

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

LICENSING & APPEALS COMMITTEE

08 March 2022

Report of the Director of Central Services and Deputy Chief Executive

Part 1- Public

Delegated

1 OBJECTION TO HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES SET ON 29 JANUARY 2022

1.1 Background

1.1.1 On the 29 January 2022 Members agreed to an increase of Hackney Carriage Fares. The new proposed Fare increase was advertised for 14 days, starting on the 3 January 2022, and finishing on the 17 February 2022. A copy of the report for the 29 January 2022 is shown as **Annex 1**.

1.1.2 A copy of the minutes from the Licensing and Appeals Committee on the 29 January 2022 is shown at **Annex 2**.

1.1.3 During this 14-day notice period Licensing Services received one formal objections to the Fare increase set on the 29 January 2022.

1) Objection #1. A copy is shown at **Annex 3**

1.1.4 During this 14-day notice period Licensing Services received analysis from a Tonbridge taxi company, giving details of the number of journeys they undertake from the Waterloo Taxi Stand, Waterloo Road.

- 2344 rank journeys between 9 February 2021 and 8 February 2022
- Total value £26,051.10
- Average rank journey is 3.6 miles with a value of £11.11

A copy of this analysis is shown at **Annex 4**

1.2 Legal Implications

1.2.1 Any proposal to vary the table of fares is subject to consultation. Under the Local Government Act 1976 – Section 65, any fares approved by the Council must be advertised via a public notice in a local newspaper. Any relevant objections received would need to be reported back to Members for consideration.

1.3 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

- 1.3.1 It should be noted that the tariff is the maximum fare that can be charged, and discounts can be given, should the driver wish.

1.4 Risk Assessment

- 1.4.1 Approval of a new maximum fare, below the expectation of the hackney carriage trade, may result in dissatisfaction from the trade. Increasing the maximum fare may result in complaints from members of the public.

1.5 Equality Impact Assessment

- 1.5.1 The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

1.6 Recommendations

- 1.6.1 Members are invited to consider the one objection to increasing the Hackney Carriage Fares as detailed in Annex 3 of the report.

1.6.2

Background papers:

contact: Anthony Garnett

Nil

Adrian Stanfield

Director of Central Services and Deputy Chief Executive