

Responses received from members of the taxi trade to the proposed 5%

T a r i f f i n c r e a s e

Representation 1

I personally think a 5% fare increase is an insult when you consider in the last 3 months a litre of diesel has increased by over 40p per litre which is at least a 25% increase. My insurance for my fleet of 4 taxis has increased by £3500.00 so I don't think 50p on every £10 fare is a slap in the face. In view that fuel may come down in price (very doubtful) so I suggests 20% increase across the board on all fares and flags.

Representation 2

I object to the councils proposed tariff increase .

I would like to propose as an alternative that the flag on Tariff is raised to £3.00 and 10 p/p/m is added on to the mileage which would increase an average 2 mile fare by about 80p and a 10 mile trip by about £1.50 and Tariff 2 flag be raised to £3.50 and 10p/p/m added onto the milage .

I do not think these are unreasonable increases but unfortunately the hackney trade cannot continue to carry the fuel prices as they are at the moment and also because of the rise in fuel prices everything else is more expensive .

I look forward to your views on this matter.

Representation 3

Although the taxi tariffs seem to have a 5% increase there appears to be no increase for minibus tariffs other than the same 5% interest, I did request an increase via email when asked.

I work by myself, I own a car & an 8 seater minibus and receive a lot of calls during busy times for example on a Saturday night I'm in a fortunate position of being able to cherry pick my jobs off the phone so the current tariffs give operators or drivers zero incentive to take minibus work, if someone calls for a minibus job then It's actually costing me a lot more money in fuel not to mention the price of the vehicle can be double the cost.

Where is the incentive to operate minibuses at busy times?

Representation 4

This 5% was for before pandemic and covid 19

Now should be 25% plus increase

With fuel and cost of ins⁸and biggest thing is were and tare on vehicles

Representation 5

Afternoon

I sincerely hope that the objections are for the pitiful increase in the rates

Other councils are giving much larger increases

Day by day our costs are increasing

Please please increase the proposed fares especially for 6 and 8 seaters

Comment from Berwick Taxi Association

DRIVING EXPENSES IN THE TAXI TRADE

2018 APRIL 1.11 PER LITRE 2022 APRIL PRICE VARIES BETWEEN 1.77
AND 1.83 PER LITRE

INSURANCE 2018

BETWEEN £750 AND £1500 DEPENDING ON THE DRIVERS DRIVING
HISTORY

INSURANCE 2022

BETWEEN £ 1000 AND 2500 DEPENDING ON THE DRIVERS HISTORY

MAINTAINENCE COSTS HAVE INCREASED BY APPROXIMATLEY 33%.
THERE ARE OTHER SUNDRY COSTS THAT HAVE INCREASED
DRAMATICALLY I.E ADVERTING ,TELEPHONES,CAR VALETING AND
OTHER MINOR COSTS. YOUR AVERAGE MOTORIST DOES APPROX 200
MILES PER WEEK A TAXI DRIVER CAN MULTIPLY THAT BY 5 TIMES SO IF
YOU TAKE INTO ACCOUNTT WHAT IT COSTS TO RUN A PRIVATE CAR A
TAXI IS SIGNIFICANTLEY MORE EXPENSIVE TO RUN . DUE TO THE HIGH

MILAGE THE WEAR AND TEAR IS ALSO MUCH GREATER AND THEREFORE THE REPLACEMENT OF VEHICLES IS REQUIRED MORE OFTEN THAN YOUR AVERAGE PRIVATE CAR.

AN OPTION FOR A TARIFF INCREASE IS SET OUT BELOW

TARIFF 1 INCREASE THE FLAG ON TARIFF 1 FROM £ 2.50 TO £3.00 AND INCREASE THE MILAGE CHARGE BY 10P PER MILE ON AN AVERAGE LOCAL FARE THIS IS APPROX AN £0.80P INCREASE AND ON A 10 MILE TRIP IT IS APPROX A £1.50 INCREASE

TARIFF 2 INCREASE THE FLAG FROM £2.90 TO £ 3.50 AND INCREASE THE MILEAGE CHARGE BY 10P PER MILE APPROX THE SAME % INCREASE AS ABOVE

THIS IS FOR 4 SEATER TAXIS . THE 6 AND 8 SEATERS SHOULD BE ABLE TO CHARGE AN EXTRA £1.00 PER PASSENGER OVER 4 PASSENGERS

WE FEEL THIS IS A REASONABLE INCREASE IN THE TARIFF SCALE FOR NORTHUMBERLAND AND COULD BE REVIEWED ONCE THE SITUATION WITH FUEL AND OTHER RELATED COSTS STABLISE. THE TRADE HAS HAD TO BEAR THE MASSIVE RISE IN FUEL COSTS FOR 3 MONTHS NOW THIS IS OUR MAIN OUT LYING COST MANY OPERATORS DOING SCHOOLS AND OTHER CONTRACT WORK HAVE THIS COST LYING OUT ON A MONTHLY BASIS WHILE AWAITING PAYMENT FOR CONTRACT WORK SO A FARE INCREASE WILL HELP EASE THE CASH FLOW PROBLEMS SOME OPERATORS ARE SUFFERING. AFTER THE PANDEMENIC MANY ARE SUFFERING FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES NOT ONLY IN THE TAXI TRADE . ACTION NEEDS TO BE TAKEN TO HELP RESOLVE THIS.

