

Report to Licensing Committee

Report Reference: LCS-004-2014/15

Date of meeting: 8 October 2014



**Epping Forest
District Council**

Subject: Implementation of the Taxi Tariff Scheme.

Responsible Officer: Jim Nolan (01992 564083).

Democratic Services: Gary Woodhall (01992 564470).

Recommendations/Decisions Required:

- (1) To note the implementation of the current scheme and to consider whether to make amendments; and**
- (2) To note the results of the introduction of the scheme and allow the scheme to run as it is until October 2015 with a view to make any amendments then if needed.**

Report:

1. The taxi tariff was introduced in June 2014. Despite extensive consultations there was some resistance from some of the operators and a couple of concerns from members of the public, but generally the tariff was welcomed, a number of people complimented the council
2. The main complaint was that the Sunday tariff is too high after 10pm. If the authority was to consider any amendments to the tariff the licensing section would have to under-go another survey of the taxi trade and members of the public.
3. If members were minded to make adjustments at this stage the vehicles would need to be re-calibrated again at a cost to the trade. It was decided not to tender for the work to fit the meters in the vehicles but would allow drivers the freedom to get the meters fitted where they wished. Langston road would then undertake the measured mile and seal the meters. During this process it became apparent that there is only one individual that fits meters in Essex, therefore the process took a lot longer as drivers had to wait for this individual to fit the meters.
4. Before the scheme began there were 431 Hackney carriages and 23 Private hire vehicles. There are now approximately 362 Hackney Carriage Vehicles and 69 Private hire vehicles
5. Some operators have changed over to Private hire so they do not have the need of a meter

Resource Implications:

The cost of another newspaper advertisement and consultation.

Legal and Governance Implications:

None.

Safer, Cleaner and Greener Implications:

None.

Consultation Undertaken:

None.

Background Papers:

Comments made about the scheme.
Epping Forest District Council tariff.

Risk Management:

No implications.

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