

**Report of:** Transport & Parking Business Manager

**To:** General Purposes Licensing Committee

**Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> March 2006      **Item No:**

**Title of Report :** Hackney Carriage Tariff - Application for Increase



### Summary and Recommendations



**Purpose of report:** Hackney Carriage Tariff - Application for Increase



**Key decision:** No

**Portfolio Holder:** N/A

**Scrutiny Responsibility:**

**Ward(s) affected:** All



**Report Approved by:**



Graham Smith. Transport and Parking Business Manager



Jenny Franklin Legal & Democratic Services



**Policy Framework:** None



**Recommendation(s):**



Committee is RECOMMENDED to:-

Agree to the variation to the hackney carriage tariff in accordance with the application submitted by City of Oxford Licensed Taxicab Association.




note that that the proposed variation is subject to a period of public consultation;



Authorise the Interim Legal and Democratic Services Business Manager to carry out the statutory process of consultation needed to vary hackney carriage fares

## Body of report

1. Local authorities are empowered by virtue of Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 to set the fares for hackney carriages.
2. The City of Oxford Licensed Taxicab Association (COLTA) has applied for  a variation in the Hackney Carriage tariff, to be operative as soon as can be arranged following the Committee meeting.
3. COLTA submitted an application for an increase in fares (**Appendix 1**) based on the previously agreed formula (detailed on COLTA's proposals), with figures obtained from the Office of Statistics.
4. The only variation from previous applications is that the period used to calculate the percentage increase is taken from January 2004 until October 2005 whereas previously it was from January to January, resulting in the figures being 12 months old. This change is to make figures more current, particularly to take into account the recent large increases in fuel costs (included in motoring figure). It is intended that subsequent applications will revert to a 12-month period from October.
5. The average journey length of 2.7 miles remains as last year.
6. COLTA's calculations are that an increase of 5.86% is required to maintain the value of current fares.
7. The requested change will result in an increase of 20 to 25 pence on the average fare. The tariffs are arranged so that the percentage increase will be slightly less for journeys into the outer areas of Oxford.
8. The Private Hire and Taxi Monthly, a trade newspaper contains a table of fares across the United Kingdom and are part of COLTA's report. Figures

Exempt from publication by virtue of : (fill in details or delete as appropriate)

show the following two-mile fares in Oxfordshire and nearby large urban areas from the December issue for comparison.

<b>Vale of White Horse</b>	<b>£ 5.30</b>
<b>South Oxfordshire</b>	<b>No fares set</b>
Swindon	<b>£ 5.10</b>
Reading	<b>£ 5.00</b>
Milton Keynes	<b>£ 4.70</b>
West Berkshire	<b>£4.50</b>
<b>Oxford</b>	<b>£4.40</b>
<b>West Oxfordshire</b>	<b>£ 4.35</b>
<b>Cherwell</b>	<b>£ 4.30</b>
Wycombe	<b>£ 4.20</b>

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**Background papers:**

Appendix 1 Report of COLTA

Appendix 2 Tariff Sheets

