

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

LICENSING COMMITTEE – 8 MARCH 2012

REPORT BY DIRECTOR NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

12. FEEDBACK ON CONSULTATION WITH THE TAXI TRADE – NEXT FARE TABLE INCREASE

WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL

Purpose/Summary of Report:

- To report to Members on feedback from the licensed taxi trade on consultation whether a fare increase is appropriate.

RECOMMENDATION FOR DECISION: that

A	The report be received.
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1.0 Background

- 1.1 The last fare increase was brought into effect on 4 January 2011, and was the first increase for 18 months.
- 1.2 The licensed taxi trade were invited to an open meeting in October 2011 with licensing officers to discuss whether the trade wished to seek a fare increase.

2.0 Report

- 2.1 No drivers or operators thought a fare increase was sustainable. Trade was already considerably down, and any further increase would only further kill off the existing custom.
- 2.2 Officers were requested to consult again in January 2012.
- 2.3 Officers wrote to all taxi representatives and companies in January 2012. Taxi representatives and operators were asked to inform officers if there were any requests for a fare increase, and if so, officers would call a further open meeting to discuss trade proposals for a fare increase. If no such requests were received, officers would write again in April 2012.

2.4 No requests for a further open meeting were received.

3.0 Implications/Consultations

3.1 Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within **Essential Reference Paper 'A'**.

Background Papers

None.

Contact Member: Councillor M Alexander – Executive Member for Community Safety and Environment.

Contact Officer: Brian Simmonds – Head of Community Safety and Health Services, Extn: 1498.

Report Author: Paul Newman, Interim Licensing Manager, Extn: 1521.

ESSENTIAL REFERENCE PAPER 'A'

Contribution to the Council's Corporate Priorities/ Objectives:	Promoting prosperity and well-being; providing access and opportunities <i>Enhance the quality of life, health and wellbeing of individuals, families and communities, particularly those who are vulnerable.</i>
Consultation:	See report.
Legal:	No issues that require approval identified by Contact Officer or Report Author.
Financial:	No issues that require approval identified by Contact Officer or Report Author.
Human Resource:	No issues that require approval identified by Contact Officer or Report Author.
Risk Management:	No issues that require approval identified by Contact Officer or Report Author.