



To: Service Manager (Communities)

Statement of individual Cabinet Member's decision

Name of Cabinet Member	Councillor Emma Morley
Portfolio	Operational Services
Delegation authority (usually the delegated powers in annex 1.6 and 1.7)	Annex 1.6 and 1.7 of the constitution
Cabinet decision date	Minute No

Declaration of Interests (if any):

Of the Cabinet Member making the decision

Nil

Of any other Cabinet Member consulted in relation to the decision

Nil

Topic: Review of the Taxi Tariff

Decision:

1. To apply a 60p increase to the taxi tariff by reducing the yardage to 125.71 yards.
2. That the Assistant Licensing Manager will proceed with and complete the tariff setting process in the minimum timeframe allowed by legislation.
3. That the next review of the taxi tariff shall commence no later than autumn 2025 in accordance with the previously agreed two-yearly timetable.

Reasons for the decision:

A report was brought before the Operational Services Cabinet Committee on 14 September 2023 outlining proposals to consult with the local taxi trade on the taxi tariff.

Members of the Cabinet Committee duly considered the proposed consultation methodology and instructed the Assistant Licensing Manager to consult with the local taxi trade as set out in the report.

The consultation commenced on 18 September in accordance with the aforementioned consultation methodology, which saw the trade being asked to advise on their preferred option for changes to the yardage out of the following six choices:

1. Decrease the tariff by 20p per mile by increasing the yardage to 176 yards (1/10 of a mile).
2. Do nothing and keep the tariff as it currently is, with the yardage set at 20p every 160 yards (1/11 of a mile).

3. Increase the tariff by 20p per mile by reducing the yardage to 146.67 yards (1/12 of a mile).
4. Increase the tariff by 40p per mile by reducing the yardage to 135.38 yards (1/13 of a mile).
5. Increase the tariff by 60p per mile by reducing the yardage to 125.71 yards (1/14 of a mile).
6. Increase the tariff by 40p per mile by increasing the yardage to 270.76 (2/13 of a mile) but also increasing the charge per 270.76 yard to 40p.

The results from the consultation were collated and presented to the Operational Services Cabinet Committee for consideration on 23 November 2023.

Members noted that 55 taxi drivers had responded to the consultation, representing 40% of the taxi trade. 85% of drivers who responded were in favour of Option 5 to increase the tariff by 60p per mile by reducing the yardage to 125.71 yards.

Having considered the consultation responses alongside other relevant factors, Members of the Operational Services Cabinet Committee were in general agreement with Option 5, resulting an updated taxi tariff as shown in Appendix 1, and recommended approval of this option to the Portfolio Holder (Operational Services).

Other options considered (if any): The other five options to either reduce the yardage, keep it the same or increase it were rejected.

I confirm that this decision is:

- Please mark/tick
- In accordance with the council's Policy Framework
 - Within the council's approved budget
 - In compliance with the council's contract procedure rules
 - In compliance with the council's financial procedure rules
 - In accordance with the protocol for Cabinet member decisions

Background papers used (if any) Committee reports to the Operational Services Cabinet Committee on 14 September and 23 November 2023

Signature(s)



Date

23/11/23

Countersigned by Executive Leader if a Key Decision

All decisions must be made in accordance with the decision-making rules laid down in the constitution and must be in compliance with the policy framework, the approved budget, contract procedure rules and financial procedure rules.

The allocations of areas of responsibility to Lead Members and their delegated powers are laid out in annex 1.6 and 1.7 and may only be exercised accordingly. The Executive Leader is entitled to change the allocation of portfolios to Lead Members at any time.

In addition to the above, further delegations may be made from time to time.

Key decisions may not be made by individual Cabinet Members other than the Executive Leader. In the case of a Key Decision recommended by a Cabinet Member, the Executive Leader's countersignature will be required in order to effect the decision.

The Chief Executive was given delegated authority to respond to consultation documents on behalf of the Cabinet in consultation with the appropriate portfolio holder at the Cabinet meeting on 7 March 2011.

This decision will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of 5 working days after publication unless it is called in.

If the decision has been made under the special urgency provisions then it cannot be called in.

January 2024

HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES

S. 65 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

Gravesham Borough Council has authorised **MAXIMUM** fares for hackney carriages by distance or a combination of distance and time in accordance with the table below:

Rate 1	
For the first 320 yards	£3.00
For each subsequent 125.71 yards or part thereof, or each stationary waiting period of 40 seconds	£0.20
After 6 miles, for each additional 110 yards or part thereof, or each stationary waiting period of 40 seconds	£0.20

Rate 2	
For any hiring commenced: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• at any time on a bank holiday or public holiday• between 18:00 and midnight on 24 December and 31 December• between midnight and 06:00 on any other day• at any time when carrying 5 to 8 passengers other than when Rate 4 would be in effect	Rate 1 + 50%

Rate 3	
For any hiring commenced on Sundays between 06:00 and midnight when carrying 1 to 4 passengers	Rate 1 + £0.60

Rate 4	
For any hiring commenced: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• between 00:01 on 25 December and 06.00 on 27 December• between 00.01 on 1 January and 06.00 on 2 January• between midnight and 06:00 when carrying 5 to 8 passengers	Rate 1 + 100%

Rate 5	
For any hiring commenced on Sundays between 06:00 and midnight when carrying 5 to 8 passengers	Rate 2 + £0.60

Extra Charges	
Any sundry expenses incurred (i.e. Toll Charges, Parking fees, Ferry Fees, Congestion Charges)	Amount Incurred
If vehicle is soiled to the extent that it has to be cleansed before re-use	£75.00

If a hackney carriage is hired by time, the fare shall be agreed with the hirer. The driver or proprietor shall not be entitled to demand or take a fare greater than that recorded on the face of the Taximeter.

Failure to comply with this, by any operator or driver, is an offence.