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Application for a Fare Increase

As it is now two years since the last increase in Hackney Carriage fares I wish to apply for an increase for the following reasons.

- 1) Since the last increase in fares we have seen a considerable increase in fuel prices, as high as £1.35 per litre in the summer of 2008, and the likelihood is that fuel prices are likely to continue to rise over the next 12 months. When fares were last set the price per litre was less than 90p.
- 2) This borough now has fares very much lower than all the neighbouring boroughs and in particular the flag fall rate.
- 3) All other boroughs use a fare tariff that charges for the time element of a journey when the speed drops below approximately 10mph (Time and Distance). This borough does not, despite calls for us to be brought into line for the past 10 years.
- 4) In 2009 the council did not increase licensing costs due to the economic downturn. Much as we appreciated this gesture, I would imagine that this is not likely to be the case this year, and any increase in fees will hit a business that has suffered badly from the recession. We need an increase to cover any increase in fees and to bring us closer to the fares charged by our neighbouring boroughs.

My proposals are for the following tariff to be considered.

Flag down rate of £3.20 for 0.75 mile
Rate per mile to be increased to £2.30
Easter Sunday rate to be decreased from double fare to fare + half
Weekend supplement to be increased to 80p from 50p
Waiting time to be increased to 10p per 20 seconds
Time and distance charging to be permitted

Members of the committee are reminded that these would be the maximum fares that could be charged and the decision on whether to charge them is at the discretion of each company or hackney carriage owner.

From: "Terry Hill" <cascars@btconnect.com>
To: "Melvyn Wood" <melvyn.wood@tmbc.gov.uk>
Date: 13/05/2010 12:38
Subject: Fare increase

Further to my fare increase application could you please note that after the first 75 of a mile (flag rate) that it should increase in 20p increments every 153 043 yards. This equates to the proposed £2 30 per mile, but in more manageable amounts.

Obviously we require that the existing fare and a half, and double fare tariffs (with the exception of Easter Sunday) to come into effect on the same dates and times as at present.

I hope that this makes sense but if not please do not hesitate to contact me on 07717 722804

Terry Hill

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Dear Melvin,

After speaking to a number of independent drivers licensed by this borough, the consensus is that we are due a rate increase at the earliest possible time. The suggested points are as follows

- 1) The start rate to be increased from £2.80 to £3.20 as there has been no increase in the start rate for 3 years or more.
- 2) The subsequent distance to reduce from 145.6metres to 140metres, the increment of 20pence to remain the same.
- 3) Start distance to be reduced from 0.8 to 0.75 of a mile.
- 4) Waiting time to change from 10pence for 24seconds to 15pence for 30seconds, giving a hourly rate of £18.
- 5) Saturday and Sunday rates to remain the same.
- 6) The spoilage charge needs to be increased from £75 to £100.

The reason for these increases are due to the cost of living and the steadily rising costs of running and maintaining a Hackney carriage.

Hope that you look at these suggested changes sympathetically, as times are hard for the taxi trade, who are trying to provide a comprehensive service to the public.

Yours Faithfully



Ray Morgan

