

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

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**Purpose/Summary of Report:**

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

<b><u>RECOMMENDATION FOR DECISION:</u></b> that	
A	The report be received.

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:	<b>Promoting prosperity and well-being; providing access and opportunities</b> <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.