

MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL
REPORT FOR RESOLUTION

COMMITTEE: Licensing and Appeals Committee
DATE: 28 August 2007
SUBJECT: Hackney Carriage fares increase & age policy
REPORT OF: Head of Environmental Services

Purpose of Report

1. To report to Committee a formal objection received in relation to the published table of Hackney Carriage Fares.
2. To present to Members an amended farecard in light of the objection.

Recommendations

That the Committee:

Agrees the amended farecard and maintains the date of implementation of 3 September 2007.

Financial Consequences for the Revenue Budget

None.

Financial Consequences for the Capital Budget

None.

Contact Officers

Jenny Davenport	Acting Licensing Unit Manager j.davenport@manchester.gov.uk	Tel: 0161 234 4962
Jack Evison	Senior Compliance Officer j.evison@manchester.gov.uk	Tel: 0161 234 1170

Wards Affected

All.

Implications for:

Anti-Poverty	Equal Opportunities	Environment	Employment
Yes	No	No	Yes

Employment and Anti Poverty Implications

Any decision to vary the published date will have a detrimental affect on the income of Hackney Carriage drivers.

REPORT

1. Background

- 1.1. Under S65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 the Council has the power to set a maximum rate for Hackney Carriage fares.
- 1.2. On 4 June 2007 the Licensing and Appeals Committee agreed proposals for a new fare card to increase the Hackney Carriage Fares and recommended this decision to Council at their meeting on 11 July.
- 1.3. Following the meeting on 11 July the fare card was published on 20 July 2007 indicating a closing date for objections of 3 August 2007. If no objection was received then the fare card was to be implemented on 3 September 2007. The published fare card can be found in **Appendix A**.
- 1.4. An objection has been duly received within the stated time period.
- 1.5. The Licensing and Appeals Committee must now consider that objection and set a date for the fare increase which must be within two months of the original implementation date of 3 September, that is not later than 3 November 2007. There is no requirement to advertise the amended fare.

2. Received Objection

- 2.1 George Simms, Secretary of the Taxi Owners and Drivers Association (TODA) has objected to the published farecard. His objection relates to the fact that the taxi meters cannot be set to the rates shown on the proposed fare card. The full objection can be found in **Appendix B**.
- 2.2 Mr. Simms has suggested that a 20 pence increment be maintained in accordance with the present 2006-2007 farecard system.

3. Officers' Comments in relation to the Objection

- 3.1 The recommendation agreed by Members on 4 June was that the fare be based on a 7.57% day and 7.44% nighttime tariff increase.
- 3.2 These increases were applied to a table of journey fares which was based on 10 pence fare increments and the farecard was designed so that only full distance units were displayed rather than fractions of a yard. The intention was that all fares would be charged to 10 pence increments as stated in paragraphs 6.6 and 6.7 of the original report.
- 3.3 The manufacturers of the taxi meters have stated that the waiting rate and distance increments must be the same, so the published farecard could not be implemented.
- 3.4 In light of this information, Officers have revised the farecard so that all fares are calculated to 10 pence increments and the percentage fare increase remains as agreed by Committee on 4 June 2007. Utilising the 20 pence increment as suggested by Mr. Simms would result in a percentage increase in excess of that agreed by the Committee on 4 June, and subsequently approved by Council. The revised farecard can be found in **Appendix C**.
- 3.5 With the Officers' revised proposals both the fare increase and journey fare table remain unchanged. Should the Committee agree this proposal then Officers and the taxi trade

remain in a position to implement the new farecard on 03 September as instructed by Committee on 04 June 2007.

4.0 Trade Response

4.1 Mr. Simms of TODA is now supportive of the revised farecard with the understanding that implementation remains 3 September 2007.

4.2 The GMB Trade Union are supportive of the revised fare card and have asked that implementation remains 3 September 2007.

4.2 The TGWU have expressed a preference for the 10 pence fare increments and have also asked that the implementation remain as 03 September 2007.

5.0 Conclusion and Recommendation

5.1 The Committee is asked to agree the revised farecard in **Appendix C** and maintain the implementation date of 3 September 2007.

Manchester City Council
Variation of Hackney Carriage Fares and Charges
Section 65 - Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions)
Act 1976

Manchester City Council intend to vary the table of fares and charges to be paid in respect of the hire of Hackney Carriages as follows:

DAY FARE RATES

First 495 yards £2.30

Each extra 350 yards, or part of .30p

Up to every 47.8 seconds of waiting time .20p

NIGHT FARE RATES (between 10.00pm and 5.00am)

First 300 yards £2.80

Each extra 175 yards, or part of .20p

Up to every 35.8 seconds of waiting time .20p

EXTRA CHARGES

For each passenger additional to hirer .20p

(For purpose of the fare only, 2 children under 10 years old count as one passenger)

For each article of luggage carried outside the passenger compartment .20p

For journeys through Piccadilly Station taxi rank barrier .20p

Fouling Charge £20.00

PUBLIC HOLIDAY FARE RATES

Bank Holiday Mondays and Good Friday Night Rate applies 24hrs

Christmas and New Year from:

8pm on Christmas Eve until 5am on 27 December Night Rate plus 50%

8pm on 31 December until 5am on 2 January

PREVIOUS RATES**DAY FARE RATES**

First 500 yards £2.00

Each extra 248 yards (or part of) .20p

Up to every 49.1 seconds of waiting time .20p

NIGHT FARE RATES (Between 10.00pm and 5.00am)

First 438 yards £2.60

Each extra 186 yards (or part of) .20p

Up to every 36.8 seconds of waiting time .20p

EXTRA CHARGES

For each passenger additional to hirer .20p

(For purpose of the fare only, 2 children under 10 years old count as one passenger)

For each article of luggage carried outside the passenger compartment .20p

For journeys through Piccadilly Station taxi rank barrier .20p

Fouling Charge £20.00

PUBLIC HOLIDAY FARE RATES

Bank Holiday Mondays and Good Friday Night rate applies 24hrs

Christmas and New Year from:

8pm on Christmas Eve until 5am on 27 December Night rate plus 50%

8pm on 31 December until 5am on 2 January

A copy of the proposed new table of fares and charges will be kept in Room 1012, Level 1 of the Town Hall Extension for inspection, without payment, Monday to Friday between the hours of 9am and 4pm, for a period of 14 days from the date of this notice. Any objection to the variation of fares and charges should be made to me in writing on or before 3 August 2007 at the address below. In the event of there being no objections to the proposals the increase will be implemented on 3 September 2007.

Jenny Davenport (Acting Licensing Unit Manager)
 Licensing Unit, Room 1012 (Level 1)
 Town Hall Extension, Manchester M60 2LA
 email: licensing@manchester.gov.uk
 Dated this day: 20 July 2007

"George
 Simms"
 <gsimms.toda-
 a-
 mcr@tiscali.co.uk>
 31/07/2007
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To:"Jack Evison" <J.Evison@manchester.gov.uk>, "Rachael Christie" <r.christie@manchester.gov.uk>, "Fiona Sharkey" <f.sharkey@manchester.gov.uk>, "Councillor Paul Andrews" <cllr.p.andrews@manchester.gov.uk>, "Councillor Neil Swannick" <cllr.n.swannick@manchester.gov.uk>
 cc:"Lee Williams" <lee.toda-mcr@tiscali.co.uk>, "Darrell Hughes" <darrell.hughes1@tiscali.fr>, <devans@tgwu.org.uk>
 Subject:Forthcoming Fare Increase

Dear Jack

I must point out to you that the Licensing Committee and subsequently the full Council have passed the fare card which states that each extra 350 yds after the initial flagfall will cost **30p**, and that waiting time will be 47.8p for **20p**. The night time rates to go up in **20p**. I don't think that can be done on the meter. When we last spoke about this you said "The meter will go up in **10p** units." That cannot be, because there is nothing about 10p on the fare card. It says 350yds and 47.8secs **or any part of**. Same for the night rates. If 30p distance and 20p time can be accommodated on the meter well and good. If not I suggest you make the distance 233.31yds for **20p**. A 10p increment would cost a taxi driver an average of more than 10p on every job compared to a 20p increment thus negating part of the increase. The passengers would not perceive any benefit, they would just see the meter going up a lot faster than it used to. No one would thank you for it. Please stick to the letter of the law.

I will correct the 2 mistakes you pointed out in the Bulletin. We are about to issue another Bulletin. I will send you a copy before distribution.

Regards

George Simms Secretary TODA and Cab Committee

<p style="text-align: center;">Licensing Unit</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Neighbourhood Services Room 1012 (Level 1) Town Hall Extension Manchester M60 2LA</p>	 MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL	CAB NUMBER
PUBLIC TAXI FARES AND CHARGES (with effect from 3 rd September 2007)		
DAY FARE RATES		
First 495 yards (452.7m)	£2.30	
Each extra 116.7 yards (106.7m), or part of	£0.10	
Up to every 23.9 seconds of waiting time	£0.10	
NIGHT FARE RATES (for journeys between 10pm and 5am)		
First 300 yards (274.3m)	£2.80	
Each extra 87.5 yards (80m), or part of	£0.10	
Up to every 17.9 seconds of waiting time	£0.10	
EXTRA CHARGES		
For each passenger additional to hirer (For purpose of the fare only, two children under 10 years old count as one passenger)	£0.20	
For each article of luggage carried outside the passenger compartment	£0.20	
For journeys through the Piccadilly Station taxi rank barrier	£0.20	
Fouling Charge	£20.00	
PUBLIC HOLIDAY FARE RATES		
Bank Holiday Mondays and Good Friday	Night rate applies 24hrs	
Christmas and New Year from: 8pm on Christmas Eve until 5am on 27 December 8pm on 31 December until 5am on 2 January	Night rate plus 50%	
<p>All fares should be charged at the metered fare, UNLESS the destination falls outside the Greater Manchester County or 4 miles from the nearest point of the City boundary. If the destination falls outside the above area, a fare should be negotiated before commencement of the journey. If fare is not negotiated before commencement, meter fare ONLY should be charged. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES REGARDING THIS, PLEASE ASK TO SEE THE DRIVER'S COPY OF THE BOUNDARY MAP.</p>		
COMPLAINTS AND LOST PROPERTY - PLEASE CONTACT:		
The Licensing Unit at the above address or:		
Telephone: 0161 234 4917		
Email: licensing@manchester.gov.uk	Fax:	0161 234 4920