

APPENDIX 6

Title of proposed EIA	Hackney Carriage Proposed Maximum Fare Tariff
Reference No	EQUA944
EA is in support of	New Policy
Review Frequency	Two Years
Date of first review	01/01/2024
Directorate	City Operations
Division	Regulation and Enforcement
Service Area	Licensing
Responsible Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sajeela Naseer
Quality Control Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Leroy Pearce
Accountable Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Paul Lankester
Purpose of proposal	Review of Hackney Carriage Maximum Fare Tariff
Data sources	Other (please specify)
Please include any other sources of data	Private Hire and Taxi Monthly Fare table
ASSESS THE IMPACT AGAINST THE PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS	
Protected characteristic: Age	Not Applicable
Age details:	Any proposed maximum fare tariff will impact on all users of hackney carriages and not disproportionately affect this protected characteristic.
Protected characteristic: Disability	Service Users / Stakeholders
Disability details:	People with disabilities are likely to be negatively impacted by an increase in the maximum fare tariff for hackney carriages. This is because these vehicles can accommodate wheel chairs and people with limited movement or special equipment. However a balance has to be reached when meeting trade requests for an increased fare tariff as a too low tariff will result in drivers leaving the market and hence the service not being provided. Too high a fare tariff may result in customers with disabilities not being able to use the service due to increased costs. On balance it is believed the proposal will ensure there is greater service availability with less hackney carriages being withdrawn from the market due to lack of economic viability. This is of greater significance than the increase in price of the tariff, even though this is a negative aspect to the proposal for disabled persons who rely on taxi services.
Protected characteristic: Sex	Service Users / Stakeholders
Gender details:	Any proposed maximum fare tariff will impact on all users of hackney carriages and not disproportionately affect this protected characteristic.
Protected characteristics: Gender Reassignment	Not Applicable
Gender reassignment details:	Any proposed maximum fare tariff will impact on all users of hackney carriages and not disproportionately affect this protected characteristic.

Protected characteristics: Marriage and Civil Partnership	Not Applicable
Marriage and civil partnership details:	Any proposed maximum fare tariff will impact on all users of hackney carriages and not disproportionately affect this protected characteristic.
Protected characteristics: Pregnancy and Maternity	Not Applicable
Pregnancy and maternity details:	Any proposed maximum fare tariff will impact on all users of hackney carriages and not disproportionately affect this protected characteristic.
Protected characteristics: Race	Not Applicable
Race details:	Any proposed maximum fare tariff will impact on all users of hackney carriages and not disproportionately affect this protected characteristic.
Protected characteristics: Religion or Beliefs	Not Applicable
Religion or beliefs details:	Any proposed maximum fare tariff will impact on all users of hackney carriages and not disproportionately affect this protected characteristic.
Protected characteristics: Sexual Orientation	Not Applicable
Sexual orientation details:	Any proposed maximum fare tariff will impact on all users of hackney carriages and not disproportionately affect this protected characteristic.
Socio-economic impacts	Any proposed maximum fare tariff will impact on all users of hackney carriages and may disproportionately affect people on lower incomes, however this is offset by a competitive market in the private hire trade which can be utilised for travel.
Please indicate any actions arising from completing this screening exercise.	It has been identified that people with disabilities may be disproportionately affected by an increase in the maximum fare tariff. We will need to consider feedback during the consultation period to establish if any amendments should be made to the fare increase proposal.
Please indicate whether a full impact assessment is recommended	NO
What data has been collected to facilitate the assessment of this policy/proposal?	CPI, RPI, England Fare Table (Private Hire and Taxi Monthly)
Consultation analysis	<p>To be conducted. 14 day statutory consultation to commence after Cabinet approval of proposed Maximum Fare Tariff</p> <p>We have had representations from the RMT, TOA and a 230 driver petition asking for an increase in the maximum fare tariff.</p>
Adverse impact on any people with protected characteristics.	It has been identified that people with disabilities may be disproportionately affected by an increase in the maximum fare tariff. We will need to consider feedback during the consultation period to establish if any amendments should be made to the fare increase proposal.

Could the policy/proposal be modified to reduce or eliminate any adverse impact?	No. Making no change to the current max fare tariff or increasing it only slightly is likely to lead to an exodus of hackney carriage drivers from the market as it is not profitable to continue. Hackney carriage numbers have already declined by about a third in the last 10 years.
How will the effect(s) of this policy/proposal on equality be monitored?	We will consider the feedback during the consultation period and monitor the number of available hackney carriages and feedback from customers.
What data is required in the future?	Number of hackney carriage vehicles licensed
Are there any adverse impacts on any particular group(s)	Yes
If yes, please explain your reasons for going ahead.	Making no change to the current max. fare tariff or increasing it only slightly is likely to lead to an exodus of hackney carriage drivers from the market as it is not profitable to continue. Hackney carriage numbers have already declined by about a third in the last 10 years. A lack of vehicles will impact on availability for all customers including the disabled.
Initial equality impact assessment of your proposal	<p>Subject to consultation results there is no need to carry out a further assessment. Please note the paragraph below that I have added to the disability impact assessment.</p> <p><i>On balance it is believed the proposal will ensure there is greater service availability with less hackney carriages being withdrawn from the market due to lack of economic viability. This is of greater significance than the increase in price of the tariff, even though this is a negative aspect to the proposal for disabled persons who rely on taxi services.</i></p>
Consulted People or Groups	
Informed People or Groups	
Summary and evidence of findings from your EIA	<p>It has been identified that people with disabilities may be disproportionately affected by an increase in the maximum fare tariff. We will need to consider feedback during the consultation period to establish if any amendments should be made to the fare increase proposal.</p> <p>Making no change to the current max. fare tariff or increasing it only slightly is likely to lead to an exodus of hackney carriage drivers from the market as it is not profitable to continue. Hackney carriage numbers have already declined by about a third in the last 10 years. A lack of vehicles will impact on availability for all customers including the disabled.</p> <p>Added by Paul Lankester- <i>On balance it is believed the proposal will ensure there is greater service availability with less hackney carriages being withdrawn from the market due to lack of economic viability. This is of greater significance than the increase in price of the tariff, even though this is a</i></p>

negative aspect to the proposal for disabled persons who rely on taxi services.

QUALITY CONTROL SECTION

Submit to the Quality Control Officer for reviewing?

Yes

Quality Control Officer comments

People with disabilities have been identified and considered as likely to be impacted by this tariff increase. Please update this EIA once any relevant consultation data has been obtained.

Decision by Quality Control Officer

Proceed for final approval

Submit draft to Accountable Officer?

Yes

Decision by Accountable Officer

Approve

Date approved / rejected by the Accountable Officer

13/07/2022

Reasons for approval or rejection

The assessment is thorough and covers all aspects. I have added the following paragraph in appropriate places for this assessment;

"On balance it is believed the proposal will ensure there is greater service availability with less hackney carriages being withdrawn from the market due to lack of economic viability. This is of greater significance than the increase in price of the tariff, even though this is a negative aspect to the proposal for disabled persons who rely on taxi services."

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Yes

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