

Support and Reason for Tariff increase

Proposed by Imran Hafeez and Gary

As the committee is aware, the nation has experienced unprecedented inflation since covid due to the increase in the money supply which in turn debases the currency, driving up prices.

The Worthing taxi trade has realised this and has held off asking for a tariff increase after one was proposed last year.

We understand that the public is essential to our income and do not wish to upset them. So we have been patient, biding our time before submitting this new tariff update.

There has been long serving Worthing licenced drivers leave the trade recently due increasing costs. This in turn decreases income to licensing therefore pushing up drivers fees. Hopefully this increase will stop the outflow.

Whilst driving the public during these years, many have told us they've had small incremental pay increases in 2022, 2023 and 2024 and more than likely in 2025 too, which the taxi trade has not matched. These small increases when compounded are likely to be similar to the increase that is being proposed by us.

May we also point out that our vehicle maintenance, insurance and council vehicle and driver licences have increased, along with our families cost of living, with energy and food being the highest. The amount left after all of these things for "luxuries" is lower than before 2022. Although the CPI data says inflation is coming down, that is only the rate at which prices are increasing that is slowing. Not that prices are coming down, which would be deflation. Prices are still going up.

Brighton & Hove had 2 increases in 2022 and 1 in 2024. Arun has an annual increase that is under consultation again currently.

Whereas Worthing had 1 increase since August 22. Our update now is a little earlier than B&H and Arun who will do an increase next year.

Our increase has been planned to be enough to take us through to the end of 2025. But from then onwards, a smaller annual increase in line with inflation would be required so as not to appear as large price jumps every few years like in the past.

Subject: Proposal for Tariff Increase and Rationale

Dear Members of the Taxi Licensing Committee,

We are writing to present our rationale for the proposed adjustments to the taxi fare structure, which include an increase of 50p to the initial flag charge, an additional 10p per 70.1yards and a maximum soiling charge increase of £50.

As you are aware, the nation has been experiencing unprecedented inflation since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, primarily driven by an increase in the money supply that has contributed to currency devaluation and rising costs across various sectors.

The Worthing taxi trade has been attuned to these economic challenges and has deliberately refrained from requesting a fare increase following a proposal made last year. We greatly value our relationship with the public and recognise their importance to our business; thus, we have chosen to adopt a cautious approach before submitting this proposed tariff update.

Recently, we have seen a troubling trend of long-serving licensed drivers leaving the Worthing trade due to escalating costs. This reduction in available drivers may decrease licensing revenue, potentially leading to increased fees for remaining drivers. We believe that implementing this fare

increase will help retain existing drivers and stabilise the industry.

Throughout our interactions with the public over the past few years, we have received feedback indicating that many individuals have experienced incremental wage increases in 2022, 2023, 2024, and are likely to see further increases in 2025. Unfortunately, the taxi trade has not kept pace with these wage adjustments. The cumulative impact of these increases is likely to align with the fare adjustments we are proposing.

Furthermore, it is essential to note that costs associated with vehicle maintenance, insurance, and Council licensing for both vehicles and drivers have risen significantly. Additionally, the ongoing increase in the cost of living, particularly regarding energy and food, has placed further financial strain on our industry, resulting in less disposable income for non-essential expenses. While recent Consumer Price Index data suggests that inflation is decreasing, it reflects only a slowing rate of price increases, not a reduction in prices, which continue to rise.

For context, Brighton & Hove has implemented two fare increases in 2022 and one in 2024, while Arun is currently consulting on an annual increase. In contrast, Worthing's last increase was in Aug 2022. Our proposed update comes in advance of anticipated fare increases from Brighton & Hove and Arun for the upcoming year.

This proposed fare increase aims to sustain our operations through the end of 2025 and intends to introduce smaller annual adjustments in line with inflation thereafter to avoid significant fare increases in the future.

The proposed fare adjustments are as follows:

- **Tariff 1:** Initial charge of £4.00, with a charge of 10p for every subsequent 70.1 yards/16 seconds.
- **Tariff 2:** Initial charge of £5.00, with a charge of 20p for every subsequent 97.2 yards/30 seconds.
- **Tariff 3/4:** Remains unchanged.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to your thoughtful consideration of our proposal.

Sincerely,

Imran Hafeez & Gary Syphas

On behalf of the Worthing Taxi Trade

Agreement for Hackney Tariff Increment

To Whom It May Concern;

This is a Maximum Charge Tariff & Includes VAT where applicable with effect on or thereafter

Tariff 1: Start rate £4.00 For each subsequent 70.1 yards or 16 Seconds £0.10

Daytime Rate between 06.00hrs to 23.00hrs for 1- 4 Passengers

To apply at all times except when tariff 2 or 3 applies

Tariff 2: Start rate £5.00 For each subsequent 97.2 yards or 30 Seconds £0.20

Night Time Rate 23.00hrs to 06.00hrs for 1- 4 Passengers

Day time Rate between 06.00hrs to 23.00hrs for 5 passengers & above

Bank holidays/Public holidays for 1- 4 passengers

To apply at all times except when tariff 3 or 4 applies

Tariff 3: Start rate £7.00 For each subsequent 76 yards or 18 Seconds £0.20

Night Time Rate 23.00hrs to 06.00hrs for 5 Passengers and above

Bank holidays/Public holidays for 5 passengers & above

Christmas from 20.00hrs on 24th December to 06.00hrs on 27th December 1- 4 Passengers

New Year from 20.00hrs on 31st December to 06.00hrs on 2nd January for 1- 4 Passengers

Tariff 4: Start rate £8.00 For each subsequent 88 yards or 30 Seconds £0.30


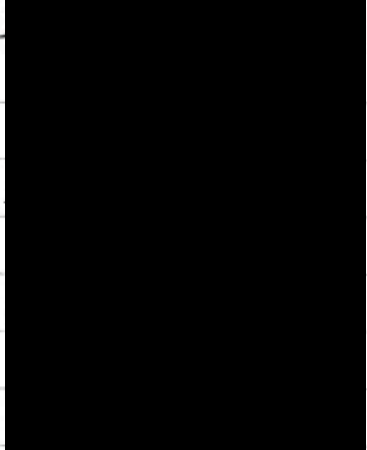
Christmas from 20.00hrs on 24th December to 06.00hrs on 27th December for 5 Passengers & above

New Year from 20.00hrs on 31st December to 06.00hrs on 2nd January for 5

Passengers & above

Passenger soiling charge shall not exceed £150

We agree to the proposed tariff increment as detailed above. Please find our signatures below:

Name.	Badge Number.	Signature
1- IMRAN HAFEEZ	HD 5150	
2- SUFIAN NOSHAD KHAN	HD 5220	
3- Kifayat Rahman Nounud	HD 5526	
4- Ibsrah Chudhury	HD 5048	
5- MOYNA MIAT	HD 5401	
6- M. ADIL	HD 5523	
7- X. JILAL	HD 5400	
8- D. ALIEMNE	HD 5400	
9- Rameel Raza	HD 5038	
10- Jehad Albukhari	HD 5142	
11- FALSAH KHAN	HD 5527	
12- Arshad Khan	HD 5009.	
13- BRUCE TAYLOR	HD 5141	
14- ABDESSALEM SOUYAD	HD 5176	
15- Amin Assad	HD 5070	
16- D. CHARKE.	HD 5215.	
17- N. KHAN	HD 5039.	
18- ASIF NAVREED	HD 5110	

Name.

Badge Number.

Signature

MARK NIND	HD5500	
PAUL DICK	HD 5014	
PETER HOPE	HD 5054	
G. SYPHAS		
R. GOODE		
F. HOBBS		
P. HAYES	HD 5011	
J MCEARNS	HD 43	
E. BRADLEY	HD 5027	

G Syphas HD 40
R GOOSE HD 30
F Hobbs HD 525
C Lough HD 33
S. Dwyer HD 32
S. DAVIS HD 42
C BURS HD 7
C. Simmons HD 17
C. Martin HD 36
P. HAYES HD 11

E.T. LALTON HD 5
R Bussby HD 52
M. NIND HD 247.