

Licensing and Regulatory Committee



Title	Agenda		
Date	Monday 11 July 2022		
Time	5.30 pm		
Venue	Conference Chamber West Suffolk House Western Way Bury St Edmunds, IP33 3YU		
Full Members	Chair Vice Chair Conservative Group (10) The Independent Group (4) Labour Group (1)	To be appointed by the Licensing & Regulatory Committee on 11 July 2022 Carol Bull Patrick Chung Brian Harvey Rachel Hood Beccy Hopfensperger Michael Anderson Roger Dicker Pat Hanlon	Sara Mildmay-White Robert Nobbs Richard Rout Karen Soons Clive Springett Aaron Luccarini Don Waldron
Substitutes	Conservative Group (4) The Independent Group (2) Labour Group (1)	Mike Chester Birgitte Mager Victor Lukaniuk David Smith	Peter Thompson Vacancy Ian Shipp
Interests – declaration and restriction on participation	Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest not entered in the Authority's register or local non pecuniary interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda (subject to the exception for sensitive information) and to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on an item in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest.		
Quorum	Five Members		
Committee administrator	Helen Hardinge - Democratic Services Officer Telephone 01638 719363 Email helen.hardinge@westsuffolk.gov.uk		

Public information

Venue	Conference Chamber, West Suffolk House, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3YU
Contact information	Telephone: 01638 719237 Email: democratic.services@westsuffolk.gov.uk Website: www.westsuffolk.gov.uk
Access to agenda and reports before the meeting	The agenda and reports will be available to view at least five clear days before the meeting on our website.
Attendance at meetings	<p>This meeting is being held in person in order to comply with the Local Government Act 1972. We may be required to restrict the number of members of the public able to attend in accordance with the room capacity. If you consider it is necessary for you to attend, please inform Democratic Services in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>As a local authority, we have a corporate and social responsibility for the safety of our staff, our councillors and visiting members of the public. We, therefore, request that you exercise personal responsibility and do not attend the meeting if you feel at all unwell.</p> <p>West Suffolk Council continues to promote good hygiene practices with hand sanitiser and wipes being available in the meeting room. Attendees are also able to wear face coverings, should they wish to.</p>
Public participation	<p>Members of the public who live or work in the district are invited to put one question or statement of not more than three minutes duration relating to items to be discussed in Part 1 of the agenda only. If a question is asked and answered within three minutes, the person who asked the question may ask a supplementary question that arises from the reply.</p> <p>The Constitution allows that a person who wishes to speak must register at least 15 minutes before the time the meeting is scheduled to start. We urge anyone who wishes to register to speak to notify Democratic Services by 9am on the day of the meeting so that advice can be given on the arrangements in place.</p> <p>There is an overall time limit of 15 minutes for public speaking, which may be extended at the Chair's discretion.</p>
Accessibility	If you have any difficulties in accessing the meeting, the agenda and accompanying reports, including for reasons of a disability or a protected characteristic, please contact Democratic Services at the earliest opportunity using the contact details provided above in order that we may assist you.

Recording of meetings	<p>The Council may record this meeting and permits members of the public and media to record or broadcast it as well (when the media and public are not lawfully excluded).</p> <p>Any member of the public who attends a meeting and objects to being filmed should advise the Committee Administrator who will instruct that they are not included in the filming.</p>
Personal information	<p>Any personal information processed by West Suffolk Council arising from a request to speak at a public meeting under the Localism Act 2011, will be protected in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018. For more information on how we do this and your rights in regards to your personal information and how to access it, visit our website: https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/Council/Data_and_information/howweuseinformation.cfm or call Customer Services: 01284 763233 and ask to speak to the Information Governance Officer.</p>

Agenda

Procedural matters

Part 1 – public

1. Election of Chair 2022/2023

2. Election of Vice Chair 2022/2023

3. Apologies for absence

4. Substitutes

Any member who is substituting for another member should so indicate, together with the name of the relevant absent member.

5. Minutes

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To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2020 (copy attached).

6. Declarations of interest

Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any pecuniary or local non pecuniary interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda, **no later than when that item is reached** and, when appropriate, to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on the item.

7. Public participation

Members of the public who live or work in the District are welcome to speak and may ask one question or make a statement of not more than three minutes duration relating to items to be discussed in Part 1 of the agenda only. If a question is asked and answered within three minutes, the person who asked the question may ask a supplementary question that arises from the reply.

A person who wishes to speak must register at least 15 minutes before the time the meeting is scheduled to start.

There is an overall limit of 15 minutes for public speaking, which may be extended at the Chair's discretion.

8. Review into West Suffolk Council's Hackney Carriage Fares Table for Zone A and Zone B 2022

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Report No: **LIC/WS/22/001**

Licensing and Regulatory Committee



Minutes of a meeting of the **Licensing and Regulatory Committee** held on **Monday 27 January 2020 at 5.30 pm** in the **Council Chamber, College Heath Road, Mildenhall IP28 7EY**

Present: **Councillors**

Chair Clive Springett

Michael Anderson	Aaron Luccarini
Carol Bull	Margaret Marks
Patrick Chung	Richard Rout
Roger Dicker	Don Waldron
Pat Hanlon	Frank Warby
Brian Harvey	Phil Wittam
Beccy Hopfensperger	

7. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Rachel Hood and Robert Nobbs.

8. **Substitutes**

The following substitution was declared:

Councillor Brian Harvey substituting for Councillor Robert Nobbs.

9. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 July 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

10. **Public Participation**

There were no questions/statements from members of the public.

11. **West Suffolk Unmet Demand Survey**

Ian Millership, from CTS Traffic and Transportation Ltd, was in attendance for this item in order to deliver a presentation to the Committee on the Hackney Carriage Demand Survey which had been undertaken by CTS on behalf of West Suffolk Council.

The presentation set out the aim of the survey and outlined the results of both the Trade and public consultations.

CTS also provided an evaluation on unmet demand across the District and set out their conclusions gleaned from the process.

The presentation concluded with key comments which included the recommendation that, if West Suffolk were minded to, the combination of zones be undertaken over a moderate time period such as three years.

Members of the Committee posed questions following the presentation which were responded to.

Specific discussion took place with regard to disability accessible vehicles, electric vehicles and the impact of Newmarket race days and USAF Air Bases on taxi availability at certain times.

On conclusion, the Chair thanked CTS for their attendance and valued input.

12. **Taxi Handbook Policy Review**

The Service Manager (Environmental Health) thanked those Members who attended the Committee workshop session in October 2019; the outcome of which had been fed into the West Suffolk Council Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Conditions Policy Handbook review.

The Committee was advised that consultation on the revised handbook had been launched earlier that day, and would run until 9 March 2020, which sought views and feedback on the changes proposed.

Members were invited to respond to the online survey and also to encourage all interested third parties to do so.

The meeting concluded at 6.25pm

Signed by:

Chair

Review into West Suffolk Council's Hackney Carriage Fares Table for Zone A and Zone B 2022

Report No:	LIC/WS/22/001
Report to and date/s:	Licensing & Regulatory Committee - 11 July 2022
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Andy Drummond Portfolio Holder for Regulatory and Environment Tel: 07710 027343 Email: andy.drummond@westsuffolk.gov.uk
Lead officer:	Jen Eves Director (HR, Governance & Regulatory) Tel: 01284 757015 Email: jennifer.eves@westsuffolk.gov.uk

Decisions Plan: N/A

Wards impacted: All wards

Recommendation: It is recommended that:

1. The report be received; and
2. Members approve the revised table of fares for Zone A and Zone B (Appendix A).

1. Introduction

- 1.1 In light of significant increases in hackney carriage operating costs it is considered appropriate to review the current fare table for both zones as outlined in this report.
- 1.2 A copy of the revised fare tables for Zone A and Zone B is attached at Appendix A.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 makes provision for the Council to fix the rates of fares for time, distance, and all other charges in connection with the hire of a hackney carriage.
- 2.2 When setting the fares, the legislation does not prevent the Council from considering any external factors, and there is no limit on the amount of increase or variation (subject to reasonableness).
- 2.3 As the Council would like to encourage the provision of high-quality hackney carriage vehicles it is important that fares are balanced, thereby ensuring proprietors are able to support the running costs associated with the high standard of vehicles required by the Council, but at the same time the fare should not be so high as to preclude use by passengers.
- 2.4 West Suffolk Council currently offers six different tariffs across two zones (A and B), which reflect that prior to merging St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath Councils operated as two separate councils.
- 2.5 Members should note that the fares proposed are the maximum which may be charged, with drivers having the option to charge less than the metered fare should they choose.

3.0 Fare Structure

- 3.1 The current fare structure consists of six tariffs based on distance travelled and the time taken:
 - Tariff 1 applies between the hours of 06.00 and midnight.
 - Tariff 2 between the hours of midnight and 06.00, on public/bank holidays AND 18:00 to midnight on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.
 - Tariff 3 applies between the hours of 23.00 on 24 December and 06.00 on 27 December and between 18.00 on 31 December and 06.00 on 01 January.
 - Tariffs 4, 5, and 6 match the conditions of the first three tariffs but apply when vehicles are carrying five or more passengers.
 - Tariff 4 comes into effect between the hours of 06:00 and midnight and the vehicle is carrying five or more passengers.
 - Tariff 5 Between the hours of midnight and 06:00 or on a public/bank holiday AND from 18:00 to midnight on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve and the vehicle is carrying five or more passengers.

- Tariff 6 - From midnight Christmas Eve to midnight Boxing Day and midnight New Year's Eve to midnight New Year's Day and the vehicle is carrying five or more passengers.
- 3.2 Fares set by local authorities vary from area to area, to give some context the current fares set by neighbouring local authorities compare as follows for a journey of 2 miles under tariff 1:
- Ipswich £6.60
 - East Suffolk North £6.60
 - Mid Suffolk £6.40
 - **Proposed West Suffolk £6.39**
 - **National Average £6.28**
 - Babergh £6.26
 - East Suffolk South £6.20
 - **Current West Suffolk £5.60**
- 3.3 The National Average was taken from Private Hire Trade Monthly, June 2022, which also featured a National Hackney Fares Table. Within this table West Suffolk Council came out at number 259 out of the 349 Local Authorities that impose tariffs for their Hackney carriages.
- 3.4 Members should note that the above fares are correct at the time of writing this report however other authorities may also be considering or in the process of reviewing fares.
- 3.5 Clearly there are a number of factors which influence the costs of operating a hackney carriage including vehicle, fuel, maintenance and insurance costs together with the general costs of living.
- 3.6 At present tariffs 1 and 4 run from 06:00am until midnight, after which tariffs 2 and 5 come into effect which carry a higher fare.
- 3.7 It is reasonable to assume that those individuals most likely to be negatively affected by an increase in fares will be those who are dependent on taxis for trips during the day e.g. to make hospital appointments, shopping trips, etc. Bringing tariffs 2 and 4 in at an earlier time recognises the additional challenges to the trade with providing a service to the night time economy, and this in turn may lead to an increase in the number of Hackney Carriages available at this time.
- 3.8 As of 20th June, the national average cost of a litre of diesel has risen to £1.95 and petrol to £1.87 (BEIS Weekly Road Fuel Prices www.gov.uk). However, it should be noted that the actual costs in the more rural areas of the district may well be in excess of these figures. In addition, the cost of used vehicles is on average 31.9% more expensive compared with a year ago (Auto Trader February 2022 Report).

4.0 Proposed Amendments and Rationale

- 4.1 Considering the increased overall running costs associated with the sector, Members are asked to consider the following amendments to these tariffs:
- Increase the fare up to the first mile (commonly referred to as the flag drop) by 14% in respect of all six tariffs for both Zone A and Zone B.
 - Increase the charge for subsequent distance travelled by 14% for all six tariffs for both zones.
 - To bring forward the time at which tariffs 2 and 5 (night time rates) take effect from midnight to 10pm, and subsequently end tariffs 1 and 4 two hours earlier at 10pm across both zones.
 - To reword the additional charge from "if the vehicle is left unfit to work" to "soiling a vehicle to the extent that it is taken out of work". This will bring the phrase in line with commonly accepted terminology.
- 4.2 For comparison if the proposed fare increase were to be approved, a 2-mile journey on tariff 1 would amount to £6.39, rather than the current rate of £5.60.
- 4.3 Some example journeys are provided below taking into account the proposals:

Tariff 1	Current Fare	Proposed Fare	% Increase
Journey of 1 mile	£3.80	£4.33	14.00
Journey of 2 miles	£5.60	£6.39	14.10
Journey of 3 miles	£7.40	£8.45	14.16
Journey of 5 miles	£11.00	£12.56	14.21
Journey of 10 miles	£20.00	£22.85	14.26
Journey of 20 miles	£38.00	£43.43	14.29
Tariff 2	Current Fare	Proposed Fare	% Increase
Journey of 1 mile	£5.60	£6.38	14.00
Journey of 2 miles	£8.30	£9.47	14.11
Journey of 3 miles	£11.00	£12.56	14.16
Journey of 5 miles	£16.40	£18.73	14.21
Journey of 10 miles	£29.90	£34.16	14.26
Journey of 20 miles	£56.90	£65.03	14.29
Tariff 3	Current Fare	Proposed Fare	% Increase
Journey of 1 mile	£7.60	£8.66	14.00
Journey of 2 miles	£11.20	£12.78	14.10
Journey of 3 miles	£14.80	£16.90	14.16
Journey of 5 miles	£22.00	£25.13	14.21
Journey of 10 miles	£40.00	£45.71	14.26
Journey of 20 miles	£76.00	£86.86	14.29

Tariff 4	Current Fare	Proposed Fare	% Increase
Journey of 1 mile	£5.55	£6.33	14.00
Journey of 2 miles	£8.25	£9.41	14.11
Journey of 3 miles	£10.95	£12.50	14.16
Journey of 5 miles	£16.35	£18.67	14.21
Journey of 10 miles	£29.85	£34.11	14.26
Journey of 20 miles	£56.85	£64.98	14.29
Tariff 5	Current Fare	Proposed Fare	% Increase
Journey of 1 mile	£7.55	£8.61	14.00
Journey of 2 miles	£11.15	£12.72	14.10
Journey of 3 miles	£14.75	£16.84	14.16
Journey of 5 miles	£21.95	£25.07	14.21
Journey of 10 miles	£39.95	£45.65	14.26
Journey of 20 miles	£75.95	£86.81	14.29
Tariff 6	Current Fare	Proposed Fare	% Increase
Journey of 1 mile	£11.35	£12.94	14.00
Journey of 2 miles	£16.31	£18.60	14.03
Journey of 3 miles	£21.27	£24.26	14.04
Journey of 5 miles	£31.19	£35.58	14.06
Journey of 10 miles	£55.99	£63.87	14.08
Journey of 20 miles	£105.59	£120.46	14.08

- 4.6 The increases have been calculated using a defined methodology that draws a comparison across the average wage and associated running costs in 2019 (when the fares review was last undertaken, as well as 2022. Further information on the sources used can be found in Appendix B.

5. Implications

5.1 Financial

If approved the Council must advertise the proposed fare increase in a local newspaper which can be accommodated within existing service budgets. Any increase in fares would have a financial effect on taxi-users throughout West Suffolk Council.

Any increase in fares would incur a small, one-off cost to all hackney carriage proprietors for a meter recalibration.

5.2 Legal

Where an Authority makes or varies a Table of Fares it must publish in at least one local newspaper a notice setting out the Table or variation, specifying a period not less than 14 days within which objections may be made, and keep a copy of the notice at its offices open to public inspection. If no objection is received or all objections are withdrawn, the Table or variation comes into operation. If an objection is made and not withdrawn, the council must set a further date for the Table or variation to come into effect, with or without modification as decided by it after consideration of the objections.

A Table of Fares has effect as if it were included in the hackney carriage byelaws. Unless the fare is otherwise agreed before the hiring was affected, the Table applies to journeys ending outside the district. It also applies where a hackney carriage is used in the district as a private hire vehicle.

6. Risks

- 6.1 It is important that fares reflect the running costs associated with operating hackney carriage vehicles. Failing to review the fares could be detrimental to hackney carriage proprietors, particularly where the operating costs make the business financially unviable as it currently stands.
- 6.2 Increasing the cost of using taxis may also impact those who are partly or wholly reliant on taxis for transport.

7. Appendices

- 7.1 Appendix A - Proposed Fare Cards for Zone A and Zone B
Appendix B - Sources Used for Taxi Fares Calculator
Appendix C - West Suffolk Council Taxi Fares Calculator

Section 65 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

Hackney Carriage Tariffs Zone A

From 3 October 2022

Tariff 1 – Between the hours of 06:00 and 22:00

If distance does not exceed 1 mile (1760 yards)	£4.33
For each 195 yards (178.308 metres) or part thereof or 47 seconds or a combination of time and distance	£0.23
The first mile will cost £4.33 and each subsequent mile £2.05 (approximately)	

Tariff 2 – Between the hours of 22:00 and 06:00, on public/bank holidays AND 18:00 to midnight on Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve

If distance does not exceed 1 mile (1760 yards)	£6.38
For each 195 yards (178.308 metres) or part thereof or 47 seconds or a combination of time and distance	£0.34
The first mile will cost £6.38 and each subsequent mile £3.08 (approximately)	

Tariff 3 – From midnight Christmas Eve to midnight Boxing Day and midnight New Year’s Eve to midnight New Year’s Day

If the distance does not exceed 1 mile (1760 yards)	£8.66
For each 195 yards (178.308 metres) or part thereof or 47 seconds or a combination of time and distance	£0.46
The first mile will cost £8.66 and each subsequent mile £3.60 (approximately)	

The Following tariffs apply when vehicles are carrying 5 or more passengers

Tariff 4 – Between the hours of 06:00 and 22:00

If distance does not exceed 1 mile (1760 yards)	£6.33
For each 195 yards (178.308 metres) or part thereof or 47 seconds or a combination of time and distance	£0.34
The first mile will cost £6.33 and each subsequent mile £3.08 (approximately)	

Tariff 5 – Between the hours of 22:00 and 06:00 or on a public/bank holiday AND from 18:00 to midnight on Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve

If the distance does not exceed 1 mile (1760 yards)	£8.61
For each 195 yards (178.308 metres) or part thereof or 47 seconds or a combination of time and distance	£0.46
The first mile will cost £8.61 and each subsequent mile £4.10 (approximately)	

Tariff 6 – From midnight Christmas Eve to midnight Boxing Day and midnight New Year’s Eve to midnight New Year’s Day

If the distance does not exceed 1 mile (1760 yards)	£12.94
For each 195 yards (178.308 metres) or part thereof or 47 seconds or a combination of time and distance	£0.63
The first mile will cost £12.94 and each subsequent mile £5.65 (approximately)	

Additional Charges

Soiling a vehicle to the extent that it is taken out of work	£100
The equivalent amount of any congestion or toll charge incurred	As charged
No charge or refusal for assistance dogs	

All meters must be calendar controlled. The above table of fares is inclusive of VAT

Section 65 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

Hackney Carriage Tariffs Zone B

From 3 October 2022

Tariff 1 – Between the hours of 06:00 and 22:00

If distance does not exceed 1 mile (1760 yards)	£4.33
For each 195 yards (178.308 metres) or part thereof or 47 seconds or a combination of time and distance	£0.23
The first mile will cost £4.33 and each subsequent mile £2.05 (approximately)	

Tariff 2 – Between the hours of 22:00 and 06:00, on public/bank holidays AND 18:00 to midnight on Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve

If distance does not exceed 1 mile (1760 yards)	£6.38
For each 195 yards (178.308 metres) or part thereof or 47 seconds or a combination of time and distance	£0.34
The first mile will cost £6.38 and each subsequent mile £3.08 (approximately)	

Tariff 3 – From midnight Christmas Eve to midnight Boxing Day and midnight New Year’s Eve to midnight New Year’s Day

If the distance does not exceed 1 mile (1760 yards)	£8.66
For each 195 yards (178.308 metres) or part thereof or 47 seconds or a combination of time and distance	£0.46
The first mile will cost £8.66 and each subsequent mile £4.10 (approximately)	

The Following tariffs apply when vehicles are carrying 5 or more passengers

Tariff 4 – Between the hours of 06:00 and 22:00

If distance does not exceed 1 mile (1760 yards)	£6.33
For each 195 yards (178.308 metres) or part thereof or 47 seconds or a combination of time and distance	£0.34
The first mile will cost £6.33 and each subsequent mile £3.08 (approximately)	

Tariff 5 – Between the hours of 22:00 and 06:00 or on a public/bank holiday AND from 18:00 to midnight on Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve

If the distance does not exceed 1 mile (1760 yards)	£8.61
For each 195 yards (178.308 metres) or part thereof or 47 seconds or a combination of time and distance	£0.46
The first mile will cost £8.61 and each subsequent mile £4.10 (approximately)	

Tariff 6 – From midnight Christmas Eve to midnight Boxing Day and midnight New Year’s Eve to midnight New Year’s Day

If the distance does not exceed 1 mile (1760 yards)	£12.94
For each 195 yards (178.308 metres) or part thereof or 47 seconds or a combination of time and distance	£0.63
The first mile will cost £12.94 and each subsequent mile £5.65 (approximately)	

Additional Charges

Soiling a vehicle to the extent that it is taken out of work	£100
The equivalent amount of any congestion or toll charge incurred	As charged
No charge or refusal for assistance dogs	

All meters must be calendar controlled. The above table of fares is inclusive of VAT

Appendix B - Sources Used for Taxi Fares Calculator

The following sources of data were used as part of the Council's procedure for setting taxi fares for distance and time and other charges in connection with the hire of a taxi. This involved comparing the current annual running costs and salary against what was present when a fares review was last undertaken. The West Suffolk Fares calculator was used for this, the results of which can be seen in Appendix C. Data from Central Government approved sources such as the Office for National Statistics have been used wherever possible.

UK Average Salary

The UK Average salary for 2022 and 2019 was taken from Average household income, UK: financial year (ending 2017 and 2021) Office for National Statistics.

[Average household income, UK - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/employment-and-labour/money/earnings-and-payments/average-household-income)
[Average household income, UK - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/employment-and-labour/money/earnings-and-payments/average-household-income)

The median household income figure was used rather than the mean as;
"median household incomes provides a better measure of how people's well-being has changed over time...Median income provides a good indication of the standard of living of the "typical" individual in terms of income."

Annual Cost of Road Tax

Taken directly from RAC online road tax calculator. A diesel vehicle falling within the £26,000 to £36,000 bracket generally falls within Band J for vehicles with a CO2 emission of 186-200g/km for the purposes of road tax.

Average Annual Cost of Fuel Per Litre

This data set was taken from The AA's fuel price report which uses data sourced from Experian Catalist (www.catalist.com).

AA Fuel reports were averaged over a 12-month rolling window for the South-East, which was compared against 12 months' worth of reports for when fares were last reviewed in 2019.

[Compare latest petrol and diesel fuel prices | The AA](https://www.aa.com/compare-latest-petrol-and-diesel-fuel-prices)

Average MPG of Hackney Carriage

The majority of Hackney Carriages that are licensed by West Suffolk Council remain diesel vehicles. The average mile per gallon of a diesel taxi was estimated at 31.8 MPG. This figure was taken from an emissions data website

[Taxi MPG \(car-emissions.com\)](https://www.car-emissions.com/)

Annual Cost of Fuel

The annual cost of fuel was calculated by firstly converting the annual cost of fuel from litres to gallons, which was then multiplied by 25350 (annual average mileage), before being divided by 31.8 (average MPG of diesel Hackney Carriage).

Annual Cost of Hackney Carriage License

This is the fee that West Suffolk Council charged in 2019 (date of previous review) and what is currently charged for a Hackney Carriage vehicle license.

Annual Cost of Driver's License

West Suffolk Council's 3 yearly driver fee was divided by three to give the pro-rata cost for a year.

Annual Average Mileage

The average mileage of vehicles was reviewed from a recent survey that was undertaken as part of West Suffolk Council's review into wheelchair accessible vehicles, "the mean mileage per day across the whole district is around 97.5 miles."

(West Suffolk Council Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Conditions Policy Handbook - review of taxi zones and wheelchair accessible vehicles (WAVs), January 2022

This has been multiplied by 260 to give an estimate of the amount of miles covered during a year, assuming that the average driver undertakes a five working day week.

"In October to December 2020, 23% of drivers usually worked 7 days a week, back to the levels seen prior to the first national lockdown in 2020 where the proportion of drivers working 7 days a week dropped to 9%. The majority of drivers (40%) usually worked 5 days a week."

Department for Transport, Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Statistics, England: 2021 [Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Statistics: England 2021 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

This figure was compared against a survey undertaken by InsureTaxi, which found that drivers in East Anglia averaged just under 30,000 miles a year. A figure of 30,000 was then used for the calculation.

[Taxi Driver Survey 2016 - InsureTaxi](#)

Consumer Price Index

Data for the CPI was taken directly from the Office for National Statistics. Twelve monthly percentage figures were sourced for the three years between the fare reviews and the average applied to the UK average salary.

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/inflationandpriceindices/bulletins/consumerpriceinflation/>

Appendix C – West Suffolk Council Tax Fares Calculator

ITEM	Standstill Charges	Value	ITEM	Running Costs	Value
1	Median Household Disposable Income (UK) *1	£31,400.00	A	Annual average cost of fuel per litre (pence) *3	152.52
2	Annual Cost of Road Tax (pro-rata)*2	£330.00	B	Cost of fuel per gallon (pence)	693.36
			C	Annual Average Mileage	30000
			D	Average MPG of car within fleet	31.8
	*1 Taken from Average Household Income, UK - ONS		E	Annual cost of fuel (B*C)/D	654113.2075
	*2 Taken from RAC figures, Band J		F	Annual cost of fuel (£s)	£6,541.13
	*3 12 month rolling average using 44 fuel price reports		G	Annual cost of Hackney/Carriage License	£163.00
	*4 Pro-rata from Combined driver's 3 yearly fee, as not currently offered by WSC		H	Annual cost of Drivers License (pro-rata)*4	£69.00
	*5 calculated from 6 monthly cost of enclanced DBS check		I	Annual cost of DBS checks *5	£80.00
			J	Annual cost of fees and associated charges (G+H+I)	£312.00
			K	Annual cost of running diesel Hackney (J+F)	£6,853.13
ITEM	Contents	Value			
1A	Median Household Disposable Income (UK)	£31,400.00			
1B	Average Annual Running Costs (2+K)	£7,183.13			
1C	Average CPI Increase since last review	3.90			
1D	CPI Increase (1C) applied to Median Household Disposable Income (1A)	£35,218.94			
1E	Total with CPI Increase Applied (1B+1D)	£42,402.07			
1F	Total from previous fare review	£36,598.52			
1G	% rise from the last fare review ((E-1F)/1F*100)	13.68699113			

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