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**TO CONSIDER ANY REVISION TO THE TARIFF FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLES IN THANET**

To: **Licensing Board – 5<sup>TH</sup> January 2016 at 10 am**

Portfolio Area: **Regulatory Services**

By: **Regulatory Services Manager**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **All**

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**Summary**                      **To consider any revision to the tariff for hackney carriage vehicles in Thanet.**

**For decision**

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**1.0**      **Introduction and Background**

1.1      Under legislation contained in the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 and the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 authority is given to Councils to set the rates/fares charged by hackney carriage vehicles in their area.

1.2      Until 2015 Members had agreed that the taxi trade set and advertise its own tariff.

**2.0**      **General Points**

2.1      Following meetings between Councillors, Officers, and representatives of the trade a report went to the Licensing Board in March 2015 to consider a proposal that the Licensing Board take responsibility for fixing the fares for hackney carriage vehicles within the District. There are a total of 108 hackney carriage vehicle licences issued.

2.2      At the Licensing Board meeting in March 2015 Members agreed to take responsibility for the fixing of fares for hackney carriage vehicles and set the tariff. The tariff to be reviewed annually and varied in accordance with official inflation figures.

2.3      Hackney carriage vehicles are inspected and meters checked by Licensing Officers in March of each year as part of the re-licensing process. Any change to the tariff would come into effect at that time.

2.4      A copy of the current tariff is appended at Annex 1.

2.5      Inflation as measured by the Consumer Prices Index was -0.1% in October 2015. The CPI rate has been at or close to zero for most of the year. The Retail Prices Index has varied between 0.8 and 1.1% throughout 2015. The monthly figures for 2015 are provided at Annex 2.

**3.0 Options**

3.1 To make no revisions to the current tariff.

3.2 To make revisions to the tariff.

**4.0 Corporate Implications**

**4.1 Financial**

4.1.1 None.

**4.2 Legal**

4.2.1 Where the Licensing Board makes or varies a table of fares it will need to be published in accordance with legislation.

**4.3. Corporate**

4.3.1 None.

**4.4 Equity and Equalities**

4.4.1 Not relevant.

**5.0 Recommendation**

5.1 The instructions of the Licensing Board are requested.

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Reporting to:	Penny Button, Head of Neighbourhood Services, ext 7425

**Annex List**

Annex 1	Current tariff
Annex 2	Monthly Retail Prices Index and Consumer Price Index figures for 2015

**Background Papers**

Title	Where to Access Document
None	N/A

**Corporate Consultation Undertaken**

Legal	N/A
Finance	N/A