Members raised the following questions and comments:

- In relation to table 2.7 (benchmark charge for 2 mile journey) why was Carlisle ranked second among the Cumbrian districts when it had cheaper fuel prices?

The Licensing Manager explained that before the current review Carlisle district had been ranked second and noted that it for some of the other district authorities it had been a significant amount of time since a review of fares had been undertake. Fuel costs were based on the national (RPI) and not the local prices.

Another Member pointed out that Allerdale was listed as sixth in the table, but it's 2 mile journey fare was higher than two of the other districts.

The Licensing Manager undertook to verify the matter and provide a written response to the Panel.

- Could details of the consultation on the Fare Review be advertised on the Council's website as well as in the local press.

The Licensing Manager agreed to arrange for the consultation to be advertised on the Council's website

- In respect of the calibration of taxi metres, was vehicle tyre pressure still a factor

The Licensing Manager advised that she would liaise with manufacturer and provide the Panel with a written response. In response to further comments from the Member regarding the variability of fares for the same journey, the Manager stated that she would raise the matter with the company.

RESOLVED - 1) That, subject to consultation, Members agreed the proposed changes to the Table of Fares for Hackney Carriages.

2) That the Licensing Manger arrange for details of the Hackney Carriage Fares Review 2022 to be advertised on the Council's website.

3) That the Licensing Manager provide written response to the Panel regarding:

- results of the verification of table 2.7 - benchmark 2 mile journey;
- the use of tyre pressures in the calibration of Hackney Carriage meters.

RP.06/22 TAX CONDITIONALITY

The Licensing Manager submitted report GD.03/22 which set out the changes to the application process for Taxi Drivers, Private Hire Operators and Drivers and Scrap Metal Dealer licences following government implementation of new tax requirements from 4 April 2022.

A Member asked whether the authority would receive a payment from HMRC for carrying out the work.

The Licensing Manager confirmed payment for the work was anticipated, but that the details of the payment were not yet known.

RESOLVED - 1) That the content of the report be noted.

2) That the Panel request that the Licensing Manager update the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy and the Scrap Metal Dealers Policy to incorporate Tax Conditionality

measures into the application process.

The Meeting ended at: 14:17