

Paul Hughes

From: Taxi Licensing
Sent: Friday 19 July 2019 14:45
To: Taxi Licensing
Subject: Survey – Your chance to comment on Waverley Borough Council Hackney Carriage (Taxi) Fares

To Waverley Taxi and Private Hire Drivers

1. Following recent requests, Waverley Borough Council is starting a review of its Hackney Carriage table of Fares. As part of the review Waverley will consider proposed changes submitted as part of this consultation. In addition, the Council will also be considering the approach taken by Guildford Borough Council– (referred to as ‘the Guildford methodology’). This approach has been scrutinised and supported by the High Court as a result of the case of R (Rostron) v Guildford Borough Council [2017] EWHC 3141 (Admin)

Via this [survey](#)

2. we would like we would like to seek the views of Taxi drivers regarding the current Hackney Carriage Fare Scale and on specific elements of the proposed approach. We are keen to ensure that evidence is made available to inform the decision making process and to ensure that there is a fair balance between the public interest and the interests of drivers. We would also like to gather any evidence in support of views expressed where this is available.
3. This [survey](#) covers :
 - dead mileage
 - insurance premiums
 - average journey distances
 - fuel costs
 - inflation measures
4. The Council are planning to submit any proposals to the Licensing (General Purposes) Sub Committee. That will be a public meeting and you may come along to hear the Sub-Committee’s discussion, or watch the meeting online.
5. Please complete and return the [survey](#) online, as soon as possible and **by 1st September 2019 at the latest**. If you have difficulties completing the form online either Email it to taxi@waverley.gov.uk or hand in to the Council Offices at the Bury’s Godalming, Surrey, GU7 1HR marking the envelope ‘Taxi Licensing Survey’.
6. The [survey](#) results will be considered by the Sub-Committee along with any other representations received and relevant evidence available.
7. If you have any other comments you would like to make separately please do so via taxi@waverley.gov.uk. It would be helpful if you added the words ‘Taxi Licensing Survey’ in the title line as well as your name.
8. Complete the survey now - [survey link](#)

Background

1. Waverley Borough Council is minded to broadly use the Guildford methodology which provides a transparent process for calculating taxi fares and which was challenged and subsequently upheld by the High Court in 2017. The approach was based on the factors listed in the table below but some figures and factors may vary as they do not apply within the Waverley area (eg Waverley does not require livery for its licensed vehicles). Elements taken into account in the Guildford methodology are listed in the table at 3.
2. Waverley Borough Council has also received two requests for fare increases based on alternative methodologies:
 - a. £1.60 on a basic fare tariff to a total of £5 (proposal signed by 25 drivers); and
 - b. at least a 25 per cent increase in fares.
3. Elements taken account in Guildford methodology (those marked with an asterisk are not relevant to the situation currently in Waverley):

An allowance for an annual salary for the taxi driver
The average annual mileage of a licensed Guildford taxi
The amount of mileage without a fare paying passenger. This is referred to as the 'dead' mileage.
The amount of mileage with a fare paying passenger. This is the average live mileage
The average travelled for each fare paying journey
The average number of journeys travelled with a fare paying passenger in the taxi
Costs of running a diesel car in the £26,000 to £36,000 price bracket when new per mile.
Depreciation per annum
Cost of Capital
Annual cost of insurance
Additional insurance costs associated with the taxi trade
Cost of road tax
Average breakdown cover
The average cost of fuel per litre
Cost of tyres
Service labour costs
Replacement parts
Parking and tolls
Annual station rank fee
Cost of BTEC (over 3 years from 2016)*

Cost of livery (over 5 years)*
Annual maintenance of livery*
Cost of removing the livery (over 5 years)*
Cost of providing a roof sign and meter, and annual meter change (per year)

Why not complete the survey now - [survey link](#)

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