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Cabinet Member for City Services

3<sup>rd</sup> August 2022

**Name of Cabinet Member:**

Cabinet Member for City Services – Councillor P Hetherton

**Director Approving Submission of the report:**

Director of Streetscene & Regulatory Services

**Ward(s) affected:**

All Wards

**Title:**

Results of Consultation on proposals for Hackney Carriage Fares 2022 – Night-Time & Bank Holiday Rates

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**Is this a key decision?**

'No – Although the matter will affect all Wards in the City, it is not anticipated that the impact will be significant'

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**Executive Summary:**

Following a three-week consultation period with the entire Coventry City Council trade four proposals of fare increase were considered and the results are detailed in at Appendix A. Comments by the trade detailed in Appendix B.

**Recommendations:**

The Cabinet Member for City Services is recommended to:

1. Consider the results of the consultation
2. Approve option B of the four proposals, subject to advertising and objections.

**List of Appendices included:**

Appendix A – Results of the consultation

Appendix B – Comments by the trade on the consultation

**Other useful background papers:**

None

**Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?**

No

**Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?**

No

**Will this report go to Council?**

No

**Report title:**

Results of Consultation on proposals for Hackney Carriage Fares 2022 – Night-Time & Bank Holiday Rates

**1. Context (or background)**

- 1.1 Hackney Carriage fares are regulated by the City Council. The last increase of night-time & bank holiday rates was implemented in September 2014. Although the City Council has no power to directly regulate private hire fares, it is custom and practice in Coventry for private hire fares to reflect hackney carriage fares. The justification for local authorities being able to regulate Hackney Carriage fares is that customers hailing taxis from the street or from a rank have little or no bargaining power.
- 1.2 Following representation from the trade, the Cabinet Member for City Services recently agreed a rise in the day-time rate. However, this has created a disparity with the night-time and bank holiday rate and the trade has requested a rise in these rates.
- 1.2 A two-week consultation has been carried out with the entire trade (hackney carriage drivers, private hire drivers, hackney carriage vehicle proprietors, private hire vehicle proprietors and private hire operators).

**2. Options considered and recommended proposal**

- 2.1 Four options to increase night-time and bank holiday rate fares were considered. There were 240 responses from the trade (these are attached at Appendix A with an overall weighting score).
- 2.2 Option A – Keep the night-time and bank holiday fares at the current rate (i.e. September 2014 level). 28% of the trade chose this option as their number one choice.

Start point night-time tariff of £3.60 with an incremental increase per 1/10<sup>th</sup> of a mile at 25p

Start point bank holiday tariff of £3.90 with a subsequent increment per 1/10th of a mile of 35p

- 2.3 Option B – Taxi Trade preferred option. 52.12% of the trade chose this option as their number one choice.

Start point night-time tariff of £4.60 and a subsequent increment increase per 1/10th of a mile to 30p.

Start point bank holiday tariff increasing to £4.90 and a subsequent increment per 1/10th of a mile remaining at 35p

In view of the overwhelming choice of the trade officers recommend this option to be implemented subject to advertising and objections, if any.

- 2.4 Option C – 12.23% of the trade chose this option as their number one choice.

Start point night-time tariff increasing to £4.60 with the subsequent increment per 1/10th of a mile remaining at 25p.

Start point bank holiday tariff increasing to £4.90 with the subsequent increment per 1/10th of a mile remaining at 35p

- 2.5 Option D – 8.7% of the trade chose this option as their number one choice.
- Start point night-time tariff increasing to £4.10 with the subsequent increment per 1/10th of a mile remaining at 25p.
- Start point bank holiday tariff increasing to £4.40 with the subsequent increment per 1/10th of a mile remaining at 35p

- 2.6 The trade were also asked for their comments. There were 55 comments from the trade (these are attached at Appendix B).

### **3. Results of consultation undertaken**

- 3.1 Unite Union (the Coventry taxi trade representatives) have been sent a copy of this report. Any comments received will be reported at the meeting.

### **4. Timetable for implementing this decision**

- 4.1 It is proposed that the Cabinet Member choice is advertised in the subject to objections and then a further Cabinet Member report will hear these objections, if any. If there are no objections, then it is intended that the new meter rate will be programmed into computers week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022. If there are objections, then a further Cabinet Member report will be heard on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

### **5. Comments from the Chief Operating Officer (Section 151 Officer) and the Director of Law and Governance**

#### **5.1 Financial implications**

There are no implications on Council budgets.

#### **5.2 Legal implications**

The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 lays down a statutory procedure for varying fares charged by hackney carriage drivers. This procedure involves giving public notice of the proposed changes and a 14-day objection period. If objections are made they must be considered by the Cabinet Member before the proposed fare changes or any alternative can be implemented.

### **6. Other implications**

None

#### **6.1 How will this contribute to the Council Plan ([www.coventry.gov.uk/councilplan/](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/councilplan/))**

It will help to facilitate improvements in the taxi services available to the people of Coventry, which will contribute towards ensuring that children and young people are safe; making places and services accessible and encouraging a creative, active and vibrant city.

#### **6.2 How is risk being managed?**

Through established reporting and governance arrangements.

**6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?**

None

**6.4 Equalities / EIA**

None

**6.5 Implications for (or impact on) climate change and the environment**

None

**6.6 Implications for partner organisations?**

Improvements in taxi services will benefit partner and other organisations, in terms of improving the safety, availability and value for money of taxis in Coventry.

**Report author(s):**

**Name and job title:**

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Members: Cllr Hetherton	Cabinet Member for City Services		15/07/2022	15/07/2022

This report is published on the council's website:

[www.coventry.gov.uk/councilmeetings](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/councilmeetings)

## Appendix A

**Option A Night Time - Keep the fare at its current rate. This is a start point night time tariff of £3.60 with a subsequent increment per 1/10th of a mile of 25p. Bank Holidays – Keep the fare at its current rate. This is a start point bank holiday tariff of £3.90 with a subsequent increment per 1/10th of a mile of 35p**

**Option B      Night Time - A start point night time tariff increasing to £4.60 and a subsequent increment increase per 1/10th of a mile to 30p. Bank Holidays - A start point bank holiday tariff increasing to £4.90 and a subsequent increment per 1/10th of a mile remaining at 35p**

**Option C      Night Time - A start point night time tariff increasing to £4.60 with the subsequent increment per 1/10th of a mile remaining at 25p.      Bank Holidays – A start point bank holiday tariff increasing to £4.90 with the subsequent increment per 1/10th of a mile remaining at 35p**

**Option D –      Night Time - A start point night time tariff increasing to £4.10 with the subsequent increment per 1/10th of a mile remaining at 25p. Bank Holidays – A start point bank holiday tariff increasing to £4.40 with the subsequent increment per 1/10th of a mile remaining at 35p**

A	28.00%	63	20.44%	46	15.56%	35	36.00%	81	225	2.4
B	52.12%	123	27.97%	66	11.86%	28	8.05%	19	236	3.24
C	12.23%	28	39.30%	90	30.57%	70	17.90%	41	229	2.46
D	8.70%	20	12.17%	28	40.87%	94	38.26%	88	230	1.91
										Answered      240
										Skipped      5

## Appendix B

- 1 Wwwwqq  
Hi, thanks for asking the driver's opinion, I've tick the option D which is starting from £4.10,
  - 2 I think it's quite reasonable, also I would request to finish the bank holiday fare & only keep the Christmas & new year tariff, thanks & regards  
The increments here are 25p and 35p if the cash fare ends on a 5pence then I find it
  - 3 irritating when I have to keep a bag of 5ps, why can't you just keep it with 30p or 40p increments  
Option B
  - 4 Is my choice  
Please private hire need to increase the tariffs as well. We losing all the drivers to
  - 5 wolverhampton. To be honest even I am thinking to switch to wolverhampton. I believe council knows the reason as well.  
Scrap bank holiday for good.
- Leave it on night rate.
- 6 Customer are so confused that they think it's double time on bank holiday.  
With the new fare rise I'm happy to scrap the bank holiday and give something back to the public and motivate them to use us on bank Holidays.  
Scrap bank holiday for good.
  - 7 Customer are so confused that they think it's double time on bank holiday.  
With the new fare rise I'm happy to scrap the bank holiday and give something back to the public and motivate them to use us on bank Holidays.
  - 8 The fare should be double on holidays.
  - 9 Scrap the bank holidays apart from new years and Christmas Day
  - 10 Option B
  - 11 Get Uber out!  
The B option should be alright
  - 12 Because of to much expenses and fuel and other stuff  
Thankyou for this
  - 13 Hi, I personally think there should not be a bank holiday tariff apart from Christmas Day and New Years Eve  
As our trade gone down the hill after Uber and Ola came to town after COVID mostly drivers left the trade so little we are left with it can be safe with staying on to old tariffs if you want to increase then 3.60 start is fair enough for driver and passengers as we both are facing some difficult times.i think bank holidays should be scraped altogether we don't get much work on bank holidays as passengers use Uber or Ola on those days work out cheaper for them so please scrap bank holidays all of them thank you
  - 15 There should always be an incentive to work on days which are Bank Holidays and unsociable hours to provide a service to the public. Option B, seems the most beneficial, I

propose the night time rate to start after 8pm, rather than 10pm, this would encourage drivers to start their shifts earlier and end at an appropriate time to find a work life balance. You do have to consider that these rates will be in force till the near future, especially with the rise in rates and demand for an all electric fleet of Hackney Carriage Vehicles.

- 16 Option a
- 17 Keep the holiday rate.
- 18 My option is B because everyone is getting bonus on bank holidays and night shifts
- 19 Option b because everyone is getting bonus on night shifts and. Bank holidays
- 20 N/a
- 21 2
- 22 Number 2
- 23 Number 2  
My opinion is we don't need a bank holiday rate and a normal fare is better for us and the day and night option should be only one option.
- 24 Thank you

My opinion is we don't need a bank holiday rate and a normal fare is better for us and the day and night option should be only one option.

- 25 Thank you

- 26 N/A
- 27 Ok thanks
- 28 2  
I think bank holidays rate should stay normal
- 29 ( as on normal days )

- Only Christmas & New Years should be a higher rate .
- 30 I really don't think increase in night time rate or bank holidays should have increase. Neither should there be fare and half the new rate would be ample.
- 31 Option B because every one getting bonus on night shifts and bank holidays  
Let's just have the existing night tariff (2) , as the new daytime, nighttime and Holiday tariff.
- 32 No new extras or anything else.
- 33 4:60 card payment minimum £5
- 34 Bank holiday tariff should always be higher than normal day or night rate.
- 35 My suggestion is nights start £4.10 and 1/10 mile increase 5 penny to 30  
Increment in base fare and keeping .25p is good. Increase in base will cover the fuel costs and passenger will be happy too on long journeys like over 4 to 5 miles

- 37 The Fare Should be Double  
Night tariffs should be 4.60 start and 30 p drop
- 38 Bank hoidays 4.90 start and 35 p drop
- 39 Take out all bank holiday rates  
Night rate should increase to a starting price of £4.60 and incremental increase of 30p as previously agreed. Bank holiday rate should be exact same as night rate starting at £4.60 and incremental increase of 30p. It would not make sense for day rate to be at £3.90 with a 30p increase and night rate being less then this at £3.60 with 25p increase!  
You should work to keep local businesses alive.

There is a clear understanding, who so ever wants to make serious money in taxi trade, switch to UBER. Coventry Council should put pressure on UBER to get register in Coventry and start onboarding locals. This way Coventry Council and drivers will also get the business.

41

No matter what you do local business will not pick without tackling UBER.

You can not ignore 80% imported share of UBER in Coventry.

I suggest increase the fare and totally kill the local trade.

- 42 Need a encourage taxi fare ful price over £2 liter thanks  
I would suggest minimum starting fare £4.60 day and £5 night £5.60 for bank holiday, with normal per 1/10 mile rates
- 44 Increase on everything fuel food insurance house hold bills etc  
Keep the fares the same and no time and half only on Christmas Day
- 46 Keep the fare increase has it is over 24 hour period no increase on bank Holidays or nights
- 47 Keep the fare increase has it is over 24 hour period no increase on bank Holidays or nights
- 48 Increase night rate to £4.60 with 35p increment, same as daytime increase and leave the bank holiday rate as it is.  
I think the current fare price is ok and the price increase is to much we might lose all our customers to Uber so we should cancel the fare increase
- 50 Bank Holidays = £5.00 start and increase of 50pence increment s per 1/10 f a mile.
- 51 .
- 52 £3.80 all day start
- 53 Think about the fuel prices please
- 54 Scrap the bank holiday altogether
- 55 4.40