

Dear licensing manager.

The Hackney drivers have requested a fare increase. After careful consideration and on behalf of the drivers we would request the following changes be put forward for approval.

Rate 1

To hire the taxi (flag) start

£1.50 increase to £2.00

First mile will increase from £4.30 to £4.80

Rate 2

£2.00 increase to £2.50

First mile will increase from £4.80 to £5.30

Rate 3

£3.00 start rate & first mile remain the same £8.60

Current cost per mile £1.60 will increase by 20p to £1.80 per (subsequent mile after the first mile).

Waiting time currently £12.00 per hour, increase to £16.00 per hour.

Booking charge £2,

Soiling/ Valeting £50.

Both remain the same.

The increase proposed is in basic terms an increase of 50 pence up to the first mile and only .20 pence on any subsequent miles.

The waiting time has gone up by £4 per hour but has not been increased since the year 2006. Also this is the current rate being charged in Sandwell and in fact there waiting time doubles on their tariff 2!

Our rate 3 for the first mile remains the same and is no longer double, in fact it's approximately £1 less than if it was double rate 1

Also in support of our rise having done some research there are proposed rises for Wolverhampton, Birmingham and I believe Walsall will shortly be submitting a proposal for increase and I would imagine Sandwell drivers will also follow suit.

The fuel costs have reached a record high and on average each driver is paying £32 to £64 per week more just on fuel costs.

The Hackney trade has lost at least 50% of their drivers nationally.

Also suitable & affordable alternative vehicles are not available, and are likely to be very expensive as no Taxi converter has produced a hybrid suitable for Hackney.

For the customers in Dudley, 99% of the HC vehicles are at least 6 seats and most are in fact capable of carrying 7 passengers which taken from a rank or flagged down is very good value for money. (Cheaper than 2 private hire cars.)

Lastly, kindly could we request this be put forward for the 6 April committee and ideally be first Agenda item as it's Ramadan.

Should you wish to clarify anything please kindly email today. Although the above may seem complicated, it's quite simple we would wish to use the same yardage used on the 2011 revision of fees.

Lastly hopefully once approved I would request my input to keep the tariff sheet simple and clear.

Thanks.
Mohammad Ali
(Hackney carriage)
Waterfront cars
DTPA.

Sent from my iPhone

Good afternoon, if you think it will be possible to take to April committee please let me know.

Could you kindly also add the provision to be able to increase the running mile from £1.80 to £2 per mile in 6 months time subject inflation or excessive fuel price increases. Hopefully this will not be necessary but if approved it allows the trade to adjust fares again without further approval.

Thanks
Mohammed Ali