

COFNOD O BENDERFYNIAD WEDI'I DDIRPRWYO GAN SWYDDOG RECORD OF DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION

Penderfyniad Allweddol | Key Decision

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PWNC | SUBJECT: PROPOSALS FOR THE INCREASE IN HACKNEY CARRIAGE TARIFFS

DIBEN YR ADRODDIAD | PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:

The purpose of the report is to undertake a review of current tariffs (and undertake a statutory public consultation) in respect of Hackney Carriage journeys carried out within the County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf and to set a new tariff which ensures that a balance is achieved between:

- i. The needs of the trade to operate a viable business.
- ii. The needs of the consumers within Rhondda Cynon Taf area.
- iii. The profile of the service to meet corporate objectives.

PENDERFYNIAD WEDI'I DDIRPRWYO | DELEGATED DECISION:

- Approval of the proposed draft new Tariff for Hackney Carriage journeys in RCT.
- Approval to undertake a consultation with the public on the proposed scale of charges, as required within Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 which legislates for the fixing of fares for Hackney Carriages.

Ole.	Louise Davies	27.05.22
Llofnod y Prif Swyddog Chief Officer Signature	Enw (priflythrennau) Name (Print Name)	Dyddiad Date

Mae'r penderfyniad yn cael ei wneud yn unol ag Adran 15 o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol 2000 (Swyddogaethau'r Corff Gweithredol) ac yn y cylch gorchwyl sy wedi'i nodi yn Adran 5 o Ran 3 o Gyfansoddiad y Cyngor.

The decision is taken in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government Act, 2000 (Executive Functions) and in the terms set out in Section 5 of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution.

27.05.22
DYDDIAD DATE
07 05 00
27.05.22
DYDDIAD DATE

RHEOLAU'R WEITHDREFN GALW	/-I-MEWN CA	LL IN PROCEDU	JRE RULES.	
A YW'R PENDERFYNIAD YN UN BI Y PWYLLGOR TROSOLWG A CHR IS THE DECISION DEEMED URGEN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:	AFFU?:			
Υſ	DY YES	NAC YDY NO		
Rheswm dros fod yn fater brys Re	eason for Urger	ncy:		
Os yw'n cael ei ystyried yn fater b Gwasanaeth Cyflogedig yn cadarr yn yr holl amgylchiadau iddo gael a chraffu 17.2: If deemed urgent - signature of Pre Service confirming agreement that th it being treated as a matter of urgeno 17.2:	nhau cytundek ei drin fel mat esiding Membe he proposed de	o fod y penderfy er brys, yn unol r or Deputy Pres ecision is reasona	niad arfaethedig yn rhe â rheol gweithdrefn tro iding Member or Head o able in all the circumstand	symol solwg of Paid ces for
(Llywydd	d Presiding M	 ember)	 (Dyddiad Date)	
DS - Os yw hwn yn benderfyni penderfyniad i mewn a bydd y pe				

NB - If this is a reconsidered decision then the decision Cannot be Called In and the decision will take effect from the date the decision is signed.

wedi'i lofnodi.

AT DDEFNYDD Y SWYDDFA YN UNIG | FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

DYDDIADAU CYHOEDDI A GWEITHREDU PUBLICATION & IMPLEMENTATION DATES
CYHOEDDI PUBLICATION Cyhoeddi ar Wefan y Cyngor Publication on the Councils Website:27.05.2022
DYDDIAD DATE
GWEITHREDU'R PENDERFYNIAD IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION
Nodwch: Fydd y penderfyniad hwn ddim yn dod i rym nac yn cael ei weithredu'n llawn nes cyn pen 3 diwrnod gwaith ar ôl ei gyhoeddi. Nod hyn yw ei alluogi i gael ei "Alw i Mewn" yn unol â Rheol 17.1, Rheolau Gweithdrefn Trosolwg a Chraffu.
Note: This decision will not come into force and may not be implemented until the expiry of 3 clear working days after its publication to enable it to be the subject to the Call-In Procedure in Rule 17.1 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.
Yn amodol ar y drefn "Galw i Mewn", caiff y penderfyniad ei roi ar waith ar / Subject to Call In the implementation date will be
02.06.2022 DYDDIAD / DATE
WEDI'I GYMERADWYO I'W GYHOEDDI: ✓ APPROVED FOR PUBLICATION :✓

Rhagor o wybodaeth | Further Information:

Cyfadran Directorate:	Public Health, Protection & Community Services
Enw'r Person Cyswllt Contact Name:	Martyn Owen
Swydd Designation:	Assistant Licensing Officer
Rhif Ffôn Telephone Number:	07384456967

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION

21st APRIL 2022

PROPOSALS FOR THE INCREASE IN HACKNEY CARRIAGE TARIFFS

REPORT OF DIRECTOR - PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Author(s): Martyn Owen, Assistant Licensing Manager - 07384456967

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to undertake a review of current tariffs in respect of Hackney Carriage journeys carried out within the County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf, and to set a new tariff which ensures that a balance is achieved between:
 - (i) The needs of the trade to operate a viable business.
 - (ii) The needs of the consumers within Rhondda Cynon Taf area.
 - (iii) The profile of the service to meet corporate objectives.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that

- 2.1 Approval is granted on the proposed scale of taxi meter tariffs at this stage by the Director of Public Health Protection and Community Services and the appropriate Cabinet Member.
- 2.2 Approval is granted to consult with the public on the proposed scale of taxi meter tariffs.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 makes provision for a Council to set a prescribed rate or table of fares (tariff) operable within their district.
- 3.2 This provision applies only to Hackney Carriages as Private Hire Vehicles are deemed to be hired under a separate provision that does not afford the regulation of fares.
- 3.3 Since the inception of Rhondda Cynon Taf on the 1st April 1996 (Local Government Re-organisation), the Council has elected to operate a specified tariff of fares.

- 3.4 The tariff is a directive of the maximum charge that may be made. Licensees may charge below that rate (should market forces or conscience dictate) but must not charge in excess of it.
- 3.5 Consequently, the tariff does not dictate how licensees operate their business but does provide an element of protection for members of the public.
- 3.6 It is a condition that:
 - (i) The current tariff be displayed in a licensed vehicle.
 - (ii) The Taxi Meter in a vehicle be programmed with the current tariff, as approved by the Licensing Authority.
- 3.7 It is recognised that there is limited public awareness as to the tariff structure and it is difficult to calculate the cost of the proposed journey. However, the display on the Taxi Meter indicates to the passenger the maximum fare that can be charged for their journey.

4 REASONING

- 4.1 The 'Unite' taxi union have requested consideration of the current tariff for meter charges on Hackney Carriages.
- 4.2 The last Hackney Carriage meter rate increase was in 2012, almost a decade ago and much has changed since then.
- 4.3 Requirements for cleaner & greener vehicles are pivotal for the Authority in its aim to become a carbon neutral Authority. This is in line with electric vehicle charging strategy 2021-2030.
- 4.4 The recent pandemic has caused the taxi trade to suffer losses in income which has had a further impact on the ability to purchase vehicles that will be compliant with the aim and ambition of Welsh Government and RCT Council. Such vehicles come at a much higher cost to the drivers and operators. These costs depend on whether the vehicles are fully electric, hybrid or even Euro 6 compliant.
- 4.5 Since the last increase in meter rates for RCT licensed Hackney vehicles, the cost of living has risen dramatically. In July 2012, the average petrol price was £1.32 per litre. Diesel was £1.37 per litre. As of April 1^{st,} 2022, petrol averages at £1.63 and diesel at £1.77 per litre. (source www.racfoundation.org)
- 4.6 This represents at 23.5% increase in petrol costs and a 29.4% increase in diesel costs, based purely on date-to-date comparison.
- 4.7 Inflation as measured by the Retail Price Index averaged 3.1 across 2012. Today, RPI inflation sits at 8.2% and the lesser CPI at 6.2%. Inflation across the whole of 2021 alone was 7.5%. The 6.2% inflation rate for the CPI in the United Kingdom is at a 30-year high.

- 4.8 The current fee for Tariff 1 per two mile is £5.20, this is the lowest of all neighbouring authorities surrounding the County Borough and well below the UK national average of £6.17.
- 4.9 The proposed Tariffs are attached as Appendix 1. The proposed tariff 1 for two miles is £5.80, this represents a 10.35% increase, however this remains below the national average of £6.17, which can be seen in the 'National Hackney Fares table' taken from private hire monthly magazine (copy attached as Appendix 2).
- 4.10 The table below shows a comparison for Welsh Local Authorities on Tariff 1, 2 mile average as of April 2022, including the year they were last amended, though some of these are under review and are subject to increases. The Welsh national average based on the below table is £5.72, though this is subject to increase due to other Authorities reviewing their rates.

Local Authority	Price	Year last increased
Carmarthenshire	£6.80	2022
Pembrokeshire	£6.30	2019
Cardiff	£6.10	2018
Conwy	£6.00	2019
Gwynedd	£6.00	2019
Vale of Glamorgan	£6.00	2018
Bridgend	£5.80	2018
Flintshire	£5.80	2020
Monmouthshire	£5.70	2011
Swansea	£5.70	2018
Denbighshire	£5.60	2018
Newport	£5.60	2015
Wrexham	£5.60	2011
Merthyr	£5.50	2020
Torfaen	£5.50	2018
Ceredigion	£5.46	2018
Neath & Port Talbot	£5.46	2019
Caerphilly	£5.40	2018
Powys	£5.40	2018
Blaenau Gwent	£5.20	2018
Rhondda Cynon Taf	£5.20	2012

4.11 Explanation of each tariff is as follows:

Tariff 1	Prices apply during hours of 7am - 7pm (for 1- passengers)
Tariff 2	Prices apply during hours of 7pm - 7am + Sundays & Bank holidays (for 1-4 passengers)
Tariff 3	Prices apply during hours of 7am - 7pm (for 5-8 passengers)
Tariff 4	Prices apply during hours of 7pm - 7am + Sundays & Bank holidays (for 5-8 passengers)
Tariff 5	Double tariff 1 on Christmas & New Year
Tariff 6	Double tariff 3 on Christmas & New Year

5. **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) screening form has been prepared for the purpose of this report. It has been found that a full EqIA is not required.

6. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 A Welsh Language Impact assessment has been completed. It is deemed that the amendments proposed are demographic neutral and will not negatively impact on Welsh language.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

- 7.1 This report does not result directly in any additional financial implications.
- 7.2 The increase in fares will need to be publicly advertised and the associated costs of advertising will be borne by the Licensing Service from within its existing budget.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

8.1 Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 was considered which provides legislation for fixing of fares for Hackney Carriages.

9. <u>LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-</u>BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT

- 9.1 The Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Vehicle trade provides an essential service to all members of the public. It is inclusive of all including those who are vulnerable and those with disabilities, for whom wheelchair accessible vehicles can be utilised.
- 9.2 A safe and suitable taxi fleet is instrumental in assisting to sustain a vibrant economy. Licensed vehicles are used to transport children to schools, by the public to attend medical appointments, for shopping, to go on vacation and assists in transporting people home safely within the night-time economy.

10. CONCLUSION

- 10.1 The Tariffs in RCT have not been reviewed for 10 years; during this time much has changed including the cost of living, fuel prices, maintenance of vehicles and unprecedented pandemic which has caused loss of earnings for drivers.
- 10.2 It is proposed that consideration is given to the requested increase in tariffs to enable the taxi trade to be able to be viable in their business, which in turn provides a service to the community. The requested change in fees is shown in Appendix 1 which also shows a comparison of costs between current and proposed.
- 10.3 The Licensing Authority propose that a review of taxi meter tariffs within the County Borough is undertaken every 3 years, subject to extenuating circumstances that may require consideration of an earlier review.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION

21ST APRIL 2022

REPORT OF DIRECTOR – PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

PROPOSALS FOR THE INCREASE IN HACKNEY CARRIAGE TARIFFS

Background Papers

None

Officer to contact

Martyn Owen – Assistant Licensing Officer

Proposed Taxi Meter Increase

Below is a comparison table for current RCT tariffs and the proposed tariffs, indicating a journey based on 2 mile, 5 mile and 10 mile.

Tariff 1 (up to 4 passengers) increase from £3.60 base rate and 1/16th to £4.00 base rate and 1/18th thereafter.

Distance	Current price	New price
2 mile	£5.20	£5.80
5 mile	£10.00	£11.20
10 mile	£18.00	£20.20

Tariff 2 (up to 4 passengers) increase from £3.90 base rate and 1/18th to £4.50 base rate and 1/20th thereafter.

Distance	Current price	New price
2 mile	£5.70	£6.50
5 mile	£10.80	£12.50
10 mile	£19.80	£22.50

Tariff 3 (5 to 8 persons) increase from £4.50 base rate and 1/18th to £5.00 base rate and 1/20th thereafter.

Distance	Current price	New price
2 mile	£6.30	£7.00
5 mile	£11.70	£13.00
10 mile	£20.70	£23.00

Tariff 4 (5 to 8 persons) increase from £4.90 base rate and 1/10th to £5.40 base rate and 1/12th thereafter.

Distance	Current price	New price
2 mile	£6.90	£7.80
5 mile	£12.90	£15.00
10 mile	£22.90	£27.00

Tariff 5 is double the rate for tariff 1 Tariff 6 is double the rate for tariff 3

- Fouling of the vehicle to increase from £45.00 to £55.00
- Waiting time to increase from £13.00 to £15.00.
- Christmas Day and New Year's Day double tariff 1 and 3 to start at the following times:-
 - 6pm Christmas Eve to midnight Christmas Day
 - 6pm New Year's Eve to midnight New Year's Day

NATIONAL HACKNEY FARES TABLE APRIL 2022 The Bryan Roland Memorial

TARIFF ONE COUNCIL	6 SLOUGH 7 SOUTH HAMS		_	2 THREE RIVERS 3 THURBOOK	_	5 WARWICK 6 WEST LINDSEY	_	9 BASSETLAW	_	2 KINGSTON-UPON-HULL	_	4 NORTHUMBERLAND	1		9 CALDERDALE	_	BARNSLEY 2 BARROW IN FURNESS		4 BRIDGEND 5 BROMSGBOVE	-	FAREHAM	9 HALTON	HAVANT	HIGHLAND (x)	_	LICHFIELD NEWOASTI E HOON TAKE	7	_	9 ORKNEY (x)	REIGATE & BANSTEAD	RUTHERGLEN (x)	_	WEST SUFFOLK	WORCESTER	_	_	O DONCASTER		_	4 GEDLING	7	6 MONMOUTHSHIRE	R STIR ING (x)	SWANSEA WARRINGTON
NOITISO9	196	198	8 2	202	202	508	202	509	210	212	213	214	216	218	218	22 23	2 22	22	* %	226	227	82	230	232	233	235	236	237	83	240	242	243	244	246	247	\$ \$	550	251	252	254	755	256	258	520 560
TWO MILE Brat	26.30 26.30	06.33 26.30	06.30	16.30	26.27	26.26	02.93	02.93	26.20	26.20	56.20	£6.20	16.20	02.93	16.20	26.20	£6.20	26.20	56.20	02.53	26.20	£6.13	26.10	26.10	26.10	26.10	26.10	26.10	56.06	50.93	26.05	00.93	00.93	00'93	26.00	0.0793	E6.00	00.93	26.00	56.00 F6.00	00:93	66,00	00.03	86.00
TARIFF ONE COUNCIL	COVENTRY DACORUM	ISLE OF MAN LEWES	PEMBROKESHIRE SOUTH HOLLAND	SOUTH RIBBLE BUNDEE CITY	FOREST OF DEAN	BABERGH MIDLOTHIAN	ARGYLL & BUTE	BIRM NGHAM BRAINTREE	CHICHESTER	DERBY	CAMBRID	EAST SUFFOLK (SOUTH)	HORSHAM	NORTHAMPTON MODELL EAST LINCOLNELIDE	PORTSMOUTH UA	восньовр	SOLIHULL	SPELTHORNE	ST ALBANS STRATFORD ON AVON	WEST OXFORD	WINCHESTER	ABERDEENSHIRE	CARDIFF	CLACKMANNAN EAST HERTS	ELMBRIDGE	FYLDE	NORTH WARWICK	SOUTH AYRSHIRE	SELBY	CHARNWOOD	SCOTTISH BORDERS	BLACKPOOL	BOSTON	BUCKINGHAMSHIRE	CASTLE POINT	CONWY	EAST AYRSHIRE EAST STAFFORDSHIRE	GLOUCESTER	GREAT YARMOUTH	GWYNEDD ISLE OF WIGHT	KETTERING	KINGS LYNN & WEST NORFOLK	MILTON KEYNES NORTH WEST LEICESTER	PETERBOROUGH BYENALF
POSITION	131	133	135	137	139	<u> 후</u>	142	<u> 후</u>	145	147	42	149	<u>15</u>	<u>1</u> 25 2	3 5	155	156	158	159	<u>5</u>	162	2 2	165	166	168	169	171	172	174	175	176	178	179	2 E	182	183	185	186	187	188	190	191	192	2 2 2
3JIM OWT 3AA7	E6.70	26.70	07.92	07.93	09.93	09'93	16.60	£6.60	09.93	09.93	76.5U	16.60	26.60	£6.60	09.93	56.60	09.93	09'93	09.93	£6.55	E6.50	05 93	26.50	05.93	£6.30	26.40	6 40	£6.40	£6.40	26.40	E6.40	£6.40	26.40	56.40	£6.40	26.40	26.40	26.40	26.40	26.40	26.40	26.40	6.32	£6.30
TARIFF ONE COUNCIL	CRAWLEY	NORTH SOMERSET NORTH TYNESIDE	ROTHER	SWINDON	ARUN	BASINGSTOKE & DEANE	BRENTWOOD	CAMBRIDGE CITY	EAST SUFFOLK (NORTH)	EDEN	HABLOW	HIGH PEAK	MEDWAY (x)	HERTS	NORWICH	RUNNYMEDE	SCARBOROUGH	SOUTH CAMBRIDGE	SOUTH GLOUCESTER	reignBribge NORTH DEVON	ASHFORD	DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL	LUTON	SOUTH SOMERSET	BASILDON	BRISTOL	CANTERBURY COUNTY OF HEREFORD	CREWE & NANTWICH	EAST I INDEP		IPSWICH	LINCOLN	MALVERN HILLS	MELTON MID SUFFOLK	NORTH KESTEVEN		SHROPSHIRE SOUTHEND ON SEA		-	TENDRING	WINDSOR & MAIDENHEAD		NEWARK & SHERWOOD BI ACKBURN	BURY
POSITION	98 29	8 8	2 2	2 2	2 2	75 75	4	79	8 3	<u> </u>	8	\$ %	8 8	8 8	8 8	8	92	83	2 8	8	97	8 8	9	5 5	103	104	106	107	3 8	110	= =====================================	113	114	116	117	2 3	120	121	122	<u> </u>	125	126	127	1 28 5
TWO MILE FARE	£13.40 £9.80	08.63	£8.30	£8.20	06.73	08.73	09'23	097.3	27.48	27.40	27.40	02.40	06.73	08:23	£7.20	27.20	67.20	27.20	27.10 57.10	01.73	01.73	01.73	90 23	00 43	00.73	00.73	27.00	00.73	00.72	06.93	06 93	08.93	08:93	£6.80	1.6.80	E6.80	£6.80	26.80	08.93	E6.80	08.83	08.93	08.83	26.75
NE			(X)					N. Control						ORTLAND	SI SOMERSEI	To the second	S	N. See a									LLING	Q			ORSE		RE				(x)				WEST & TAUNTON	S. School	WORTH	
TARIFF ONE COUNCIL/AIRPORT	LONDON (HEATHROW EPSOM & EWELL	LONDON LUTON AIRPORT	WATFORD UTTLESFORD	WOKINGHAM	重	BRIGHTON & HOVE SURREY HEATH	12 GUILDFORD	13 KERRIER 14 OXFORD CITY		MAIDSTONE	-	MID SUSSEX			24 BCP		26 TORRIDGE 27 TUNBRIDGE WELLS	YORK	CHELMSFORD	31 DOVER		34 RUGBY	SEVENOAKS	36 EAST LOTHIAN		39 HERTSMERE	41 TONBRIDGE & MALLING		44 COLCHESTER		46 VALE OF WHITE HORSE	48 ADUR		50 CARADON 51 EAST DEVON			54 GRAVESHAM 55 HART			58 NOTTINGHAM 59 SEDGEMOOR	SOMERSET	SWALE	62 WOLVERHAMPTON 63 NUNEATON & BEDWORTH	1-1

Councils in positions 35D-355 do not impose a tariff for their hackney carriages and instead the Individual vehicle charges an agreed fare prior to the journey.

SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE

25.40

DUNBARTON & VALE OF LEVEN (x)

98 <u>8</u>

292

293

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE

352 353 354 354

SOUTH NORFOLK

24.50

346 REDCAR & CLEVELAND

25.50

HAMBLETON

281 282 283

285

286 287 289 289

24.60

344

277 278 279 280

TELFORD & WREKIN

338

09.53

WREXHAM

339 340

25 50

276 DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY

275

335 336 337

SUNDERLAND

24.40

348 OADBY & WIGSTON

NATIONAL HACKNEY FARES TABLE

TWO MILE HACKNEY FARE NOW £6.17 NATIONAL AVERAGE TARIFF ONE <u>S</u>

The Bryan Roland Memorial

PLEASE NOTE

08.33 25.30

REDDITCH

307

308

309

306

305

EAST RENFREW

302 303

298

300

08.53

The eagle-eyed amongst you will notice that our hackney fares table has reduced by a further three this month as the licensing authorities of West, East and North Dorset, together with Purbeck have amalgamated under the single licensing authority of Dorset. The new authorities who provide their own individual fariffs are now 355.

BLAENAU GWENT

AMBER VALLEY

WYRE FOREST

VALE ROYAL

Where an (x) appears by a listing, a fare update has been passed by the council, but our fare has not increased.

In the case of Cotswold where a (y) appears alongside the listing, the (y) refers to a fare update but one in which the fare has decreased for a two mile tariff.

STAFFS MOORLANDS

320

COLOUR CODE NO SET FARE RISE IN 2017 RISE IN 2016 RISE IN 2015 RISE IN 2014 RISE IN 2011 RISE IN 2010 **RISE IN 2018 RISE IN 2013 RISE IN 2021 RISE IN 2020** RISE IN 2009

328 SOUTH STAFFORDS 329 COPELAND 330 EAST NORTHANTS 331 KIPKLEES 332 NORTH LANARKSHII

HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH

266 267

TWO MILE

TARIFF ONE

TARIFF ONE

POSITION FARE

COUNCIL

COUNCIL

POSITION