


Briefing Paper for the Licensing Committee – 17th June 2021

After Committee papers were circulated on Wednesday 9th June 2021, a late representation was received from the trade. The representation raises concerns regarding the methodology used in calculating the fare increase which was at Appendix 4 of the Committee papers which had not previously been released.

It noted that:

- The fuel priced was too low £0.90, it is currently around £1.30 per litre.
- It was based on an engine capacity of 2000-2200cc whereas more vehicles in the fleet are 1400-2000cc
- It has identified that the dead miles were too low at 10,000, where 13,000 miles is more accurate

A revised Appendix 4 shows the original proposal and two variations reflecting the information above, which calculates the rate per mile at **£2.00**. It has been confirmed that this is a new proposal

 Melton Borough Council		HACKNEY CARRIAGE TABLE OF FARES (Proposed from)		
THESE ARE THE MAXIMUM FARES THAT CAN BE CHARGED WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF MELTON				
	Current	Proposed	Revised Proposal	
Daytime Rate (7am to 11pm) for up to 4 passengers		TARIFF 1		
For the first 1/3 mile	£2.50	£3.00	£3.00	
For each mile thereafter	£1.60	£1.80	£2.00	
Waiting rate	£15.00 / hr	£20.00 / hr	£20.00 / hr	
Night-time Rate (11pm to 7am) for up to 4 passengers		TARIFF 2		
For the first 1/3 mile	£3.00	£3.50	£3.70	
For each mile thereafter	£2.00	£2.00	£2.50	
Waiting rate	£20.00 / hr	£25.00 / hr	£25.00 / hr	
a) Christmas Eve & New Years Eve Rate for up to 4 passengers		TARIFF 3		
b) Daytime Rate (7am to 11pm) for more than 4 passengers				
For the first 1/3 mile	£4.00	£4.00	£4.50	
For each mile thereafter	£2.40	£2.50	£3.00	
Waiting rate	£15.00 / hr	£25.00 / hr	£25.00 / hr	
a) Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Years Day; Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Easter Monday; Early May Bank Holiday, Spring Bank Holiday, Summer Bank Holiday Rate for up to 4 passengers		TARIFF 4		
b) Night-time Rate (11pm to 7am) for more than 4 passengers				
For the first 1/3 mile	£5.00	£5.00	£6.00	
For each mile thereafter	£3.20	£3.20	£4.00	
Waiting rate	£30.00 / hr	£40.00 / hr	£40.00 / hr	
Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Years Day; Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Easter Monday; Early May Bank Holiday, Spring Bank Holiday, Summer Bank Holiday Rate for MORE than 4 passengers		TARIFF 5 (NEW)		
For the first 1/3 mile	NEW	£7.00	£9.00	
For each mile thereafter	NEW	£3.20	£6.00	
Waiting rate	NEW	£40.00 / hr	£40.00 / hr	
EXTRA CHARGES				
For each animal	No change	£1.00	£1.00	
Assistance Dogs	No change	FREE	FREE	
MAXIMUM SOILING CHARGE	No change	£100.00	£100.00	

The bullet points are relevant to assist a driver to being able to earn a 'living wage' - drivers would still need to work a mix of days and Friday and Saturday night after 11pm to achieve this.

It must be noted that if these fares are adopted that drivers are reminded that these are the maximum that can be charged and if they think, as individuals, that they are too high that they can of course offer a discount off the metered fare.

Other Considerations

Taxi meters will have to be recalibrated for any increase and some vehicles may require a new meter if the existing meter cannot be updated. There is a charge to the drivers to enable this.

If Committee were to approve the original proposal at this stage and subsequently another request was received to review the fares further, there would be a second recalibration fee.

The driver who originally proposed this current fare review has been advised of the comments received and does not disagree.

Options for Committee

1. Reject the revised proposal (as it was received after the consultation period ended) and consider the report and recommendation as set out in Appendix 5
2. Accept that this is a valid alternative proposal, and that Committee approve a further consultation based on the new proposed fee amounts, and therefore agree in principle that the fare table be varied AND that authority is delegated to the Regulatory Service Manager, in consultation with the chair of licensing to resolve any objections received and to decide to implement the new fee table.

Victoria Clarke
Regulatory Services Manager