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**REPORT TO:** Organisation Improvement and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Commission

**DATE:** 16 April 2007

**DEPARTMENT:** Corporate Policy and Improvement

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Scrutiny Officer (Mark Codman)

**SUBJECT:** **HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENCES REVIEW OF FARES 2007/08**

**WARD/S AFFECTED:** All

**FORWARD PLAN REF:** N/A

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**1.0**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to enable the Commission to receive a request from Mr Richard Fieldman (Chairman of the Ripon City Proprietors Association) for the Commission to consider his representation regarding the increase in Hackney Carriage fares for 2007/2008

**2.0**

**RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Commission:
- a) Consider the representation from Mr Fieldman and determine whether any further work is required and, (If it determines that further work is required)
  - b) Recommend that it is considered for inclusion in the work programme for the Organisation Improvement and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Commission 2007/2008

**3.0 RECOMMENDED REASON/S FOR DECISION/S**

- 3.1 To enable the Commission to consider the request

## **4.0 THE REPORT**

- 4.1 As part of the process for the Cabinet Member to agree the increase in Hackney Carriage fares for 2007/2008 Mr Richard Fieldman, (Chairman of the Ripon City Proprietors Association) on behalf of his members submitted representations to the Cabinet Member for consideration when he made his decision (see enclosed information).
- 4.2 The Cabinet Member considered all representations at his decision meeting of 8 March 2007 and decided to adopt the fare structure as advertised in the process with an implementation date of 2 April 2007 (see enclosed information). Mr Fieldman has requested that the Organisation Improvement and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Commission consider his representation.
- 4.3 Any member of the public/organisation can propose an item for consideration by an Overview and Scrutiny Commission and each issue should be reviewed appropriately. The Commission can determine the following:
- If further work is required regarding the processes and procedures for the consideration of representations in the setting of Hackney carriage fares
  - If further work is required regarding the yardage for the “initial drop”
- 4.4 In considering the representation it should be noted that:
- The decision regarding the increase in Hackney Carriages fares for 2007/2008 was not a key decision and therefore could not have been called in prior to implementation through the Overview and Scrutiny process
  - The decision itself cannot be reversed or reviewed by any consideration by the Commission unless the Cabinet Member agrees
  - Overview and Scrutiny is not an appeals procedure for individual decisions within regulated services such as Planning or Licensing
  - Mr Fieldman might be viewed not as a member of the public in this case but a representative of an organisation affected by the decision
- 4.5 The Commission should consider the response to the representation received as part of the process.
- 4.6 The Cabinet Member is not available to attend the meeting
- 4.7 It should be noted that if it is agreed that further work is required then the Commission should recommend that it is considered for inclusion in the work programme for the Organisation Improvement and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Commission 2007/2008

## **5.0 CONCLUSION/S**

5.1

The Commission has received a request from Mr Richard Fieldman (Chairman of the Ripon City Proprietors Association) to consider his representation regarding the increase in Hackney Carriage fares for 2007/2008

5.2

The Commission should consider the representation and consider if further work is required taking into account the issues raised in para 4.3-4.4

5.3

If it is agreed that further work is required then the Commission should recommend that it is considered for inclusion in the work programme for the Organisation Improvement and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Commission 2007/2008.

**Background Papers -**

**OFFICER CONTACT:** Please contact Mark Codman if you require any further information on the contents of this report. The officer can be contacted at Crescent Gardens by telephone on (01423) 556153 or by Email – mark.codman@harrogate.gov.uk

**SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT / POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

		Implications are		
		Positive	Neutral	Negative
A	Economy		✓	
B	Environment		✓	
C	Social Equity		✓	
i)	General		✓	
ii)	Customer Care / People with Disabilities		✓	
iii)	Health Implications		✓	
D	Crime and Disorder Implications		✓	

If all comments lie within the shaded areas, the proposal is sustainable.