

mile' figure for the operation of a Hackney Carriage. The formula takes into account vehicle running costs including insurance, and driver earnings based on average earnings for the region. The figure produced would then be used as the basis for calculating the table of fares. In November 2006 the Committee agreed revisions to the original procedure approved by Committee in 2001 to provide greater clarity and transparency in setting out the method of applying the formula. The formula itself was retained but in addition, the way in which it is applied to a proposed fare table was set out. This revised formula has been used to calculate the 2015 fare revision.

- 2.1.3 Officers have applied the previously agreed formula to produce a 2015 maximum 'cost per mile' figure for the operation of a Hackney Carriage of £2.43
- 2.1.4 NTHCA has submitted a request that the Authority reviews its current table of fares for Hackney Carriages. The following request has been received:

Tariff one

Reduce the yardage from 187.8 yards or part there of to 178.9 yards or part there of.

Tariff two

Reduce the yardage from 160.5 yards or part there of to 152.9 yards or part there of.

3.0 Decision Options

Committee is requested to consider the following options:

3.1 Option 1

To apply the agreed procedure and to vary the table of fares to the rates set

3.2 Option 2

To resolve not to vary the table of fares.

Officers have applied the average mile formula over a three mile period for tariffs 1 and 2 to produce an average cost per mile of £2.90. This is in excess of the maximum cost per mile. Officer recommend not to vary the table of fares as requested.

4.0 Appendices:

- 4.1 Appendix 1 – Current table of fares.
- Appendix 2 – 2015 formula.

5.0 Contact Officers:

- 5.1 Colin MacDonald, Senior Manager, Technical & Regulatory Services, Tel: 0191 643 6620
- Joanne Lee, Public Protection Manager, Tel: 0191 643 6901

6.0 Background Information:

6.1 The following background papers have been used in the compilation of this report and are available for inspection at the offices of the author of the report.

1. Licensing Committee resolution LQ19/10/01 agreeing the use of the formula
2. AA current table of motoring costs
3. Office for National Statistics - average earnings data
4. Formula calculation
5. North Tyneside Council Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and Other Resources:

There are no financial implications for the Authority arising directly from this report. Costs associated with the development of regulatory option proposals are met from existing budgets.

2.2 Legal

Chapter 5 North Tyneside Council Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy sets out the procedure for setting and reviewing Hackney Carriage fares.

North Tyneside Council may fix or vary a table of fares for Hackney Carriages by virtue of Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

If the Committee decides to vary the table of fares for Hackney Carriages, the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 requires that the Authority must place a notice in at least one local newspaper setting out the variation in the table of fares and allowing a period of at least 14 days within which objections to the variation can be made.

Paragraph 5.2.3 North Tyneside Council Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy prescribes that Notices are to be published in the Evening Chronicle or similar newspaper.

In the event of the receipt of any objections during the 14 day period these would be considered by the Committee at a further meeting before a final decision was made in respect of any fare. At that meeting the Committee would be required to set a further date, not later than two months after the first specified period of 14 days on which the table of fares shall come into force with or without modifications as decided after consideration of the objections.

If no objections are received the variation will take effect following the expiry of the 14 days notice period.

2.3 Consultation/Community Engagement:

The Authority has consulted with the North Tyneside Hackney Carriage Association. If the Committee decides to vary the table of fares for Hackney Carriages, the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 requires that the Authority must place a notice in at least one local newspaper setting out the variation in the table of fares and allowing a period of at least 14 days within which objections to the variation can be made.

2.4 Human Rights:

There are no human rights issues arising directly arising from this report.

2.5 Equalities and Diversity:

There are no equality and diversity implications arising directly from this report. Equality Impact Assessments will be undertaken as part of the development of regulatory option proposals.

2.6 Risk Management:

There are no significant risk management implications to the Authority arising directly from this report.

2.7 Crime and Disorder:

It is not considered that there are any crime and disorder implications arising directly from this report.

2.8 Environment and Sustainability:

It is not considered that there are any environment and sustainability implications arising directly from this report.