

Notice of:	Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Climate Change
Decision Number:	PH15/2020
Relevant Officer:	John Blackledge, Director of Community and Environmental Services
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Fred Jackson, Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Climate Change
Date of Decision:	18 February 2020

RIDEABILITY FEES AND CHARGES 2020/21

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 The proposed fees and charges for the Integrated Transport section, relating to the Rideability service for 2020/21

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To agree the proposed fees and charges for Integrated Transport section, relating to the Rideability service, which are detailed in Appendix 'A', with effect from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 The proposed fees and charges are recommending to increase from £2.20 per single passenger trip to £2.25 per single passenger trip from 1 April 2020.

The service will continue serving the most vulnerable residents of Blackpool who are unable to access public transport, with the door to door service that is vital to some residents attending Doctors' appointments and undertaking everyday tasks such as shopping.

- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

To not increase the fees and charges will impact on the sustainability of the service.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is

“Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience”

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The attached schedule proposes a change to the fees and charges for Rideability. Rideability has now been in the management of the Council since 2015 and has fully integrated into the transport service.

5.2 Rideability operates 6 days a week, Monday to Saturday providing transport to anyone who is unable to use a conventional bus. This may be because of a disability or health problem, or if the service user is elderly or frail.

5.3 Rideability receives income from two sources; the service user and the concessionary travel scheme administered by Lancashire County Council, but ultimately recharged back to Blackpool Council and paid from the Concessionary Travel budget. These make up the full fare taken by the service.

5.4 The service does currently operate at a deficit, which is becoming more and more difficult to sustain in these financially challenging times. The proposal is to increase the fee from £2.20 per trip to £2.25 from 1 April 2020. This increase is intended to make the service more financially sustainable while minimising the impact on service users.

5.5 The proposed fees and charges are set out in Appendix A.

5.6 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.7 List of Appendices:

Appendix A – Fees and Charges for Rideability Services.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 The proposals are in line with the Equalities Analysis.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 The increase in fees and charges proposed will help to meet the cost of the service and ensure its sustainability.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 To not increase will impact the sustainability of the service.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 Consultation and agreement with the Rideability Charity Trust.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

14.0 Key decision information:

14.1 Is this a key decision? No

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number:

14.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? No

14.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

15.0 Call-in information:

15.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process? No

15.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

16.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):

Date informed:

Date approved:

17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

17.1 None.

18.0 Executive decision:

18.1 The Cabinet Member agreed the recommendation as outlined above namely:

To agree the proposed fees and charges for Integrated Transport section, relating to the Rideability service, which are detailed in Appendix 'A', with effect from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021.

18.2 Date of Decision:

18 February 2020

19.0 Reason(s) for decision:

The proposed fees and charges are recommending to increase from £2.20 per single passenger trip to £2.25 per single passenger trip from 1 April 2020.

The service will continue serving the most vulnerable residents of Blackpool who are unable to access public transport, with the door to door service that is vital to some residents attending Doctors' appointments and undertaking everyday tasks such as shopping.

19.1 Date Decision published:

18 February 2020

20.0 Executive Members in attendance:

20.1

21.0 Call-in:

21.1

22.0 Notes:

22.1