

APPENDIX B

From: Mr S Reeve
Sent: 25 October 2021 15:22
To: Taxi <Taxi@tendringdc.gov.uk>
Subject: Fare increase

Hi just heard that the government is putting up minimum wage to £9:50 which is roughly a 7% pay rise but you are only offering us roughly 3% what with the increase in fuel , insurance day to day running costs ie tyres/brakes etc and of course no doubt our plate and badges will go up thats without the cost of living I honestly can't see how that little increase will help us considering if youvsay every job works out to roughly a £5 so it would go upto roughly £5:20 that means we would have to do 50 jobs to get an increase of £10 pounds .

Sean

Sent from my Galaxy

From: Mr M Davis
Sent: 02 November 2021 10:19
To: Taxi <Taxi@tendringdc.gov.uk>
Subject: Fare increase

As an independent driver I feel that this is not the right time to increase fares I have seen a drop in trade and a fare increase would probably make this worse I know all our costs are rising but looking at it in the longer term we need to hold the trade we have and maybe look at an increase late next year when things will hopefully change for the better Martin Davis badge number T988

From: Mr A Al-Mamun
Sent: 10 November 2021 18:10
To: Licensing Section <licensingsection@tendringdc.gov.uk>
Subject: Fare change & grant

To,
Tendring District Council
90, Pier Avenue
Clacton On Sea
Essex
CO15 1NJ

Ref: Fare change & grant

I would like to take this opportunity to foremost to thank you for deciding to increase the taxi fare price as the last increase was in 15th August 2018. However, I do not appreciate the decision of increasing the fare by **£0.10**. This increase does not equate to the factors required to taxi such as installing the taxi meter which costs approximately **£25-£45**. There has also been no consideration for the rising fuel prices as well as living expenses and the rate of inflation.

I understand that it has been a difficult time for all of us in Tendring but **many have received financial support during the pandemic, Many of us taxi drivers were unable to access financial support and when support was offered**, it has not been clearly publicised in the taxi news, (Not even receive by Post). So, many of us missed the deadline for this support.

In regards to the fare price increase, **I believe £0.30 would be more appropriate given the current economy.**

I would be greatly appreciative if you could consider my appeal and increase the taxi fare. I look forward to hearing from you.

Many thanks.

Best Regards;
Abdullah Al-Mamun

From: Mr C Francis
Sent: 10 November 2021 14:10
To: Licensing Section <licensingsection@tendringdc.gov.uk>
Subject: About the proposed rates of fares.

Dear Head of licensing and licensing team

I'm writing this as an objection to the proposed rate of fare increase. As I feel and agree there should be an increase in fares but feel more should be done with the increase to help current drivers and potential new drivers.

I shall now explain why and feel why the increase is not enough.

Firstly the cost of living and business expenses have been going up. Living expenses have gone up the main one being energy bills as well as everyday living. Business expenses have also gone up. The main one being fuel which in turn has a knock on effect to everything else as in parts and tyres to keep our taxis on the road as well as normal living expenses.

My next point is minimum wage. This goes up every year and has been increased more so for the future. This goes up every year to keep in line with the cost of living. This in turn can bring me back to the first point as goods and services need to be increased to pay this.

Unfortunately being self employed we don't. Yes many self employed can put their prices up when increases happen. For example I know people in the building trade who have to put their prices up due to the increase of building material. We cannot do this and raise our prices as we are governed by the council and the meter.

Thirdly people are saying it's getting harder to get taxis especially at the nights. The problem we have is we are working more and more to make ends meet. We are not machines. Many drivers are having to start earlier in the day to try and earn the money but are coming to the night and physically are unable to continue. There are now less drivers than what there was 2 years ago as some have retired and some sadly passing away with no new drivers coming through. I understand that new driver application had been suspended during the pandemic but now as things are opening up with the need to entice and encourage people to want to do the job. This is where you could say the first two points above would discourage people from joining the taxi industry.

This is how I feel or how the rise should happen and believe many other drivers would be in an agreement. Firstly I'm not talking about it should be £2 more for first mile as this could hurt us more and would not be fair on the public. I feel instead of 10p increase an increase of 20p a mile OR an increase on the starting rate from £3 to £3.40 along with the proposed 10p a mile increase. I personally find the second one would be in favour with many drivers.

Secondly I would like to see a review on the midnight change of fare. There are quite a few places like Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft that are allowed to change rate 2 from 11pm. I've had a customer before believe she was from Hertfordshire (was a few years ago) who told me about that in town at the weekends was so hard to get taxis but when it changed to being able to charge rate 2 from 11pm they found it easier as drivers were wanting to work. This could help us in many ways. Firstly it gives drivers a chance to earn a bit more money earlier in the night. It would also help with the lack of drivers as current drivers may be willing to work later and also help with new drivers as they can see an opportunity to do a job that they can earn a semi decent wage. This in turn would hopefully mean people can get taxis easier.

Thank you for your time in reading this look forward to hearing from you or would happily meet yourself or attend a meeting regarding this if this was something that could be pushed forward and proposed.

Many thanks

Christopher Francis

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From: Mr C Thomas
Sent: 10 November 2021 17:01
To: Emma King <eking@tendringdc.gov.uk>
Subject: Fare Tariffs: technical points

Dear Emma,

Proposed Fare Increase

Re. the newsletter to taxi drivers about the proposed fare increase I have two technical points to make, each of which is only apparent to someone with a taximeter who can test it.

Firstly, you cannot mix and match increment units. There can only be one unit of increments i.e. 20p at present on Rate 1. Thus, Waiting Time can also only be charged in 20p increments. Hence the application was for 20p for 40 seconds rather than 30p for 60 seconds.

If you pass a different unit of increments for Waiting Time the meter manufacturers will convert it to an equivalent. For example, from 2012 to 2018 the farescale gave 35p units for distance, but 30p units for Waiting Time. As this was not possible it was converted by the meter manufacturers to 35p for 105 seconds instead of 30p for 90 seconds.

Secondly, the yardage rate starts at the beginning of the distance unit and must say "or uncompleted part thereof". Whereas, Waiting Time is the other way round and is charged at the completion of the time period. Otherwise, when the meter is turned on, it would go up by 20p after just one second, which would be ridiculous.

Summary and Recommendations:

The Waiting Time should fit 20p units, and the words "or uncompleted part thereof" deleted from the Waiting Time section of the fare chart.

Kind regards

Chris Thomas
Tendring Taximeter Forum

Sent from my Galaxy