



Report To:	SPEAKERS PANEL (LICENSING)
Date:	23 January 2018
Reporting Officer:	Emma Varnam – Assistant Director of Operations & Neighbourhoods
Subject:	APPLICATION FOR A VARIATION OF THE HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES
Report Summary:	Members are requested to consider whether the application should be granted.
Recommendations:	Members are invited to determine the application
Links to Community Strategy:	The hackney carriage trade provide public transport to all sectors of the community including vulnerable persons. They are on occasions the only accessible form of transport available.
Policy Implications:	There are no policy implications from this report
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the Section 151 Officer)	There are no direct financial implications for the Authority
Legal Implications: (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	The Council has powers to fix Hackney Carriage Fares under Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. This can only be done once consultation has taken place and any objections properly considered.
Risk Management:	Proposals to vary the tables of fares need to advertised and any objections brought back to this panel for consideration
Access to Information	<p>The following background papers have been used in the preparation of this report:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Letter of Application from Trade 2. Fares charged by neighbouring authorities <p>The author of the report is John Gregory – Regulatory Services Manager</p> <p> Telephone - 0161 342 3520</p> <p> E-mail john.gregory@tameside.gov.uk</p>

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 allows a district council to fix the rates for fares which will be charged by Hackney Carriages within the district.

2. REPORT

- 2.1 The current fares were last reviewed in October 2012 using the key decision process. The matter was considered by the Cabinet Deputy for Environmental Services. A copy of the current tariff is attached at **Appendix 1**.
- 2.2 In November 2017, a request was received from the Tameside Owners & Drivers Association for a variation to the fare structure. Details of the request are attached at **Appendix 2**.
- 2.3 In accordance with previous applications, consultation has been carried out with all 150 Hackney Carriage owners. 56 letters supporting the application for review have been received by licensing, together with 4 opposing the application.
- 2.4 A comparison of the current and proposed tariffs is also attached at **Appendix 3**, which shows the impact of the proposed charges.
- 2.5 A comparison of the current and proposed tariffs 1 and 2 across Greater Manchester is shown within the application submitted by the Owners & Drivers Association.
- 2.6 The consultation procedure following a request for a fare increase is as follows:-
- Write to all Hackney Carriage owners seeking their views – completed December 2017.
 - Report to Speakers Panel with owners comments – 23 January 2018.
 - Advertise the fare increase in the local press in accordance with Legislation.
 - Allow 14 days for representations.
 - Representations taken into consideration and decision made by Cabinet Deputy (*If no representations received then the fare review is automatically approved*).
 - Licensing Office contact meter agents to program new fares.
 - Licensing office check meters for accuracy.

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 Panel are requested to consider the application.