



Mr. Mohammed Ali
The Secretary
Dudley Taxi Alliance
c/o 23 Tanfield Road
Dudley
DY2 8XF

Licensing Officer
Mrs. J. Elliott
5 Ednam Road
Dudley
DY1 1HL

4th March 2008

Revision of Hackney Carriage Fares

Dear Mrs Elliott,

We would request the committee to urgently consider a revision in the hackney carriage fares as follows:

Mileage

For the first 73.33 yards or part	£1.50	
For each subsequent 73.33 yards or part (until 586.69 yards have been travelled)	£0.20	
For each subsequent 234.67 yards or part	£0.20	
Equivalent to per mile	£1.50	
Night, Sunday or Bank Holiday charges	£0.50	(No Change)

Waiting Time

Equivalent to per hour	£12.00	(No Change)
Valeting/ Cleaning Charge up to	£50.00	(No Change)

Booking Charge

£2.00

The above increases by £0.50 which is to cover the extra cost for fuel, for booking taken away from operating centre. The above charge is not applied from Taxi Ranks or flag downs.

We would ask the committee to bear in mind the following in support of the increase.

- 1 The cost of diesel fuel has increased from £0.98 per litre (April 2006) to £1.10 (March 2008) currently this is a 13% increase in fuel, kindly note fuel is still increasing and there is an increase proposed for the budget which may increase £0.10 per gallon this will give a combined increase of 22%!
- 2 Since the 3 tests were introduced for vehicles over 8 years old the driver spends an average £2000 extra per year, or has to buy newer vehicles which are costly to purchase.

- 3 Purpose built vehicles cost in the region of 23K to 35K.
- 4 Insurance costs continue to rise.
- 5 Recently the fees for licensing have been increased by 3%.
- 6 The licensing department still need to continue with effective enforcement against private hire.
- 7 We would also like the local Authority to publish an effective awareness campaign to protect the public, e.g.: Your meter explained and the various tariffs and when they should be applied, how to hail a cab (i.e. look for the illuminated Taxi sign) Also the public are not aware of some of the Hackney Panel van type vehicles which are licensed as Hackney carriages, the public need an article in the local paper showing them the different vehicles which are licensed.
- 8 Generally there is a 30% drop in trade, Hackney carriage vehicles are purpose built and the drivers need to maintain a standard which can only be achieved by an increase in fares since the margins have eaten away through the increase in costs.

Yours Sincerely



Mohammed Ali.
Secretary Dudley Taxi Alliance