



**Gibson Building, Gibson Drive
Kings Hill, West Malling
Kent ME19 4LZ**

Switchboard 01732 844522
DX DX 92865 West Malling
Minicom 01732 874958 (text only)
Web Site <http://www.tmbc.gov.uk>
Email legal.services@tmbc.gov.uk

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^XS,CPTRADEAS.LICASE;^ND,CPTRADEAS.LI
CASE;
^ES;^IL,ADDRESS. LICASE;
^NL,ADDRESS. LICASE;
^NL,ADDRESS. LICASE;
^NL,ADDRESS. LICASE;
^NL,ADDRESS. LICASE;
^RL,ADDRESS. LICASE;

Contact **Katie Iggulden**
Direct line **01732 87**
Email **@tmbc.gov.uk**
Fax 01732 842170
Your ref [Enter their ref]
Our ref [Enter File Number]
Date

Dear Driver,

Provisional Guidance for Hackney Carriage Fares

For some time a question has been asked by some Hackney Carriage drivers in the Borough about the Council's policy in respect of charging for time and distance. Whilst the Council has consistently advised that the tariff card provided is quite clear in stating that charges are for distance only unless the passenger specifically asks the driver to wait, for which a separate tariff is allowed, it appears that some drivers have not understood the difference between "waiting" and "time and distance" charging. In addition, older versions of the Council's Licensing Policy required drivers to run the taximeter on "Hired". Although this requirement does not appear in the current Licensing Policy, some confusion remains with some drivers.

In view of the above, and in the light of recent discussions with representatives from drivers in the Borough, the Council has decided to take steps to resolve this confusion and a formal report will be presented to the Licensing Committee in June. In the meantime, I have been asked to notify all drivers that between now and then no action will be taken against any driver who chooses to run the taximeter on "Hired" whilst carrying a passenger within the Borough, effectively meaning that all drivers may charge time and distance with immediate effect. Following the June meeting of the Licensing Committee further information will be provided.

Yours faithfully,

Katie Iggulden
Estates and Licensing Manager

