

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

Licensing Board – 4th January 2018 at 10 a.m

Report Author ***Philip Bensted Regulatory Services Manager***

Portfolio Holder ***Cllr Lin Fairbrass Community Services***

Status ***For Decision***

Classification: ***Unrestricted***

Ward: ***All***

Executive Summary:

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

Recommendation(s):

The instructions of the Board are requested

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money	None
Legal	Where the Licensing Board makes or varies a table of fares it will need to be published in accordance with legislation.
Corporate	None
Equalities Act 2010 & Public Sector Equality Duty	<p>Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to the aims of the Duty at the time the decision is taken. The aims of the Duty are: (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it, and (iii) foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.</p> <p>Protected characteristics: age, gender, disability, race, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief and pregnancy & maternity. Only aim (i) of the Duty applies to Marriage & civil partnership.</p>

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. A copy of the current tariff is appended at Annex 1.
- 2.4 During 2015, the Consumer Prices Index was close to zero and the Retail Prices Index varied between 0.8 and 1.1%. The Licensing Board decided to make no changes to the tariff at its meeting in January 2016.
- 2.5 During 2016, the Consumer Prices Index was running at 1.2%. The retail price index was running at 2.2%. The Licensing Board decided to make no changes to the tariff at its meeting in January 2017.
- 2.6 Inflation as measured by the Consumer Prices Index in December 2017 was running at 3.1% for the year. The Retail Prices Index in December 2017 was running at 4% for the year.

3.0 Options

- 3.1 To make no revisions to the current tariff.
- 3.2 To make revisions to the tariff.

4.0 Recommendations

- 4.1 The instructions of the Licensing Board are requested.

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Reporting to:	Penny Button, Head of Neighbourhood Services, ext 57425

Annex List

<i>Annex 1</i>	<i>Current tariff</i>

Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
N/A	

Corporate Consultation

Finance	N/A
Legal	N/A

