

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

Penderfyniad Allweddol | Key Decision ✓

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 tariff in respect of Hackney Carriage journeys carried out within the 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 with Rhondda Cynon Taf area.
- (iii) The profile of the service to meet corporate objectives.

PENDERFYNIAD WEDI'I DDIRPRWYO | DELEGATED DECISION:

It is recommended that:

- a. Approval is granted at this stage on the proposed new table of fares set out in Appendix 1 by the Director of Public Health Protection and Community Services and the appropriate Cabinet Member.
- b. Approval is granted to consult for 14 days with the public on the proposed table of fares.



Louise Davies

4th March 2024

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 cyrch 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.

YMGYNGHORI | CONSULTATION



1st March 2024

LLOFNOD YR AELOD YMGYNGHOROL O'R CABINET
CONSULTEE CABINET MEMBER SIGNATURE

DYDDIAD | DATE

LLOFNOD SWYDDOG YMGYNGHOROL
CONSULTEE OFFICER SIGNATURE

DYDDIAD | DATE

WILL THIS DECISION HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE WARD?
A FYDD Y PENDERFYNIAD YMA'N CAEL EFFAITH AR Y WARD?

BYDD | YES **NA FYDD | NO** ✓

Any further comments/Need for Local Member to be informed:
Unrhyw sylwadau pellach/Oes angen rhoi gwybod i'r Aelod Lleol?:

RHEOLAU'R WEITHDREFN GALW-I-MEWN | CALL IN PROCEDURE RULES.

A YW'R PENDERFYNIAD YN UN BRYN A HEB FOD YN DESTUN PROSES GALW-I-MEWN GAN Y PWYLLGOR TROSOLWG A CHRAFFU?:

IS THE DECISION DEEMED URGENT AND NOT SUBJECT TO CALL-IN BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:

YDY | YES NAC YDY | NO✓

Rheswm dros fod yn fater brys | Reason for Urgency:

.....

Os yw'n cael ei ystyried yn fater brys - llofnod y Llywydd, y Dirprwy Llywydd neu Bennaeth y Gwasanaeth Cyflogedig yn cadarnhau cytundeb fod y penderfyniad arfaethedig yn rhesymol yn yr holl amgylchiadau iddo gael ei drin fel mater brys, yn unol â rheol gweithdrefn trosolwg a chraffu 17.2:

If deemed urgent - signature of Presiding Officer or Deputy Presiding Officer or Head of Paid Service confirming agreement that the proposed decision is reasonable in all the circumstances for it being treated as a matter of urgency, in accordance with the overview and scrutiny procedure rule 17.2:

.....
(Llywydd | Presiding Officer)

.....
(Dyddiad | Date)

DS - Os yw hwn yn benderfyniad sy'n cael ei ail-ystyried yna does dim modd galw'r penderfyniad i mewn a bydd y penderfyniad yn dod i rym o'r dyddiad mae'r penderfyniad wedi'i lofnodi.

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.

DYDDIADAU CYHOEDDI A GWEITHREDU | PUBLICATION & IMPLEMENTATION DATES

CYHOEDDI | PUBLICATION

Cyhoeddi ar Wefan y Cyngor | Publication on the Council's Website:- __04.03.24__

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

__08.03.24__
DYDDIAD / DATE

WEDI'I GYMERADWYO I'W GYHOEDDI: ✓ | APPROVED FOR PUBLICATION :✓

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION

PROPOSALS FOR THE INCREASE IN HACKNEY CARRIAGE TARIFFS

27th FEBRUARY 2024

REPORT OF DIRECTOR - PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Author(s): Martyn Owen - Assistant Licensing Manager

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of the report is to undertake a review of current tariff in respect of Hackney Carriage journeys carried out within the 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 with Rhondda Cynon Taf area.
- (iii) The profile of the service to meet corporate objectives.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that:

- a) Approval is granted at this stage on the proposed new table of fares set out in Appendix 1 by the Director of Public Health Protection and Community Services and the appropriate Cabinet Member.
- b) Approval is granted to consult for 14 days with the public on the proposed table of fares.

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 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 for journeys beginning and ending within the Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf. Licensees may

- 4.8 The taxi trade does not tend to receive salary increases but rely on the income received from custom. The cost of parts has increased, the costs of labour has increased. An increase in the tariff is their means of increasing their income per mile.
- 4.9 The current fee for Tariff 1 per two mile is £5.80, this is one of the lowest of all Welsh authorities, and well below the UK national average of £7.18.
- 4.10 The proposed Tariffs are attached as **Appendix 1**. The proposed tariff 1 for two miles is £6.00, this represents a 3.33% increase, however this remains below the national average of £7.18 (UK average), which can be seen in the 'National Hackney Fares table' taken from private hire monthly magazine (copy attached as **Appendix 2**).
- 4.11 The table below shows a comparison for Welsh Local Authorities on Tariff 1 for a 2-mile journey, this is accurate as of January 2024. The table also includes the year the tariffs were last amended. The Welsh national average based on the below table is £6.42. The increase in proposed tariff will still place RCT Borough in the bottom third.

Local Authority	Price	Year last increased
Monmouthshire	£7.60	2022
Cardiff	£7.50	2022
Carmarthenshire	£7.00	2023
Swansea	£7.00	2022
Newport	£7.00	2022
Pembrokeshire	£7.00	2022
Vale of Glamorgan	£6.80	2022
Bridgend	£6.80	2022
Ceredigion	£6.80	2022
Conwy	£6.60	2022
Torfaen	£6.50	2022
Blaenau Gwent	£6.40	2022
Anglesey	£6.30	2023
Gwynedd	£6.00	2022
Denbighshire	£6.00	2022
Powys	£6.00	2022
Rhondda Cynon Taf (proposed)	£6.00	2023/24
Rhondda Cynon Taf (current)	£5.80	2022

Merthyr	£5.80	2022
Neath & Port Talbot	£5.80	2022
Flintshire	£5.80	2020
Caerphilly	£5.70	2022
Wrexham	£5.60	2022

4.12 Explanation of each **current** 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

4.13 Explanation of each **proposed** tariff is as follows:

Tariff 1	Prices apply during hours of 7am - 7pm (for 1-4 passengers)
Tariff 2	Prices apply during hours of 7pm - 7am + Sundays & Bank holidays + noon until 6pm on Christmas Eve & New Years Eve (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 + noon until 6pm on Christmas Eve & New Years Eve (for 5-8 passengers)
Tariff 5	Double tariff 1 on Christmas & New Year (commences 6pm Christmas Eve to midnight Christmas Day & 6pm New Years Eve until midnight New Years Day).
Tariff 6	Double tariff 3 on Christmas & New Year (commences 6pm Christmas Eve to midnight Christmas Day & 6pm New Years Eve until midnight New Years Day).

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. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-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 were renewed in 2022, the first time in 10 years. This was due to the cost of living, fuel prices, maintenance of vehicles and unprecedented pandemic which has caused loss of earnings for drivers.
- 10.2 Since the previous tariff increase in 2022, several other Welsh Authorities have increased their tariffs based on similar reasoning.
- 10.3 The RCT tariff remains one of the lowest fares in Wales, the increase is minimal but brings the tariffs more aligned with other Authorities.
- 10.4 It is proposed that consideration is given to the requested increase in tariffs to enable the taxi trade 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.

- 10.5 The Licensing Authority propose that a review of taxi meter tariffs within the 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

**REPORT OF DIRECTOR – PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION & COMMUNITY
SERVICES**

PROPOSALS FOR THE INCREASE IN HACKNEY CARRIAGE TARIFFS

Relevant Scrutiny Committee:

Community Services Scrutiny

Background Papers:

None

Officer to contact:

Martyn Owen – Assistant Licensing Manager

Appendix 1

January 2023

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) Base rate remains at £4.00 for first mile then increase from 1/18th to 1/20th at a rate of 10p thereafter.

Distance	Current price	New price
2 mile	£5.80	£6.00
5 mile	£11.20	£12.00
10 mile	£20.20	£22.00

Tariff 2 (up to 4 passengers) Base rate remains at £4.50 for first mile then increase from 1/20th to 1/25th at a rate of 10p thereafter.

Distance	Current price	New price
2 mile	£6.50	£7.00
5 mile	£12.50	£14.50
10 mile	£22.50	£27.00

Tariff 3 (5 to 8 persons) Base rate remains at £5.00 for first mile then increase from 1/20th to 1/22nd at a rate of 10p thereafter.

Distance	Current price	New price
2 mile	£7.00	£7.20
5 mile	£13.00	£13.80
10 mile	£23.10	£24.80

Tariff 4 (5 to 8 persons) Base rate remains at £5.40 for first mile then increase from 1/12th to 1/17th at a rate of 20p thereafter.

Distance	Current price	New price
2 mile	£7.80	£8.80
5 mile	£15.00	£19.00
10 mile	£27.00	£36.00

Tariff 5 is double the rate for tariff 1

Tariff 6 is double the rate for tariff 3

- Fouling of the vehicle to remain at £55.00
- Waiting time to remain at £15.00.
- Tariff 2 & 4 remain from noon on Christmas Eve and new Years Eve until 6pm on the day.
- Christmas Day and New Year's Day double tariff 1 and 3 remains from:-
 - 6pm Christmas Eve to midnight Christmas Day
 - 6pm New Year's Eve to midnight New Year's Day:

