
HACKNEY CARRIAGE TARIFF REVIEW

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 Members to consider a review of taxi fares in the District and to approve a schedule to be effective from 1 October 2001.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Council has powers to fix the fare structure for Hackney Carriages licensed by it. Although no Private Hire Vehicles are currently fitted with taximeters, the Council normally prefers that those so fitted adopt the same tariff as that approved for Hackney Carriages.
- 2.2 The fare structure was last reviewed on 7 June 2000 and was implemented from 2 October 2000. Any amendment to the tariff must be advertised in the local press and objections sought. Any objection must be referred back to the Committee for consideration. If the tariff is not confirmed and further amended it must be re-advertised and the process repeated.
- 2.3 Members, when reviewing the fare structure for the period commencing 2 October 2000, resolved that future increases would be linked to the Retail Price Index (RPI) for motor transport costs.

3 CONSULTATION

- 3.1 Members of the trade were invited within the Council's Newsletter "The Knowledge", to submit proposals for amending the current tariff. No submissions were made and the matter was included on the Agenda of the Taxi Forum held on 10 April 2001 (reported elsewhere on this Agenda).
- 3.2 Discussion at the Taxi Forum established an increase throughout the fare structure was desired. The taxi trade is continuing to service rising insurance costs, higher circuit fees (radio rent, etc) and general expenses. Any alteration requires the taximeter to be re-programmed at a cost of approximately £20 plus VAT.
- 3.3 The RPI figure for transport has increased by 3.6% (April 2000 to April 2001). This figure does not fully reflect the nature of the taxi trade when compared to other forms of public transport accounting for mass movement.

4 PROPOSALS

- 4.1 It has been generally agreed in the past that the cost per distance unit should be in any multiple of 10p to avoid change-giving difficulties. (Until the year 1999/2000 20p units were used).
- 4.2 The taxi trade is anxious to retain the initial flag rate of £1.80.

- 4.3 It is both practical, and also simplified, if reversion is made to 20p per distance unit throughout the fare structure (previous figures in brackets).

Amend initial flag rate to:

180p distance 1/6 mile (2/11 mile)

Amend first tariff to:

20p distance 1/6 mile (10p 1/11 mile)

Second tariff commences from 4 mile point of journey.

Amend second tariff to:

20p distance 1/8 mile (30p 1/5 mile)

- 4.4 No alterations are proposed in respect of extras or the despoilment charge.

5 EFFECT OF CHANGES PROPOSED TO TARIFF

- 5.1 The average journey is 3 miles.

1 mile journey (one passenger)

Existing charge £2.70

Percentage increase

Revised charge £2.80

3.7%

2 mile journey (one passenger)

Existing charge £3.80

Percentage increase

Revised charge £4.00

5.26%

3 mile journey (one passenger)

Existing charge £4.90

Percentage increase

Revised charge £5.20

6.12%

4 mile journey (one passenger)

Existing charge £6.00

Percentage increase

Revised charge £6.40

6.66%

5 mile journey (one passenger)

Existing charge £7.50

Percentage increase

Revised charge £8.00

6.66%

8 mile journey (one passenger)

Existing charge £12.00

Percentage increase

Revised charge £12.80

6.66%

- 5.2 Although the increase is higher than the price index by a maximum of approximately 3% any change in respect of low values will always be perceived higher in proportion. The proposal is simple in concept and easily understood by the general public.
- 5.3 The tariff will remain designated as “a maximum” allowing discounts to be legitimately offered.
- 5.4 The tariff currently in force is shown in Appendix 1 and the proposed tariff to come into force on 1 October 2001 in Appendix 2.

6 FINANCIAL & RESOURCE IMPLICATION

- 6.1 Provision is contained within the Hackney Carriage Office Budget for advertising the revised tariff and material provision associated with the implementation.

7 RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

- (1) That the revised tariff for Hackney Carriages and meter fitted Private Hire Cars as set out in Appendix 2 be approved.
- (2) That the Head of Service proceeds to advertise the new fare structure to come into force on 1 October 2001. (HRHM)

S J Clarkson

Head of Revenue & Housing Management

Background Papers:

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

For further information please contact F Spence on:-

Tel:- 01702 318035

E-Mail:- frank.spence@rochford.gov.uk

APPENDIX 1

**ROCHFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL
LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS ACT) 1976**

**Table of Maximum Hackney Carriage Fares & Charges
Commencing 2nd October 2000 and until further Notice**

1 Also Applicable to Private Hire Vehicles fitted with Taximeters**DISTANCE OR TIME**

For the first 292.6 metres (320 yards/ 2/11 mile) or the first 1 minute 30 seconds (or a combination of parts of such distance or time) 180p

For each additional 146.3 metres (160 yards/ 1/11 mile) or 45 seconds (or a combination of parts of such distance or time) until a fare of £6.30 is SHOWN on the taxi meter 10p

For each additional 321.86 metres (352 yards/ 1/5 mile) or 1 minute 40 seconds (or a combination of such distance or time) when a fare of £6.30 is SHOWN on the taxi meter 30p

For hirings begun between 9.00pm on 24 December and 6.00am on 27 December and between 9.00pm on 31 December and 6.00am on 2 January plus Standard Extras **Double fare**

Extra Charges

For hirings begun between 9.00pm and 6.00am, also on Sundays and Bank Holidays between 6.00am and Midnight **EXCEPT** during Christmas and New Year periods 100p

Standard Extras

For luggage carried outside the passenger compartment: 20p
(Maximum Charge)

No charge for Disabled Persons' wheelchairs

For every animal carried loose in vehicle: 100p
For every animal carried in a container: 20p

No charge for Guide Dogs or Hearing Dogs.

For each passenger in excess of 1 to a maximum of 4 passengers: 20p

For each passenger where the party exceeds 4 to a maximum of 8 passengers: 40p

Where the hirer arranges in advance by letter, telephone or otherwise with the proprietor or driver prior to the commencement of hiring for the hire of the carriage to commence from a stated place other than a Hackney Carriage Stand
20p

Specific requests for the delivery of property left in taxis must be paid for at the metered fare.

Despoilment Charge: £75.00 Maximum

APPENDIX 2

**ROCHFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL
LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS ACT) 1976**

**Table of Maximum Hackney Carriage Fares & Charges
Commencing 1st October 2001 and until further Notice**

2 Also Applicable to Private Hire Vehicles fitted with Taximeters

DISTANCE OR TIME

For the first 268.22 metres (293.33 yards/ 1/6 mile) or the first 1 minute
20 seconds (or a combination of parts of such distance or time) 180p

For each additional 268.22 metres (293.33 yards/ 1/6 mile) or 1 minute
20 seconds (or a combination of parts of such distance or time) until a
fare of £6.60 is SHOWN on the taxi meter 20p

For each additional 201.17 metres (220 yards/ 1/8 mile) or 1 minute (or a
combination of such distance or time) when a fare of £6.60 is SHOWN on
the taxi meter 20p

For hirings begun between 9.00pm on 24 December and 6.00am on
27 December and between 9.00pm on 31 December and 6.00am on
2 January plus Standard Extras **Double fare**

Extra Charges

For hirings begun between 9.00pm and 6.00am, also on Sundays and
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Specific requests for the delivery of property left in taxis must be paid for at the metered fare.

Despoilment Charge: £75.00 Maximum