

To: Council
Date: 21st February 2024
Report of: Executive Director for Communities and People
Title of Report: Endorsement of Variation (increase) of the current Hackney Carriage Tariffs (table of fares)

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 Vice Chair and Community Safety Manager following a Public Consultation.
Key Decision	No
Committee Chair with responsibility:	Cllr Mundy, Chair of the General Purposes Licensing Committee
Corporate Priority	Enable an Inclusive Economy
Policy Framework	None
Recommendation(s): 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 Vice Chair of the Committee and Community Safety Service Manager.	

Appendices	
Appendix 1	Proposed Hackney Carriage Table of Fares.
Appendix 2	Meeting minutes of General Purposes Licensing Committee on Monday 25 th September 2023.

Introduction and background

- 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 25th September 2023 a report was heard by the General Purposes Licensing Committee, where members voted in support of three variations to the table of fares:
 - a. increasing the tariffs by an average of 5.6%, and;
 - b. increasing the additional charges by an average of 70%, and;
 - c. removing the restriction of the highest Tariff (Tariff Three) from the Christmas and New Year period only, to allow its usage every day between 02:00 and 06:00 hours.

A copy of the amended table of fares can be found in **Appendix One**.

3. Having voted in support of the variation, the Committee resolved to:
 - a) **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.
 - b) **Delegate** to the Chair and the Head of Regulatory Services and Community Safety to consider any responses to the consultation on the proposed variation before recommending to Council such change to the table of fees as necessary.

A copy of meeting minutes containing this decision can be found at **Appendix Two**.

Process and Decisions

4. As instructed by the members, a public consultation was carried out and concluded on Friday 22nd November 2023. The Council received 114 responses.
5. The Vice Chair of the General Purposes Licensing Committee (in lieu of no chair) and the Community Safety Service Manager under delegated authority of the Executive Director for Communities and People, considered the consultation responses. They resolved to endorse the view of the committee by approving the variation.

Financial implications

6. None

Legal issues

7. None

Conclusion

8. Considering 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 Executive Director for Communities and People the proposed variation of Hackney Carriage Tariff should be ratified by the Council. Therefore, the Vice Chair of the General Purposes Licensing Committee and Community Safety Service Manager recommend the variation to the Council to adopt.

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