

Comment 1 – Will Fallaize

Good evening,

I would like to start with saying that yes these rates are an increase in some areas, but with the little local jobs round town which 65% of the jobs are under 3/4 of a mile you are worse off.

With the increase in fuel, road tax and insurance and adding living costs on top these are no enough! We haven't had a review in 4 years and these rates don't even pass the average inflation rate of 5% a year in the last 4 years and taking into account that they most likely won't get reviewed again for another 4-5 years.

There is already little to no insensitive to get drivers to join the taxi world as it is let alone making it worse at weekends and public holidays which is a massive loss on your reviewed rates.

It would be very much appreciated if you could re review these rates with everything considered from now and the future years to come please

Thanks in advance

Will

Good morning Stewart

First of all I apologise for how I worded the last email after re reading it sounds like I went on a rant. Yes I do object to some of the proposed changes but on the other had I don't object to change.

I feel like the everyday driver that just dose all the local shopping trips and that are going to be worse off, I appreciate that you can't just sky rocket the price and hope for the best but even if you leave rate 1 as is and just up the starting price to £3.70 an extra 50p that would make the first mile £5 which is only £1 more than what it is now and keep the £2.20 a mile after that.

The rate after 9pm I'm all for lowering the time for rate 2 and I'm also happy for it to be lowered to £4.80 start but I feel that the price per mile should be raised just a touch £2.50 a mile or even £2.40 and the same for the weekends please

But the biggest thing is the drop of rate 4 for bank holidays, I have worked for 3 companies now and by myself for a year and the hardest thing is to get a taxi on a bank holiday, which is understandable as it's a public holiday but now there is zero incentive to get drivers out on bank holidays and is just not worth anyone's time on the proposed rate 2, I personally think that this needs to be revised please and I believe that there should be a set rate for just bank holidays.

The Christmas rate 3 I'm happy with if you could just change the price per mile back to £3.00 and leave the starting price and the distance that will be perfect.

Thanks for your time

Will fallaize

Comment 2 – Rostek Tomczyk

Hi.

Im writing regarding last letter from licensing authority about proposed new taxi fares.

I would like officially oppose that new tariff proposal.

1. Increase by 10% is not enough, average fuel price for diesel in [2018](#) (previous taxi price update) was about £1.34, now is about £1.94, that is about 45% increase.
2. Living cost increase, for example, Im paying at least 50% more for electricity compare to 2018.
3. In Ely, most of trips are less then 2 miles, from Market street rank basically you can get everywhere in less then 2 miles and most of trips from station rank are less then 2 miles.

4. I work normally at train station, sometimes we wait 30-45 min for passengers, and sometimes they are going to Back Hill or Broad street, in that case we would actually charge less then now.
5. Bank holidays - there is actually much lower rates, as at the moment bank holidays are same rate, £3 per mile, and new rate would be £2.75 and most bank holidays are moved to lower tariff.

I understand that in some places, like Cambridge, it would make sense as there is higher demand for taxi from rank and they are going more often on trips, but it wouldn't work in Ely. It is very upsetting that it has not been noticed by authority and in some cases instead of increased it would be a decrease of the rates. Therefore I oppose new rates and appeal to increase rates to match situation on the market and take into account inflation from 2018 until now plus living costs increase as for many drivers it is the only job and source of income.

I would suggest to leave it as it is with 4 tariffs, just add £1 to each and increase price per mile.

Kind regards

Ross

Comment 3 – J R Cars

With regards to the new proposed pricing

The proposed taxi fare rates from the railway station, as most of the trips am and early pm are to or from market square, which will mean a loss to all taxi drivers. At present this trip would be £4 with the new rate it would be £3.80 meaning a loss

Christmas eve and new years eve rates need to start earlier not 9pm
As we have discussed in the passed

We feel that with the bank holiday rate starting at a lower rate drivers will not want to work for less money

What with the fuel prices and general expenses of running taxis a loss in income is not an option

A lot of us taxi drivers think in order to bring the start rate price down you need to scrap the mileage charge, ie meter moves straight away. Which would give us an increase across the board

Other taxis in the Cambridgeshire, Haverhill area have there meters moving straight away when hired

Regards

J R Cars

Comment 4 – Richard Lee (Fencabs)

Good Morning

I am raising an objection to the proposed changes to the table of fares.
Objection to the lowering of flag rate.

Reasons for the objection are. This will only encourage obesity & with the pressure and cost that obesity is already having on the NHS seems unnecessary, Also there is an Environmental Impact With increased emissions.

Thirdly, encouraging shorter trips will impact the operators financially due to increased wear on mechanical parts such as Clutch & gearbox use as well as brake's & associated parts such as Discs & pads.

Shorter fares should be discouraged not encouraged.

Change in hours Rate 2

Although this is a step in the right direction. There is still a lot of ill feeling that it was changed in 2018. This resulted in a large number of drivers changing their working hours which in turn resulted in a poorer service for members of the public in the evenings. The change in Bank Holiday rates helped greatly to encourage drivers to cover Bank Holiday driver shortages.

The proposed Change again will only have a detrimental outcome & i believe Rate 4 should not be changed from its present format.

Dead Miles

The Calculation and consideration in the fare rate review was taken from a National Database, This would've included Major Cities where dead miles are substantially less than Rural areas such as East Camb's due to the density of the population, so does not give a true reflection of the increased dead miles faced by our Local Drivers.

Vehicle Cleaning

There is no mention in the report regarding Taxi operators outgoing costs for vehicle cleaning. I have estimated the approx annual cleaning costs of the following.

Cars: 2 x per week @ £15 per clean = £30 x 52 = £1560.00

mpv: 2 x per week @ £25 per clean = £50 x 52 = £2600.00

Mini Bus: 2 x per week @ £35 per clean = £70 x 52 = £3640.00

Coments & summary

As one of the larger operators in the district employing a large number of sub contract drivers who have voiced their opinion directly to myself that they feel very aggrieved that over the past two to three years have received very little or no financial support from East Cambs council.

Whilst other Districts received reduced Licence & Plate renewals during the pandemic.

The last fare rate review was in 2018 the previous was i believe 2013 the underlying feeling amongst the Majority of the Taxi trade is we are always playing catch up.

We must be allowed to make a reasonable margin of profit to reinvest in vehicles. This needs to be reflected in the % of the fare review.

Regards

Richard Lee
Fencabs Ltd

Comment 5 - Daniel Muzyczka

Good morning.

I'm writing regarding last letter from licensing authority about proposed new taxi fares.

I would like oppose that new tariff proposal.

The new tariff is very harmful to the previous one, not to mention inflation.

Most often, customers hire a taxi from taxi rank on Market St to New Burns or St. John`s Rd is about 0.6 miles.

I appeal to increase rates to match situation on the market and take into account inflation from 2018 until now plus living costs increase as for many drivers it is the only job and source of income.

I would suggest to leave it as it is with 4 tariffs, just add £1 to each and increase price per mile.

Kind regards

Daniel Muzyczka

Comment 6 - Marcin Siemiatycki

I`m writing relating your new fares proposal.

I think that what you propose is not enough, longer fares would bring extra 10% compare to what is now, but living costs increased much more. Also as far as I understand on Bank Holidays we will earn less then now, especially on longer trips. Please treat that email as oppose to your proposal.

Thank you

Kind regards

Marcin Siemiatycki