

## CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

---

REPORT OF: Jas Lally  
Head of Refuse and Environment

TO: Licensing Committee 25/06/2012

WARDS: All

### **Hackney Carriage Fair Fare Scheme**

---

#### **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Cambridge City Council regulates the maximum fare that may be charged by Hackney Carriage Drivers when undertaking a journey within the City of Cambridge, but the Council has no power to insist that drivers use the same tariff for journeys ending outside of the district.
- 1.2 Cambridge City Licensed Taxis (CCLT) Ltd have proposed a 'Cambridge Fair Fare Scheme' for out-of-district journeys and are seeking support by the Council for the scheme.
- 1.3 The request from CCLT Ltd is attached to the report as Appendix A.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Members are recommended:

To support CCLT Ltd's 'Cambridge Fair Fare Scheme' and allow CCLT Ltd to use the Cambridge City Council Crest on the sticker that will be placed in the Hackney Carriages of drivers who have signed up to the scheme.

#### **3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Cambridge City Council regulates the maximum fare that may be charged by Hackney Carriage Drivers when undertaking a journey within the City of Cambridge. This is by way of the Hackney Carriage Table of Fares made pursuant to section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

- 3.2 There is no statutory provision for the Council to regulate the maximum fare that may be charged by Hackney Carriage Drivers when undertaking a journey that ends outside of the City of Cambridge. However, section 66 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 makes it an offence for any driver to charge a fare for such a journey that is greater than that determined by the Table of Fares unless the fare has been agreed with the hirer before the hiring is effected. As such Hackney Carriage Drivers may state any price for an out-of-district journey prior to agreeing to the hiring and may refuse to take passengers if they do not agree with the quoted price.
- 3.3 Cambridge City Licensed Taxis (CCLT) Ltd have proposed a 'Cambridge Fair Fare Scheme' for out-of-district journeys and those drivers who sign an agreement to abide by the scheme will give the hirer the choice of agreeing a fare in advance for out-of-district journeys or paying the fare shown on the meter. To demonstrate that a driver has sign up to the scheme, they will be given a sticker by CCLT Ltd to display in their vehicle (subject to approval of the advertisement by the Council). The scheme will be administered by CCLT Ltd and drivers who fail to comply with scheme will have their sticker removed by CCLT Ltd.

#### **4. CONSULTATIONS**

- 4.1 There is no proposed consultation because the scheme is neither proposed by the Council nor administered by the Council. Cambridge City Council will only be supporting the scheme and allowing the use of the Council crest.

#### **5. OPTIONS**

- 5.1 The Committee may resolve to:
- 5.1.1 Support CCLT Ltd's 'Cambridge Fair Fare Scheme' and allow CCLT Ltd to use the Cambridge City Council Crest on the sticker that will be placed in the Hackney Carriages of drivers who have signed up to the scheme.
  - 5.1.2 Support CCLT Ltd's 'Cambridge Fair Fare Scheme' but not allow CCLT Ltd to use the Cambridge City Council Crest on the stickers.
  - 5.1.3 Not support CCLT Ltd's 'Cambridge Fair Fare Scheme' and not allow the use of the Council crest.

## 6. CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 There are no statutory powers for the Council to regulate all fares charged for journeys in Hackney Carriages that end outside of the district. However, by supporting the proposed 'Cambridge Fair Fare Scheme', the Council will be encouraging the charging of reasonable fares.

## 7. IMPLICATIONS

(a) **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications as the scheme will not be administered by Cambridge City Council.

(b) **Staffing Implications**

There are no staffing implications as the scheme will not be administered by Cambridge City Council.

(c) **Equal Opportunities Implications**

There are no apparent equal opportunity implications.

(d) **Environmental Implications**

There are no apparent environmental implications.

(e) **Community Safety**

The scheme will encourage the charging of reasonable fares for out-of-district journeys which may encourage the use of licensed taxis.

## APPENDICES

### Appendix A

Request from CCLT Ltd and first draft of the proposed 'Cambridge Fair Fare Scheme' sticker

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:** The following are the background papers that were used in the preparation of this report:

- [Part II of the Local Government \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1976](#)

The author and contact officer for queries on the report is Robin Grey on extension 7899.

Report file:

Date originated: 15 June 2012

Date of last revision: 15 June 2012

**Appendix A – Request from CCLT Ltd and proposed ‘Cambridge Fair Fare Scheme’ sticker**



**Cambridge City Licensed Taxis Limited.**  
(Est. 2009)

07 May 2012

Dear Councillors,

This is the first design for stickers and Conditions for the taxis.

My questions are:

1. Are we allowed to use the City crest?
2. Or if we remove the crest and move the writing up and put the conditions the taxis will agree to abide by for the customer to see this may be better?

The Conditions to form the agreement are:

1. All trips in and around City will be on meter because as i have said at the forum taxis are quoting prices in the City more than double the metered price which is also illegal.
2. That Customers will have choice of a fair quote for out of town jobs or on the meter if the customer wants. Drivers are quoting 30 pounds for jobs that should be about 15 pounds on meter.
3. Taxi proprietors will have to sign an agreement to abide by a joint scheme with Council?
4. So if they do not stick to the conditions they lose their rights to belong to scheme we will remove stickers and then they possibly could be prosecuted by Council?

Regards,

David Wratten

Director  
CCLT Ltd

Registered Office: CCLT Ltd, 4  
Providence Way, Waterbeach, Cambs CB25 9QJ  
Registered No. 06894519 England



**This taxi belongs to  
The Cambridge  
Fair Fares Scheme**



**This taxi belongs to  
The Cambridge  
Fair Fares Scheme**