

Proposed Fee Increase - Comments

Replacement Vehicle - At the point the vehicle is replaced the balance of the fee already-paid should be transferable to the new vehicle. (Repeated comment)

All fees should be kept at same level for at least one year due to the current conditions and recession. (Repeated comment)

Replacement Vehicle – The current fee does not encourage drivers for green and newer vehicles for public.

As there has been 40 more Hackney plates issued and the same amount of driver licences issued generating an extra £16,800 could you please explain why this increase is necessary. (badge 1350)

£272 – Always thought vehicle licence fee was too high for 2 MOTs and a badge. I see no difference from a standard MOT at a local garage which costs about £50 per test.

Private Hire Ops Licence – Why any increase? This red tape bestows absolutely no benefits upon me, the driver, and is purely another form of money raising by the authorities, with nothing to actually justify it. (Plate PH - 84)

Small rises for each cost seem reasonable due to inflation of everybody's costs.

Leave it all alone! My honest opinion is I really do think we pay enough now, we are all struggling to earn a living. Not to increase, leave it!

Taxi fees – Should decrease with the formation of the Licensing Partnership and cost recovery on it.

Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence and Additional costs – Surely the purpose of forming the Licensing Partnership was to reduce costs so the fees should be going down on a recovery basis only.

Drop 6 monthly vehicle test.

Yes to all.

CRB – I assume this is a 3 yearly renewal? (Streamline)

Replacement Vehicle Fee – Full replacement to a vehicle cost should be the same as a temporary replacement cost and plate expire as normal.

Replacement Vehicle plate £36 to £37 – The existing fee is already too much, when it is very easy to lose plates as modern cars boots are made of plastic.

Replacement Vehicle Fee – Vehicle replacement fee is too much. It is costing just another MOT and a plate. We should encourage new cars for the public of Sevenoaks. While buying a new car the Hackney proprietor is already bearing extra costs for metres etc. It should be less than 50% of the current fee.

As probably the longest serving H/C driver in Sevenoaks – nearly 40 years. When I/we started, the minimum fare to take a passenger from the station to the town was 12.5 pence which in those days could buy 20 cigarettes. Now even £3.50 would not buy 20 cigarettes. We have fallen behind inflation and not had any increase in income in nearly 3 years. Whilst everything else has risen! Council tax, Council fees, train fares etc. Not to mention increase in Taxi numbers which has decreased our income. We desperately need a fare increase.

Medical – What will it be after 31/12/2011? (Badge 620)

I am not opposed to a slight increase in plate costs, but I would rather pay more for my plate and have numbers of HC cars licensed limited.

All Fees – Do not increase any fees.

Happy with proposed fee increase. No objections. (Repeated comment)

£272 – Hackney Carriage vehicle licence this fee should be decreased not increased. Costs for running a successful taxi operator in all areas are far too high now. As always the drivers ability to earn a reasonable living is gradually reduced.

Small increase.

Regarding PH fees – I really cannot understand why you are proposing this increase, it is totally unjustified. Can't SDC have a year where it doesn't increase everything. If you haven't noticed we are still in a recession.

Medical Fee – Allow Drivers to attend own GP for medicals.

I am not really bothered either way as I shall be retiring soon.

This will affect drivers already struggling with the economic situation and running costs in all areas, especially fuel costs. No increase please. (Repeated comment)

Any increase would in my view, be scandalous. The Council already charge a disproportionate amount for the work undertaken. Furthermore, the fact that drivers can only have their cabs plated at the Council's own facilities on competition and should, therefore be put to tender and drivers given the choice they are entitled to surely be teamed with Maidstone there should be cost efficiencies resulting in reduced costs not increased costs.

Independent Study – The Council, as the Licensing Authority, should have undertaken a thorough study before Licensing more Hackney Carriages than the trade can sustain. To suggest there may be unmet demand, suggests that the Licensing Officers are completely out of touch with the situation faced by the trade. I am NOT willing to fund a survey.

I do not want the proposed fee increase. (Repeated Comment)