

**REQUEST FOR INCREASE IN HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE TABLE OF FARES**

**LEAD OFFICER:** C A Boyce, Legal Services Manager

**REPORT AUTHOR:** M Jewell, Senior Legal Services Officer

**Summary:** This report informs Members of a request that has been received from the Copeland Taxi Owners' Association for an increase in the hackney carriage vehicle table of fares.

- Recommendation:**
- (a) That the Tariff1 rate be increased for the first mile to £2.50, with additional miles being charged at £1.60 (or 16 pence per 1/10<sup>th</sup> mile);
  - (b) That Members consider whether the request to move the Tariff 2 start time from 11.30pm to 11.00pm should be agreed;
  - (c) That the request for amendments to Tariff 3 relating to the Christmas and New Year periods be agreed;
  - (d) That the above proposals, if agreed, be advertised and, if no objections are received that the new fares become operational at a date 15 days after first publication of the notice.

**Resource Implications:** Expenditure of up to £800 from the licensing budget incurred in publishing the notice.

**LA 21 Implications:** None.

**Rural Implications:** Increase in taxi transport costs will occur.

**Crime & Disorder Act  
Implications:** None.

**Key Decision Status**

- **Financial:** None.
- **Ward:** None.

**Other Ward Implications:** None.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The Copeland Taxi Owners' Association, on the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2006, requested an increase in the hackney carriage table of fares. The last increase was made on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2005.

1.2 The rates requested by the Association are as follows:-

Tariff 1 (from 6am-11pm) £2.50 for the first mile and then £1.60 per mile thereafter;

Tariff 2 (from 11pm-6am) Add 50% of the above fare;

Tariff 3 (from 6pm on Christmas Eve until 6am on the 27<sup>th</sup> December and from 6pm on

New Years Eve until 6am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January)

£6.00 for distance not exceeding one mile then 24p per 1/10<sup>th</sup> of a mile.

1.3 The rates currently charged are as follows:-

Tariff 1 (from 6am-11pm) £2.30 for the first mile and then 1.60 per mile thereafter;

Tariff 2 (from midnight-6am) Add 50% of the above fare;

Tariff 3 (for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day) Add to Tariff 1 50% of that fare plus a further £2.30.

1.3 Applying the rates requested at the existing rates the following examples can be arrived at:-

Distance travelled and at what time	At existing rate	At requested rate	% increase
1 mile at 2pm	£2.30	£2.50	9%
3 miles at 2pm	£5.50	£5.70	3.5%
7 miles at 2pm	£11.90	£12.10	2%
1 mile at 11.15pm	£2.30	£3.75	62%
3 miles at 11.15pm	£5.50	£9.90	80%
7 miles at 11.15pm	£11.90	£18.15	52%
1 mile at 2.00am	£3.45	£3.75	10%
3 miles at 2.00am	£8.25	£9.90	20%
7 miles at 2.00am	£17.85	£18.15	2%
1 mile at 2.00am on Christmas Day	£5.75	£6.00	4%
3 miles at 8.00pm on Christmas Eve	£10.55	£10.80	2%
7 miles at 11.59pm on New Years Eve	£20.15	£20.40	1%
7 miles at 12.01am on New Years Day	£20.15	£20.40	1%
5 miles at 2.00am on 27 <sup>th</sup> December	£15.35	£15.60	2%

- 1.5 According to a "league table" published by the Private Hire & Taxi Monthly this Council is at position 301 out of 377 with a national average being noted of £2.92 for the first mile during the day and £4.39 for 2 miles during the day with £3.91 being charged for the first mile at night and £5.84 for 2 miles at night.

## 2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 Essentially the requested increase is as follows:-

- To increase the fare for the first mile from £2.30 to £2.50 (Tariff 1)
- To move the Tariff 2 start time from 11.30pm to 11.00pm and
- That Tariff 3 for the Christmas and New Year periods have a fare of £6.00 for the first mile and £2.40 per mile thereafter.  
The present tariff for this period is Tariff 1 plus 50% plus £2.30 making a total cost of £5.75 for the first mile (£2.40 per mile thereafter). The proposed increase would be £6.00 for the first mile with the rate of £2.40 for each subsequent mile remaining the same.

- 2.2 At the meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2005 where Members recommended an increase in the hackney carriage table of fares it was stated that future increases should be restricted to the rate of inflation. The current rate of inflation is 2.4% and Members will see that the requested increase to Tariff 1 would be an increase of 9%. However, balanced against this is that after 11.00pm the increases would be below the rate of inflation.

- 2.3 It is recommended that an increase in the table of fares is made as shown below:-



**COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL  
TABLE OF FARES FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLES  
EFFECTIVE FROM**

**Tariff 1**

For a distance not exceeding one mile	£2.50
If the distance exceeds one mile, for the first mile	£2.50
For each subsequent 1/10 <sup>th</sup> mile or uncompleted part thereof	16 pence

**Tariff 2**

For hirings commenced between 11.00pm and 6.00am	add 50% to the above rates
For hirings commenced at any time on a Bank or Public Holiday being Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Easter Monday, May Day, Whitsuntide Monday, and August Bank Holiday Monday	add 50% to Tariff 1

**Tariff 3**

For hirings commenced between 6.00pm on Christmas Eve until 6.00am on 27 <sup>th</sup> December and 6.00pm on New Years Even until 6.00am on 2 <sup>nd</sup> January	£6.00 for 1 <sup>st</sup> mile then for each subsequent 1/10 <sup>th</sup> mile or uncompleted part thereof 24 pence
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**Extra Charges**

For each period of one minute or uncompleted part thereof	20 pence
For each mile or uncompleted part thereof up to a maximum distance of five miles, travelled by the carriage to a hirer' s " pick-up" point at a stated place other than a hackney carriage stand or the proprietor' s normal base of operation	20 pence
For each person in excess of four	50 pence
Soiling fee	£50.00

**The above rates of fare are applicable only to:**

- 1. Journeys taken entirely within the district of Copeland.**
- 2. Journeys ending outside the district of Copeland where no fare or rate of fare is agreed in advance of such journey between hirer and driver.**



- 2.4 Assuming a variation to the fares is approved by the Panel the decision must be published in local newspapers providing at least 14 days from the date of the first publication for which objections to the variation can be made. If no objections are received then new fares would become operative at the end of that period. If objections are received then it would be necessary for the matter to be reconsidered by the Panel and, after considering the objections, set a new date for the then proposed table of fares to come into effect.

**List of Appendices**

None.

**List of Background Documents:** Request from Copeland Taxi Owners' Association dated 7<sup>th</sup> March 2006.

**List of Consultees:** None.

