

**Bray , Melanie (COUNCIL GOVERNANCE OFFICER)**

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**Subject:** FW: Taxi fare increase

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**From:** julie jeffers  
**Sent:** 04 April 2023 09:34  
**To:** Bailey , Debbie (SENIOR OFFICER (LICENSING))  
**Subject:** Taxi fare increase

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Hi Debbie

As you are aware we have just submitted a request for a Hackney Carriage Fare increase.

The main reason being that of the inflation rate, the cost of food, mortgages, rents energy, council tax, fuel, insurance, repairs, etc etc...

We like all other citizens of the country have to make a living wage that affords us to do all the above. Therefore we come to the board with our request.

In 2021 we was granted a fare increase that covered the rising cost of fuel and other costs but because we had to re submit and answer the licensing board of why? what? where? and miscellaneous questions, the rise left us behind private hires as fuel prices went through the roof. When we put our request in for our last increase fuel was at £1.36 p/l and our calculations were for an increase to counteract that but little did we know what was in store with Ukraine situation and inflation jumping to over 10% and fuel reaching 1.96 p/l but our hands were tied as we couldn't come back to licensing so quickly as it took over 3 months to get the last increase so we just had to endure it

We have recently lost drivers to the main 2 private hire companies and also to jobs that pay the minimum wage of £10.42

Our Tariff 1 increase that we are proposing will bring us more or less into line with our 2 major operators in Barnsley, Blue Line and City. Our proposed increase would make a 2 mile journey ( classed as the average taxi journey) on par with them.

The increase is 30p on the flag and 20p on the mile thereafter and T2 &T3 to rise accordingly.

Hackney Carriage £4.50 + £1.80 = £6.30

Blue Line £4.50 + £1.80 =£6.30

City Taxis £4.00 +£2.20 = £6.20

The other proposed increases are in line with these tariffs

We very often struggle to get drivers out after midnight on a weekend but since the introduction of a Super tariff being charged (Tariff 4) there has been evidence of more drivers staying out longer so we want to keep this Tariff and increase it in line with the T1 increase.

We also request that T2 be charged on Sundays from 7am till Monday 7am the reason being that all drivers need time off and we need an incentive for more drivers to work Sundays period.

Tariff 4 is the 5/8 seater tariff and we wish to keep it as that and move the super tariff to a separate one creating T5 The T4 has not increased in proportion over the last two increases and we now wish to bring it into line with the proposed increase.

The Hackney Carriages of Barnsley cannot put up fares without the permission of the Licensing Board where as private hire companies can put them up whenever they feel necessary and this is sometimes reflected in the frequency that they do it where as Hackneys have to go through a process with the Board so this makes the process quite lengthy hence why we have to strike a fair and proportionate balance in rises.

We have said this before but need to say it again. We very often don't make the minimum wage throughout the week and it needs extra hours and the working of weekend shifts (NIGHTS) to make our wage up to a decent wage.

Along with working nights and often having to put up with the rowdy as well as decent citizens of the borough we try to offer a 24/7 service to the people of Barnsley and wish to continue doing so.

Regards Rob Taylor (Chairman BHCA)

Shaun Jeffers (Secretary BHCA)

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