

Appendix B



20 October 2023

HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES SURVEY

Due to the recent rise in inflation, the overall cost of living and increased fuel prices, Runnymede Council is considering a review of the current Hackney Carriage fare.

The last fare increase in Runnymede was in July 2022 and although a survey on increases was made earlier this year, we only had 3 responses.

Nationally and locally many Councils have increased fares recently or are considering doing so. Fares for the surrounding Council Boroughs are shown below for comparison.

This comparison demonstrates the recent increases in surrounding areas have left Runnymede fares and the bottom end of the scale.

If you have an opinion on fares **complete and return the attached survey** by 20 November 2023.

The matter will then be discussed at a meeting of the Regulatory Committee on 3 January 2024.

You will also find the survey on the Councils 'taxi and private hire news' web page.

<https://www.runnymede.gov.uk/taxi-licenses/taxi-private-hire-news>

Our current fare table is attached for your information.

The survey cannot give you all fare options but if you have a suggestion, please use the free text box.

One of the main costs for hackney carriage drivers is fuel, with the majority running on diesel. The price of fuel has stabilised since last year's highs but is again on an upward trend.

Information on fuel prices is obtained from the Automobile Association. The figures below are the average branded garage prices for the month of June in each year supermarkets are normally 2 – 5 pence cheaper but have recently been on par or more expensive.

Year	June 2014	June 2015	June 2016	June 2017	June 2018	June 2019	June 2020	June 2021	June 2022	June 2023	Sept 2023
Petrol	126.7	116.5	112.0	116.9	129.5	129.2	109.3	131.6	189.3	145.0	156.8
Diesel	133.7	121.3	112.5	118.1	131.9	133.4	114.0	134.1	197.2	147.4	160.5

Appendix B

Other overheads such as vehicle replacement, servicing cost, maintenance cost (such as new tyres), depreciation and insurance costs are also significant factors for the trade. All of these will be subject to inflationary pressures as well so the cost of these may increase.

Inflation - the consumer price index, (CPI) is another measure which can be used to judge fare levels. Year on year the figures produced by the Office of National Statistics show the following rates for the CPI:

Fare increase in 2014

2.3% in the year to Aug 2015.

2.4% in the year to Aug 2016.

2.7% in the year to Aug 2017.

2.3% in the year to Aug 2018.

2.0% in the year to Aug 2019.

0.5% in the year to Aug 2020.

3.0% in the year to Aug 2021

9.9% in the year to Aug 2022

Fare increase in 2022

6.7% in the year to Aug 2023

It would appear reasonable to suggest an increase in fares which keeps pace with inflation, although taking into account how much less our fares are compared with surrounding areas there is scope for a larger increase to help you earn similar amounts to your colleagues in other boroughs.

Rate 1 Fare comparison chart

	Runnymede	Woking	Spelthorne	Elmbridge	Surrey Heath	Windsor & Maidenhead	Guildford	Bracknell	Average
Pull Off/ set charge for first mile	£4.10	£5.72	£3.70	£6.10	£4.60	£6.00	£6.36	£5.20	£5.38
Second Mile (Metered)	£3.00	£2.82	£2.50	£3.30	£3.20	£4.50	£3.56	£2.80	£3.24
Subsequent Miles (Metered)	£2.50	£2.82	£2.50	£3.30	£3.20	£4.50	£3.56	£2.80	£3.24
Cost of a Two-Mile Journey	£7.10	£8.54	£6.20	£9.40	£7.80	£10.50	£9.92	£8.00	£8.62
Cost of a Five Mile Journey	£14.60	£17.00	£13.70	£19.30	£17.40	£24.00	£20.60	£16.40	£18.34

Appendix B


As you can see most Councils do not have a different rate for subsequent miles as Runnymede currently do. It would be a sensible move to fall in line here and make the subsequent mile rate the same as the second mile rate.

To demonstrate how any increase would change the fare tables, the information below shows some examples.

	New fare	New fare	New fare	New fare
Pull Off/ set charge for first mile	£4.50	£5.00	£5.20	£5.30
Second Mile (Metered)	£3.20	£3.10	£3.30	£3.20
Subsequent Miles (Metered)	£3.20	£3.10	£3.30	£3.20
Cost of a Two-Mile Journey	£7.70	£8.10	£8.50	£8.50
Cost of a Five Mile Journey	£17.30	£17.40	£18.40	£18.10

Please take the time to give Councillors your views.

Once you have completed the survey you can return by email to licensing@runnymede.gov.uk or by post to Runnymede Borough Council, Licensing section, Runnymede Civic Centre, Station Road, Addlestone. KT15 2AH



Robert Smith
Senior Licensing Officer

Appendix B

RBC 2023 Fare Review Survey

Please note that rates are calculated 'pro rata' so any increase in the mileage rate or waiting rate would also affect rates 2, 3 and 4 proportionately.

To indicate your preference place a cross in the box next to your preference.

- 1** **Our current fares** which were last raised in July 2022, they are as follows for rate 1, 1st mile set charge (pull off) £4.10, 2nd mile (metered) £3.00 pro rata then £2.50 per mile (metered) for subsequent miles.

Do you think hackney carriage fares should be increased? **Yes** **No**

*If you answered **yes**, please complete the below questions.*

- 2** **The current fare for the first mile (pull off) is £4.10.**

Do you think the 'pull off' fare should be increased? **Yes** **No**

9.75% to £4.50 ☐

21% to £5.00 ☐

24% to £5.10 ☐

Other - please enter here - £.....

- 3** **The current fare for the second mile is £3.00.**

Do you think the second mile fare should be increased? **Yes** **No**

3.33% to £3.10 ☐

6.66% to £3.20 ☐

10% to £3.30 ☐

Other - please enter here - £.....

Appendix B

4 The current fare for any subsequent miles is £2.50 per mile.

Do you think the subsequent miles fare should be increased

Yes No

If you answered **Yes** to the above question, please make your preference known below

Subsequent miles should be the same as the second mile.

☐

4% to £2.60

☐

8% to £2.70

☐

12% to £2.80

☐

Other - please enter here - £.....

If you have any other relevant suggestions or comments, please use the space below.

Printed name: - _____ Signature: - _____

Driver number: _____ Date: - _____

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. You can return it by email to licensing@runnymede.gov.uk or by post to Runnymede Borough Council, Licensing section, Runnymede Civic Centre, Station Road, Addlestone. KT15 2AH