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| To: | Council |
| Date: | 22 March 2021 |
| Report of: | Head of Regulatory Services and Community Safety |
| Title of Report:  | Endorsement of Variation (increase) of the current Hackney Carriage Tariffs (table of fares) |

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| Summary and recommendations |
| Purpose of report: | Recommendation for Council to adopt the variation of the current Hackney Carriage Tariffs as considered by the General Purposes Licensing Committee and agreed by the Chair and Head of Service following a Public Consultation |
| Key decision: | No |
| Committee Chair with responsibility: | Cllr Clarkson, Chair of the General Purposes Licensing Committee |
| Corporate Priority: | Vibrant and Sustainable Economy. |
| Policy Framework: | None |
| Recommendation: That Council resolves to: |
| 1. | Adopt the variation of the current Hackney Carriage Tariffs considered by the General Purposes Licensing Committee and agreed by the Chair of the Committee and the Head of Service  |
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| Appendices |
| Appendix One | Report and appendices considered by the General Purposes Licensing Committee on 22 September 2020 |
| Appendix Two | Decision notice of Chair of General Purposes Licensing Committee and the Head of Service following Public Consultation on  |

# Introduction and background

1. Under section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 the Council may set the fares for Hackney Carriages within its area. The section sets out the parameters for fixing and amending the fares/tariffs for licensed Hackney Carriages by the Council.
2. On 13th November 2019, the City of Oxford Licensed Taxicab Association (“COLTA”) submitted a formal application to request to vary (increase) the tariffs in the current Hackney Carriage Table of Fares set by the Council.

# Process and Decisions

1. On 22nd September 2020 a report was heard by the General Purposes Licensing Committee, where members considered an application for a variation of the current Hackney Carriage Table of Fares from the City of Oxford Licensed Taxicab Association (COLTA). Copy of the report and appendices can be found in **Appendix One** of this report.
2. Having considered the application and taken account of the discussion, the Committee resolved to:
3. **Instruct** the Head of Regulatory Services and Community Safety in consultation with the Head of Law and Governance to carry out the statutory requirement of a public consultation on the proposed table of fares variation;
4. **Delegate** to the Chair and the Head of Regulatory Services and Community Safety to consider any response to the proposed variation before recommending to Council such change to the table of fees as necessary; and
5. **Note** its support for the principle of the introduction of a voluntary scheme by the COLTA to improve the consistency of fares for journeys beyond the city boundary.
6. The public consultation for this variation, as instructed by the members, was carried out and ended on Sunday 14th December 2020. The Council received 43 responses.
7. On 18th January 2021, as delegated by the members, a meeting was held to discuss the Hackney Carriage Tariff Variation Application between the Chair of the General Purposes Licensing Committee and the Head of Regulatory Services and Community Safety, following the public consultation.

Copy of the decision notice can be found in **Appendix Two** of this report.

1. The Chair and Head of Service noted that the vast majority of responses were in support of the variation.
2. After reviewing the report and considering all responses, The Chair of the General Purposes Licensing Committee and the Head of Regulatory Services and Community Safety resolved to:

**Endorse** the view of the committee by approving the variation as proposed, **Appendix One** of this report, and recommend the variation to Council.

**Financial implications**

1. None

# Conclusion

1. Taking into account section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 it is understood that following the process undertaken, as set out in the report, as well as the considerations and decisions endorsed by the Committee and Head of Regulatory Services and Community Safety the proposed variation of Hackney Carriage Tariff should be ratified by the Council. Therefore, the Chair of the General Purposes Licensing Committee and the Head of Service recommend the variation to the Council to adopt.

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