

**Date**16th August 2022**Subject****APPLICATION FOR VARIATION OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARE TABLE****Strategy**

The hackney carriage trade provides public transport to all sectors of the community including vulnerable persons. They are on occasions the only accessible form of transport available. T.O.D.A. believes in regular reviews of fares to consider the constantly shifting costs and passenger trends associated with the taxi trade, in providing a quality taxi service through better job security and higher vehicle standards. Regular fare reviews should maintain the income of taxi drivers and owners. In turn, maintaining a professional aspect to taxi driving and seeking to encourage taxi drivers to commit to further education such as NVQ's and other safeguarding/customers service courses. It would also encourage owners to invest in newer and more advanced vehicles, which will encourage members of the public to use taxis when shopping or socialising in Tameside; adding further to the local economy.

Introduction

Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 gives the Council the power to fix the rates or fares within the district for time and 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 of fares. When setting hackney carriage fares there is no requirement in the Act to consider external factors, and there is no limit on the amount of increase or variation.

Background Information

History shows that hackney carriage fare variations have been irregular over the years in Tameside, with changes in 2004, 2008, 2011, 2012, 2018 and the last application being made in October 2021.

The application submitted in October 2021 for a variation in hackney carriage fares was originally submitted in March 2020, but due to the uncertainties of the Covid 19 lockdown the application was withdrawn. This application provided the most up to date information and figures available at the time., however, due to the lengthy statutory legal process involved in any hackney carriage fare variation, the new fares only actually came into effect in March 2022.

Unfortunately, in that time between October 2021 and March 2022, the UK experienced an fuel/energy "crisis", further exasperated by the war in Ukraine, resulting in average diesel cost rising by 28.3% from 139.78p per litre in October 2021 to 179.30p per litre in March 2022, with UK inflation accelerating to, at the time, a 30 year high of 6.2%; making the figures used in the application somewhat immaterial.

Since then, the unprecedented rises in the cost of living have seen prices soar and production costs skyrocket, thus having a huge knock-on effect on the costs associated with running and purchasing a compliant hackney carriage vehicle, with UK average diesel price alone reaching a record high of 199.05p in July 2022 and EV charging prices rising by an average of 29% since the beginning of the year.

TaxiPoint – UKTaxi News found that diesel black cab drivers are on average spending £2500 a year on fuel based on prices just 12 months ago.

The price of a new Cab Direct Mercedes-Benz Vito Taxi, currently the most popular vehicle in the Tameside hackney carriage fleet, increased from £34,995 in August 2021 to a list price of £46,995 for new models from September 2022

JULY 2021

JULY 2022

July 2021	July 2022
<p>Mercedes-Benz Vito Taxi</p> <p>Now from only £34,995 OTR</p> <p>Offer available while stocks last!</p>	<p>Mercedes-Benz Vito Taxi</p> <p>Now from only £42,500* OTR</p> <p>SAVE £4,000</p>
<p>TAXI NEWS</p> <p>FOLLOW</p> <p>COSTING THOUSANDS</p> <p>Diesel TX4 taxi drivers spending over £2,500 a year MORE on fuel based on prices just 12-months ago</p>	

Proposal

The proposal is to;

- Increase the running mile price by 10% across all tariffs.
- Increases in the flag fall price for the first time since 2008.
- Increase waiting time prices for the first time since 2012, by 12.5%
- Increase the soiling charge from £30 to £40 if the inside of the cab needs cleaning.
- Add Manchester Airport barrier charges to the fare table

Tariff 1 - Day Rate – 6am - 11pm

Flag fall to increase by 50p from £2.00 to £2.50

Price per mile to increase by 10% from £2.30 to £2.53, by reducing the yardage from 153 to 139 yards.

Waiting time to increase by 12.5% from £16.00 per hour to £18.00, by reducing the amount of time for 20p from 45 to 40 seconds.

	CURRENT	PROPOSED
FLAG FALL COST	£2.00	£2.50
FLAG FALL YARDAGE	153yds	139yds
SUBSEQUENT YARDAGE	153yds	139yds
PRICE PER UNIT	20p	20p
WAITING TIME PER HOUR	£16.00	£18.00
RUNNING MILE	£2.30	£2.53

Tariff 2 - Night Rate – 11pm – 6am

Flag fall to increase by 30p from £2.70 to £3.00

Price per mile to increase by 10% from £2.97 to £3.26, by reducing the yardage from 118.5 to 108 yards.

Waiting time to increase by 12.5% from £20.00 per hour to £22.50, by reducing the amount of time for 20p from 36 to 32 seconds.

	CURRENT	PROPOSED
FLAG FALL COST	£2.70	£3.00
FLAG FALL YARDAGE	118.5yds	108yds
SUBSEQUENT YARDAGE	118.5yds	108yds
PRICE PER UNIT	20p	20p
WAITING TIME PER HOUR	£20.00	£22.50
RUNNING MILE	£2.97	£3.26

Tariff 3 - Holiday Rate – Operates from midnight to midnight (00.00 to 23.59) on all public holidays, and from 2pm on 24th December to 6am on 27th December and 2pm on 31st December to 6am on 2nd January.

Flag fall to increase by 30p from £2.70 to £3.00

Price per mile to increase by 10% from £3.52 to £3.87, by reducing the yardage from 100 to 91 yards.

Waiting time to increase by 12.5% from £24.00 per hour to £27.00, by reducing the amount of time for 20p from 30 to 26.7 seconds.

	CURRENT	PROPOSED
FLAG FALL COST	£2.70	£3.00
FLAG FALL YARDAGE	100yds	91yds
SUBSEQUENT YARDAGE	100yds	91yds
PRICE PER UNIT	20p	20p
WAITING TIME PER HOUR	£24.00	£27.00
RUNNING MILE	£3.52	£3.87

Summary

	FLAG FALL	1 MILE	2 MILE	3 MILE	4 MILE	5 MILE	6 MILE	7 MILE	8 MILE	9 MILE	10 MILE	PER MILE
CURRENT TARIFF 1	2.00	4.20	6.60	8.80	11.00	13.40	15.60	18.00	20.20	22.60	24.80	2.30
PROPOSED TARIFF 1	2.50	4.90	7.50	9.90	12.50	15.10	17.50	20.10	22.70	25.10	27.70	2.53
CURRENT TARIFF 2	2.70	5.50	8.50	11.50	14.50	17.50	20.50	23.30	26.30	29.30	32.30	2.97
PROPOSED TARIFF 2	3.00	6.20	9.40	12.60	16.00	19.20	22.40	25.80	29.00	32.20	35.40	3.26
CURRENT TARIFF 3	2.70	6.10	9.70	13.10	16.70	20.10	23.70	27.30	30.70	34.30	37.70	3.52
PROPOSED TARIFF 3	3.00	6.80	10.60	14.60	18.40	22.20	26.20	30.00	33.80	37.80	41.60	3.87

Tameside MBC
Maximum Hackney Carriage Fares
Operative xxx



Tariff 1 - Day Rate	Daily, 6am to 11pm
For first 139 yards	£2.50
then for every 139 yards or part thereof	20p
Waiting time every 40 seconds	20p

Tariff 2 - Night Rate	Daily, 11pm to 6am
For first 108 yards	£3.00
then for every 108 yards or part thereof	20p
Waiting time every 32 seconds	20p

Tariff 3 - Holiday Rate	2pm 24 December to 6am 27 December 2pm 31 December to 6am 2 January Public Holidays 24hr (midnight to midnight)
For first 91 yards	£3.00
then for every 91 yards or part thereof	20p
Waiting time every 27 seconds	20p

Extra Charges	
Each additional passenger or animals	20p
Soiling charge (must be paid if inside of cab needs cleaning)	£40.00
All Manchester Airport barrier charges (drop-off & pick-up) must be paid by the hirer.	
No extra charges for wheelchairs, prams, guide/hearing dogs or children under 12 years.	
Extras to be limited to a maximum of 60p for four-seater Hackney Vehicles, 80p for five-seater Hackney Vehicles, £1.00 for six-seater Hackney Vehicles, £1.20 for seven-seater Hackney Vehicles and £1.40 for eight-seater Hackney Vehicles.	

Authorised Fares and charges when operating within the Borough of Tameside	
When a hackney carriage is standing or plying for hire the fare for any hiring shall be calculated in accordance with the fare table for all journeys within the Metropolitan Borough of Tameside unless the hirer expresses his / her desire to engage a hackney carriage by time, when the rate of fare shall be calculated by time. Such rate of fare shall be agreed in advance prior to the commencement of the journey.	
The rate of fares fixed by the Council shall include rates or fares for any journey commencing within Tameside and ending at any point within Greater Manchester, but outside Tameside, less than four miles from the nearest Tameside boundary.	