



# Carlisle City Council

## Report to Regulatory Panel

### Report details

Meeting Date:	9 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
Portfolio:	Finance, Governance & Resources
Key Decision:	No
Policy and Budget Framework	No
Public / Private	Public
Title:	Hackney Carriage Table of Fares Review 2022
Report of:	Corporate Director of Governance & Regulatory Services
Report Number:	GD 04/22

### Purpose / Summary:

The Licensing Authority sets the rate of fare for Hackney Carriages (Taxis) in the District. The current Table of Fares has been reviewed and proposals are within the report to change the Tariff from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022.

### Recommendations:

That, subject to consultation, members agree the proposed changes to the Table of Fares for Hackney Carriages.

### Tracking

Executive:	N/A
Scrutiny:	N/A
Council:	N/A

## **1. Background**

- 1.1. Hackney Carriage (taxis) are a vital form of local transport. Local Authorities have the power to set the maximum fares of taxis which they licence.
- 1.2. Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 (Appendix 1) states that

*“A district council may fix the rates of fares within the district for time as well as distance, and all other charges in connection with the hire of the vehicle of with the arrangements for the hire of a vehicle, to be paid in respect of the hire of Hackney Carriages by means of a table (hereafter in this section referred to as a ‘table of fares’) made or varied in accordance with the provisions of this section.”*

- 1.3. By fixing the fares, the Council is effectively setting the maximum fare that Hackney Carriage drivers can charge. Legally, taxi drivers may charge less than this but may not charge more.
- 1.4. The fares set by the Council include provisions for taxi drivers to earn a wage, cover the costs of running a taxi and providing a service to the public when it is needed whilst ensuring that fares are reasonable for the public to pay for such a service.
- 1.5. The last review of the table of fares was undertaken in 2018 when no change was agreed. The last change to the tariff was agreed in 2017 by Members when an increase on 15p on the flag fall was agreed and achieved an increase of 2.75% on the 2mile journey.
- 1.6. The Council’s Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy 2022-2027 states that it is good practice to review the fare scales at regular intervals, and will therefore, consider the fare scales on a bi-annual basis or sooner if a request is received by the trade.<sup>1</sup>

## **2. Proposals**

- 2.1 In order to review the fares, the Council’s Financial Services produce the changes to the RPI to the identified criteria for transport costs since the last review. These changes have been multiplied by the weighting agreed with the Taxi Association with the main costs being fuel, labour and insurance. The calculations show an average increase in costs of just over 12% and overall inflation is currently running at 6%.

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<sup>1</sup> Carlisle City Council Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Policy 2022-27 Part 7 Section 7.1

Main Costs	June 2018	Oct 21	Variance	Weighting	Total
Fuel & Oil	377.20	401.60	6.47	18.95	122.55
Insurance & Tax	799.30	921.30	15.26	4.95	75.61
Maintenance	439.70	485.90	10.51	9.34	98.09
Labour & Wages	478.90	536.70	12.07	54.49	657.64
Vehicle Purchasing	95.20	114.90	20.69	11.05	228.66
Licensing (Badge, Plate, COC & Taxi Test x 2)	345.00	399.00	15.65	1.23	19.20
				100	1201.76

- 2.2 Due to the increase in costs and the current inflation position it is proposed that an increase is made to the tariff.
- 2.3 The current flag fall is £3.00 for the first 0.7 mile (1126 meters) and 20p for each subsequent 170 yards (approximately 155 meters) or uncompleted part thereof.
- 2.4 It is proposed that the flag fall remain at £3.00 but reduce the distance to the first “click” to 1,000 meters (1094 yards) and thereafter a 20p for each subsequent 160 yards or uncompleted part thereof.
- 2.5 This would result in the following increase

	Current Tariff	Proposed Tariff	Increase
1 mile	£3.80	£4.00	5%
2 mile	£5.80	£6.20	6%
5 mile	£12.00	£12.80	6%
10 mile	£22.40	£23.80	6%

- 2.6 The local Taxi Association and the larger taxi companies have been informally consulted.
- 2.7 Carlisle will be ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> of the 6 Cumbria Councils for the benchmark 2-mile journey and will be ranked 154 of the 359 authorities in the country for a 2-mile journey. The national average 2-mile journey for Tariff One is £6.06.

District	Charge for 2 Miles	2 Mile Ranking	Date Reviewed
South Lakeland	6.40	1	2014
<b>Carlisle</b>	<b>6.20</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2022</b>
Eden	5.50	3	2013
Barrow BC	5.40	4	2012
Copeland	5.00	5	2013
Allerdale	5.54	6	2018

- 2.8 A draft table of fares incorporating this proposal is attached at Appendix 2.
- 2.9 In accordance with the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy 2022-2027 all Taximeters are required to be sealed. It has been agreed with the main provider that they will seal the meters and issue a Certificate when they update the software on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022. The meters will also be updated with a clock calendar which prohibits the driver changing the meter tariff as this will be done automatically.

### **3. Risks**

- 3.1 Any tariff will need to be adopted in accordance with the relevant legislation.

### **4. Consultation**

- 4.1 In accordance with Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, the Council must publish their proposed table of fares in at least one local newspaper and a notice placed at the Council Offices for a period of 14 days.
- 4.2 If no objections are received, or are subsequently withdrawn, by the closing date of the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022, the new tariff will apply from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022.
- 4.3 Any objections will be heard by the Regulatory Panel on the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022 and the tariff shall come into force, with or without modification, on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022.

### **5. Recommendations**

- 5.1 That, subject to consultation, members agree the proposed changes to the Table of Fares for Hackney Carriages.

#### **Contact details:**

Contact Officer: Nicola Edwards Ext: 7025

#### **Appendices attached to report:**

1. Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976
2. Draft Table of Fares 2022

Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government Act 1972 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers:

- None

#### **Corporate Implications:**

**Legal** Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 allows the Council to fix the maximum rates or fares.

Any proposals for amendment are to be published and if no objection is received then the amendments shall take effect. Where objection is received then the Council shall consider the objections received and may set a further date (no later than two months) on which the table of fares (with or without modification) shall take effect.

**Finance** None – the consultation and publication in respect of the proposed Table of Fares will be met from the running costs of the Licensing Department. The revised rates will be collected and form part of the Licensing income.

**Equality** - None

**Information Governance**- None



# Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

## 1976 CHAPTER 57

### PART II

#### HACKNEY CARRIAGES AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES

#### **65 Fixing of fares for hackney carriages.**

- (1) A district council may fix the rates or fares within the district as well for time as distance, and all other charges in connection with the hire of a vehicle or with the arrangements for the hire of a vehicle, to be paid in respect of the hire of hackney carriages by means of a table (hereafter in this section referred to as a “table of fares”) made or varied in accordance with the provisions of this section.
- (2) (a)  
When a district council make or vary a table of fares they shall publish in at least one local newspaper circulating in the district a notice setting out the table of fares or the variation thereof and specifying the period, which shall not be less than fourteen days from the date of the first publication of the notice, within which and the manner in which objections to the table of fares or variation can be made.  
(b) A copy of the notice referred to in paragraph (a) of this subsection shall for the period of fourteen days from the date of the first publication thereof be deposited at the offices of the council which published the notice, and shall at all reasonable hours be open to public inspection without payment.
- (3) If no objection to a table of fares or variation is duly made within the period specified in the notice referred to in subsection (2) of this section, or if all objections so made are withdrawn, the table of fares or variation shall come into operation on the date of the expiration of the period specified in the notice or the date of withdrawal of the objection or, if more than one, of the last objection, whichever date is the later.
- (4) If objection is duly made as aforesaid and is not withdrawn, the district council shall set a further date, not later than two months after the first specified date, on which the

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*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, Section 65. (See end of Document for details)*

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table of fares shall come into force with or without modifications as decided by them after consideration of the objections.

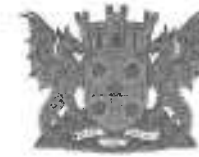
- (5) A table of fares made or varied under this section shall have effect for the purposes of the Act of 1847 as if it were included in hackney carriage byelaws made thereunder.
- (6) On the coming into operation of a table of fares made by a council under this section for the district, any hackney carriage byelaws fixing the rates and fares or any table of fares previously made under this section for the district, as the case may be, shall cease to have effect.
- (7) Section 236(8) (except the words “when confirmed”) and section 238 of the <sup>M1</sup>Local Government Act 1972 (except paragraphs (c) and (d) of that section) shall extend and apply to a table of fares made or varied under this section [<sup>F1</sup>by a district council in England] as they apply to byelaws made by a district council [<sup>F2</sup>in England] .
- [<sup>F3</sup>(7A) Section 8(5) and section 19 of the Local Government Byelaws (Wales) Act 2012 shall extend and apply to a table of fares made or varied under this section by a council for a county or county borough in Wales as they apply to byelaws made by a council for a county or county borough in Wales.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 65(7) inserted (31.3.2015) by Local Government Byelaws (Wales) Act 2012 (anaw 2), s. 22(2), **Sch. 2 para. 10(2)(a)**; S.I. 2015/1025, art. 2(r) (with art. 3)
- F2** Words in s. 65(7) inserted (31.3.2015) by Local Government Byelaws (Wales) Act 2012 (anaw 2), s. 22(2), **Sch. 2 para. 10(2)(b)**; S.I. 2015/1025, art. 2(r) (with art. 3)
- F3** S. 65(7A) inserted (31.3.2015) by Local Government Byelaws (Wales) Act 2012 (anaw 2), s. 22(2), **Sch. 2 para. 10(3)**; S.I. 2015/1025, art. 2(r) (with art. 3)

#### Marginal Citations

- M1** 1972 c. 70.



## HACKNEY CARRIAGE (MAXIMUM) FARES

### MILEAGE

#### Tariff One

If the distance does not exceed 0.62 mile

(1000 metres) ..... £3

For each subsequent 160 yards or

uncompleted part thereof (Approx. 146 metres) ..... 20p

#### Waiting Time

For each period of one minute or

uncompleted part thereof ..... 20p

#### Tariff Two

For hirings commenced between 23:00 hours and  
07:00 hours, and between 12:00 hours and  
18:00 hours on Christmas and New Years Eve

**Plus one third  
of tariff one  
rate of fare**

#### Tariff Three

All day of Bank and Public Holidays and  
between 18:00 hours and 24:00 hours on  
Christmas and New Years Eve

**Plus one half  
of tariff one  
rate of fare**

### EXTRA CHARGES

For each ADULT (17 years and over)

in excess of four ..... 50p

For each perambulator or dog

(other than an assistance dog) conveyed ..... 10p

For each article of luggage conveyed outside

the passenger compartment of the carriage ..... 10p

A charge may be requested if the user soils

the vehicle. This will not exceed ..... £35