



NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

LICENSING COMMITTEE REPORT

Report Title	Hackney Carriage Tariff Review
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AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC

Committee Meeting Date:	5 November 2013
Policy Document:	Hackney/Private Hire Sanctions and Procedures
Directorate:	Customers and Communities

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to review the Hackney Tariff currently in use by those Hackney vehicles licenced by Northampton Borough Council.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Licensing Committee considers the Hackney Carriage Tariff outlined in the report and approve the increase.

3. Issues and Choices

3.1 Report Background

3.1.1 The current scale of Hackney Carriage fares took effect from 6 May 2008, there has been no increase since that time.

3.1.2 A number of Northampton Hackney drivers, 65 in total, represented by Mr Perry Mainstone, are seeking an increase due to a significant rise in the cost of living since their last increase and the rising cost of fuel. Over that 5 year period the cost of a litre of diesel has risen from 99.9P to a sum in the region of £1.40P. (An increase of 40%)

3.1.3 Due to the recession the hackney drivers have not sought an increase prior to this request.

3.1.4 The increase as requested represents an increase of 10.5%.

3.1.5 During the period 2008 to 2012 the retail price index has risen by 27.2%. (Office of National Statistics).

4.1 Choices (Options)

4.1.1. Only one option has been submitted for consideration at this time.

4.1.2. To consider the option given in line with the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provision) Act 1976 and the Wednesbury rules.

5. Implications (including financial implications)

5.1 Policy (Hackney and Private Hire Licensing)

There are no new policy or financial implications.

5.2 Resources and Risk

5.2.1 None known.

5.3 Legal

S65 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 will be complied with as outlined below:

“Fixing of fares for Hackney Carriages”

65-(1) A district council may fix the rates or fares within the district as well for time as distance, and all other charges in connection with the hire of a vehicle or with the arrangements for the hire of a vehicle, to be paid in respect of the hire of Hackney Carriages by means of a table (hereafter in this section referred to as a “table of fares”) made or varied in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(2) (a) When a district council make or vary a table of fares they shall publish in at least one local newspaper circulating in the district a notice setting out the table of fares or the variation thereof and specifying the period, which shall not be less than fourteen days from the date of the first publication of the notice, within which and the manner in which objections to the table of fares or variation can be made.

(b) A copy of the notice referred to in paragraph (a) of this subsection shall for the period of fourteen days from the date of the first publication thereof be deposited at the offices of the council which published the notice, and shall at all reasonable hours be open to public inspection without payment.

(3) If no objection to a table of fares or variation is duly made within the period specified in the notice referred to in subsection (2) of this section, or if all objections so made are withdrawn, the table of fares or variations shall come into operation on the date of the expiration of the period

specified in the notice or the date of withdrawal of the objection or, if more than one, of the last objection, whichever date is the later.

(4) If objection is duly made as aforesaid and is not withdrawn, the district council shall set a further date, not later than two months after the first specified date, on which the table of fares shall come into force with or without modifications as decided by them after consideration of the objections

(5) A table of fares made or varied under this section shall have effect for the purposes of the Act of 1847 as if it were included in Hackney Carriage byelaws made thereunder.

(6) On the coming into operation of a table of fares made by a council under this section for the district, any Hackney Carriage byelaws fixing the rates and fares or any table of fares previously made under this section for the district, as the case may be, shall cease to have effect.

The Licensing Committee in making its decisions must be “Wednesbury reasonable”. In other words, it must take into account relevant factors; disregard irrelevant factors and must act reasonably. In relation to this report the Committee needs to be satisfied that any change to the tariff is reasonable, given the level of fuel increases. There needs to be a clear link between the additional fuel costs to the drivers/operators and the actual level of the new tariff.

5.4 Equality

5.4.1. An equality impact assessment has been undertaken and no equalities issues were identified as being likely to have a negative impact on the trade request.

5.5 Consultees (Internal and External)

5.5.1. Legal

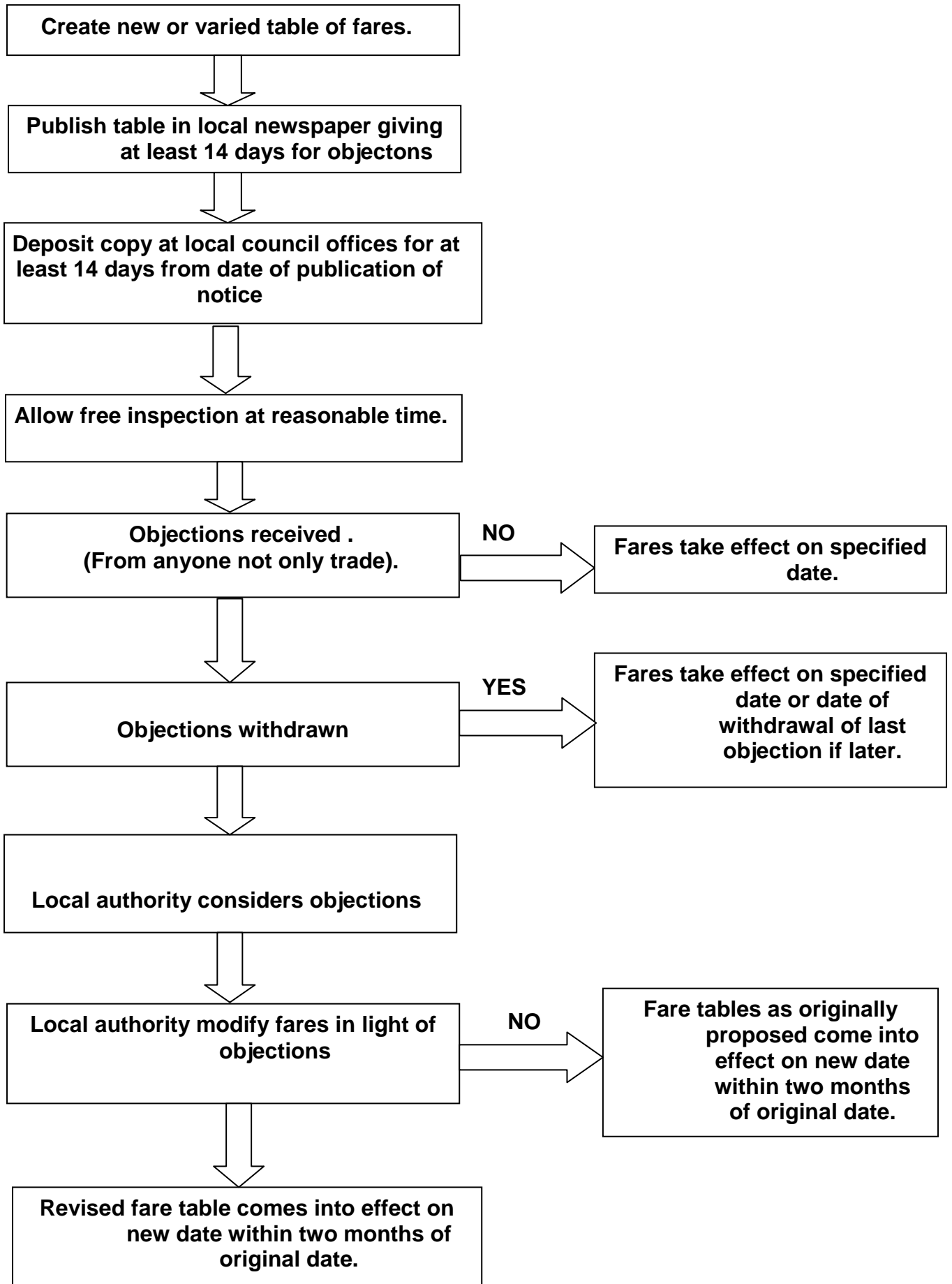
5.6. Background Papers

5.6.1. Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. (Relating to Hackney and Private Hire vehicles and drivers).

5.6.2 Taxis-Licensing Law and Practice – James Button

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Flow Chart for Setting Hackney Fares





NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

TARIFF CARD

6th May 2008

Tariff 1 (Day) 0600-2300

Tariff 2 (Night) 2300-0600

Minimum Charge

£2.20

Minimum Charge

£3.40

Minimum Distance of up to but not exceeding 158 yards

Mileage Charges

Charged in units of 208 yards
at a cost of 0.20p per unit.

DAY (£)

1. Mile	Cost =	3.80
2. Miles	Cost =	5.60
3. Miles	Cost =	7.20
4. Miles	Cost =	9.00
5. Miles	Cost =	10.60
10. Miles	Cost =	19.00

Charged in units of 202 yards
at a cost of 20p per unit

NIGHT (£)

1. Mile	Cost =	5.00
2. Miles	Cost =	6.80
3. Miles	Cost =	8.60
4. Miles	Cost =	10.40
5. Miles	Cost =	12.00
10. Miles	Cost =	20.80

Waiting time for each 40 seconds- 20P (includes periods when vehicle is stationary)

Sundays and Bank Holidays 06:00-02:00

Charges as Tariff 2

Extra Charges

For every incident of fouling the vehicle a charge not exceeding

£40.00

Tariff 3 (Christmas/New Year – Double Fare)

20:00 on 24 December until 06:00 on 27 December & 20:00 on 31 December until 06:00 on 2 January

Mileage Charges : As Tariff 1 + 100%

Extra Charges: as above +100%

The above charges are a general guide, journeys outside the Borough Boundary will normally be metered unless an alternative tariff is agreed prior to the commencement of the journey.



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TARIFF CARD

Proposed

Tariff 1 (Day) 0600-2300

Tariff 2 (Night) 2300-0600

Minimum Charge **£2.20**

Minimum Charge **£3.40**

Minimum Distance of up to but not exceeding 158 yards

Mileage Charges

Charged in units of 176 yards
at a cost of 0.20p per unit.

Charged in units of 176 yards
at a cost of 20p per unit

DAY (£)

1. Mile	Cost =	4.20
2. Miles	Cost =	6.20
3. Miles	Cost =	8.20
4. Miles	Cost =	10.20
5. Miles	Cost =	12.20
10. Miles	Cost =	22.20

NIGHT (£)

1. Mile	Cost =	5.40
2. Miles	Cost =	7.40
3. Miles	Cost =	9.40
4. Miles	Cost =	11.40
5. Miles	Cost =	13.40
10. Miles	Cost =	23.40

Waiting time for each 30 seconds- 20P (includes periods when vehicle is stationary)

Sundays and Bank Holidays 06:00-02:00
Charges as Tariff 2

Extra Charges

For every incident of fouling the vehicle a charge not exceeding **£40.00**

Tariff 3 (Christmas/New Year – Double Fare)

20:00 on 24 December until 06:00 on 27 December & 20:00 on 31 December until 06:00 on 2 January

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