

SCRUTINY MATTERS AND REVIEWS UNDERTAKEN BY THE COMMISSION

69/06 - **HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENCES REVIEW OF FARES 2007/08:** The Scrutiny Officer submitted a written report in relation to a representation from Mr Fieldman, Chairman of Ripon City Proprietors Association, regarding the increase in Hackney Carriage fares for 2007/08. The report detailed all relevant information and indicated that the Commission would not review the decision to increase the fares in 2007/08 as it was not a key decision and, therefore, would not be revised or reviewed without agreement by the Cabinet Member. The Commission could consider if further work was required. It was also noted that if further work was considered appropriate this would have to be considered by the Organisation Improvement and Environment Commission for 2007/08 for inclusion in its work programme. The Chair then introduced Mr Fieldman to address the Commission. He outlined the position of the Ripon taxi drivers and the affects the 2007/08 increase would have on them. He explained that his concern was the yardage for the "initial drop" as the nature and type of trips/distances covered in Ripon, were very different to Harrogate, as many of the journeys were short ones throughout the daytime. Ripon City Proprietors Association had submitted their own proposal to the Cabinet Member (Public Protection and Rural Affairs), which had been considered when the decision was made.

The Scrutiny Officer explained that the Commission should consider the request from Mr Fieldman and determine whether any further work to inform the consideration of fares for 2008/09 was required and whether it should be included in the future work programme for 2007/08. He emphasised that the decision of the Cabinet Member, in relation to the 2007/08 fares, could not be changed unless he decided to review it.

RESOLVED:

That the item not be recommended for inclusion in the work programme for 2007/08 and that no other work was required.

(Eight Members voted for the motion and there were two abstentions)

(6.05 pm - 6.30 pm)