



Date: 12 August 2014

Dear Proprietor/Driver

**Section 65 - Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976
Fixing of Fares for Hackney Carriages**

I write to you as an interested party in relation to the setting of the maximum tariff in respect of hackney carriage fares under the above provisions.

You may be aware that the last amendment to the hackney carriage tariff was made in September 2011. This means that Brentwood licensed vehicles have operated under the same tariff for the past three years.

A request was received by the Council at the Taxi Trade Consultative Group (TTCCG) meeting held on Monday 4 August 2014 for an increase to the current tariff. A copy of the current and proposed tariff is enclosed with this letter for your information.

The procedure for the setting of fares is laid out in section 65 of the Act and requires that the proposal must be advertised in a local newspaper by the Council and that a minimum period of 14 days should be permitted for the receipt of objections. The new fares will come into force at the end of the 14 day period if no objections are received but will be considered by Licensing Committee should one or more objections to the proposed tariff be made.

The first step in the process will be to ask Licensing Committee to agree the increase in principle prior to advertising in the local paper. However, whilst TTCCG were in agreement with the proposed tariff I am aware that this has not to date been brought to the notice of the majority of trade members. Therefore, I would like to provide opportunity for the fares to be considered by you and request that any comment or alternative proposal that you wish to make is received by me in writing no later than Friday 12 September 2014.

If alternative proposals and/or comments are received, these will be taken to Licensing Committee for consideration along with the enclosed.

Letter to Proprietors

In view of this consultation there is no opportunity to take the proposals to the Licensing Committee on 9 September. Therefore, I am proposing that a special Licensing Committee be established to consider the proposals in mid October and that any representations received following advertisement of the proposed fares may then be considered at the meeting in November thus permitting time to implement any new fares before Christmas.

For this reason the above deadline of 12 September for any comments will be strictly adhered to in order to ensure that any necessary work can be completed in time for an October meeting of the Licensing Committee.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or one of my team should you have any questions as to the proposals.

Yours faithfully,

Gary O'Shea

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