

Name	Comments	Officer comments
Kevin Lear	<p>No annual fare increase should mean no council fee increase, or do the licensing department just see us as a cash cow? Utterly disgusting to even consider a fee increase given the current situation. I take it you lot are still being paid, while we are not earning anything.</p>	<p>The fare increase was considered at Licensing Committee on 7 January 2020, please see below for the decision.</p>
Emma Barritt	<p>To whom it may concern</p> <p>Due to the situation with covid 19; 80% of the taxis in Sevenoaks District are currently unable to work, which will likely continue for 3 months or more.</p> <p>We have been forced to either self isolate or put ourselves and our families at risk to earn a measly £20 for 10 hours work.</p> <p>To propose fee increases at a time such as these is absolutely abhorrent.</p> <p>Further more, there has been zero mention of the fare increase we should have received in January.</p> <p>I absolutely do not agree with any fee increases throughout 2020 when it is going to take many of us, months to break even.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>Emma Barritt Hackney Carriage Badge 1097</p>	<p>We are obliged to review the fees every year and inevitably costs increase each year with inflation. We need to be self-financing. Current proposals are for an inflationary increase in line with projected costs for this year.</p> <p>We are very sympathetic to what the economy is currently going through, but if we do not cover our costs then the service will be under-funded and we would need to either cut the service provided or be subsidised from other funding.</p> <p><b>In respect of the requested fare increase, the Licensing Committee considered the request at its meeting on 7 January 2020. The outcome was as follows:</b></p> <p>Members considered a report which detailed the outcome of the recent Hackney Carriage Fare consultation, and asked whether Members were minded to revise the existing fares as set out in Appendix A. Members were advised that the fares had been amended in 2019, and if they were minded to revise the existing Table of Fares, the changes would need to go out for advertisement with the public and Hackney Carriage Trade. 19 responses were received from the Hackney Carriage</p>

		<p>trade, with 18 responses in support.</p> <p>Members discussed the report and compared the response rate to the previous year of which 85 responses had been received. Members considered that although all members of the Hackney Carriage Trade had been consulted there was a lack of response received and thought it was not a majority requesting a change to the fares.</p> <p>Resolved: That the existing fare chart remain for the year 2020/21 as set out in Appendix A to the report.</p>
OATH TEAM	<p>Hi Sharon  Thank you for your e mail  Whilst I accept that you may need to act to fulfil your advertising in the local press, I am somewhat surprised that the Council would increase charges at a time of national emergency especially when the trade is presently on its knees and any improvement in trading conditions is practically speaking most unlikely until the autumn  It would be a matter of goodwill and understanding of the present economic pressures to suspend any proposed increases until the trade picks up  Kindest regards  Graham Powell</p>	See above
duncan cheeseman	To whom it may concern, in light of the current situation I think it's a highly inappropriate to suggest an increase in	See above

fees is due. As I'm sure you are aware most taxi drivers are self employed and have seen their livelihoods decimated by covid-19.

On top of that, the fare increase that we were supposed to receive in January has not materialised.

It is my opinion that any increase in council fees given the above reasons are unjust and unwarranted.

Kind regards  
Duncan cheeseman