



GREAT YARMOUTH
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Licensing Committee

Date: Wednesday, 13 July 2022

Time: 18:00

Venue: Council Chamber

Address: Town Hall, Hall Plain, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2QF

AGENDA

Open to Public and Press

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

You have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in a matter to be discussed if it relates to something on your Register of Interests form. You must declare the interest and leave the room while the matter is dealt with.

You have a Personal Interest in a matter to be discussed if it affects

- your well being or financial position
- that of your family or close friends
- that of a club or society in which you have a management role
- that of another public body of which you are a member to a greater extent than others in your ward.

You must declare a personal interest but can speak and vote on the matter.

Whenever you declare an interest you must say why the interest arises, so that it can be included in the minutes.

- 3 MINUTES 3 - 6**
- To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 2022.
- 4 FIRST CLASS HACKNEY FARES 7 - 30**
- Report attached.
- 5 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
- To consider any other business as may be determined by the Chairman of the meeting as being of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration.
- 6 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC**
- In the event of the Committee wishing to exclude the public from the meeting, the following resolution will be moved:-
- "That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 12(A) of the said Act."
- 7 CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**
- Details



Licensing Committee

Minutes

Monday, 16 May 2022 at 18:00

PRESENT:-

Councillor G Carpenter (in the Chair); Councillors Bensly, Bird, Borg, Cordiner-Achenbach, Galer, Hacon, Hanton, Lawn, Robinson-Payne, Stenhouse, Thompson & B Walker.

Mrs D Wilby (Licensing & Elections Manager), Ms L Clare (Senior Licensing Enforcement Officer), Mr M Brett (IMT Support Technician) & Mrs C Webb (Executive Services Officer).

Mr S McKechnie & Mr P Nicholas.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Thompson.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Robinson-Payne declared a personal interest in item number 8 as she had known the applicant over 30 years ago but had not had any recent contact with him. In accordance with the Council's Constitution, Councillor Robinson-Payne was allowed to both speak and vote at the meeting.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 November 2021 were confirmed.

4 TAXI LICENSING POLICY

The Committee received and considered the report from the Licensing & Elections Manager.

The Licensing & Elections Manager reported that following approval of the Statutory Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Standards which were issued by the Department for Transport, a review of the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy had been undertaken.

The Licensing & Elections Manager reported that the current policy had been amended to include several proposed amendments to incorporate new procedures and legislation and was attached within the agenda report.

The Licensing & Elections Manager reported that the key changes were as follows:-

(i) Drivers

- 6 monthly checks using the DBS update service
- Improvements to the Local Knowledge Test to include a written element
- Updated Convictions Policy
- To utilise the NR3 database which was a national register of refusals and revocations
- To add the requirement for a HMRC tax check for renewals of Drivers and Operators which became law on 4 April 2022. This also affected Scrap Metal Dealers.

(ii) Vehicles

- The requirement for a Basic DBS for HC and Private Hire proprietors

(iii) Operators

- The requirement for a Basic DBS for operator base staff - to include staff receiving and making bookings.

The draft policy had been subject to 6 weeks consultation and 2 comments were received which were attached to the agenda report.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee approve the draft policy as the new Taxi Licensing Policy.

5 APPLICATION FOR A FIRST CLASS HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER'S LICENCE

The Committee received and considered the report from the Licensing & Elections Manager.

The Licensing & Elections Manager reported that information from the Disclosure and Barring Service showed that the applicant had several convictions. The last conviction was received in 2019 and a summary of previous convictions that were considered relevant were included in appendix 2 to the report.

The Licensing & Elections Manager reported that the applicant had been spoken to by the Licensing team regarding the number and relevance of the convictions and why there was a need to refer to the Licensing Committee.

The Licensing & Elections Manager circulated a copy of a late reference for the applicant which had been received to all members of the Committee.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee grant the application.

6 APPLICATION FOR A FIRST CLASS HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER'S LICENCE

The Committee received and considered the report from the Licensing & Elections Manager.

The Licensing & Elections Manager reported that information from the Disclosure and Barring Service had shown that the applicant had a conviction for drugs. The applicant had been spoken to by the Licensing team regarding the relevance of the conviction and why there was a need to refer to the Licensing Committee. A character reference had been supplied and was attached to the agenda for information.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee grant the licence.

7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman reported that there was no other business being of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration at the meeting.

8 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

RESOLVED:-

That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 12(A) of the said Act.

9 APPLICATION FOR A FIRST CLASS HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS LICENCE

(Confidential Minute on this Item)

**10 APPLICATION FOR A FIRST CLASS HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS
LICENCE**

(Confidential Minute on this Item)

The meeting ended at: 20:00

URN: 22-085

Subject: First Class Hackney Fares

Report to: Licensing Committee – 13 July 2022

Report by: Licensing and Elections Manager

SUBJECT MATTER AND DECISION REQUIRED

Members are asked to consider requests for a hackney carriage fare increase and decide whether to approve in principle subject to the formal advertising process.

1. Background

- 1.1 Local authorities have a power to set/vary fares for hackney carriages under section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous provisions) Act 1976. This usually happens upon request from the taxi trade as it is felt that they are best placed to know whether their business can withstand any increase.
- 1.2 The fare shown on the meter is the maximum that may be charged.
- 1.3 The current table of fares is attached Appendix 1 and was set in 2013.
- 1.4 A request has been received from a local taxi firm which is shown in Appendix 2.

2. First Consultation

- 2.1 As a result of this letter, the proposal was sent to all current plate holders and drivers to enable them to have the opportunity to comment, make any observation or objection to the proposal.
- 2.2 86 Responses were received in total, with 51 being in favour of this proposal.
A summary of all responses received are attached at Appendix 3
- 2.3 Three further proposals were also submitted during this consultation from:
 - Great Yarmouth Taxi Association
 - Another Taxi firm
 - An independent driver
- 2.4 All four proposals have been transferred to the same format and can be found at Appendix 4

3. Proposals

- 3.1 The proposals contain slightly different variations of
 - Costs per Yardage

- The earlier start time for the night time rate
- A proposed evening rate
- Sunday rate
- Waiting times

3.2 To assist members in putting this into context, examples of how this would affect costs to the public are attached at Appendix 5. Please note the examples do not take into consideration any costs added due to waiting times or extras.

3.3 Also attached are comparisons with other local Authority rates within Norfolk and Suffolk Appendix 6. It is worth noting that both Breckland and Kings Lynn have reviewed their table of fares this year, whereas the other authorities are pending a review.

4. Further consultation

- 4.1 A second email was sent to all current plateholders and drivers to give a further opportunity to comment on the other proposals given.
- 4.2 5 further responses were received and a summary of these comments can be found at Appendix 7.
- 4.3 If Committee approves in principle the fare increase, the new fares will have to be formally advertised in the local press to see if there any objections to the proposals. If objections are received within the objection period (which is 14 days from the date on which the notice is first published), the Council may consider these and have the discretion to make any modifications as they see fit. If no objections are received, the fares will come into effect after the expiry of the objection period.

5 Recommendations

Officers' would not object to an increase as fares have remained the same for several years and there has been significant increases in associated costs for the taxi trade. The trade has seen increases in running costs including but not limited to fuel, insurance, vehicles, wages and maintenance costs.

6 Options for Members

- That the proposed fare increase be approved in principle subject to results of formal advertising process.
- That the proposed fare increase be considered and modified before being subject to results of formal advertising process.
- That the proposed increase is not approved.

Areas of consideration: e.g. does this report raise any of the following issues and if so how have these been considered/mitigated against?

Area for consideration	Comment
Monitoring Officer Consultation:	consulted
Section 151 Officer Consultation:	
Existing Council Policies:	Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy and Handbook
Financial Implications (including VAT and tax):	None
Legal Implications (including human rights):	Yes - Nplaw consulted
Risk Implications:	
Equality Issues/EQIA assessment:	
Crime & Disorder:	
Every Child Matters:	

Current Tariff

<u>Tariff 1 - Day Rate: 0600-2300</u>	
For distances up to 176 yards	2.20
Thereafter for each subsequent 176 yards or part thereof	0.20
Waiting time for each 45 seconds or part thereof	0.20
<u>Tariff 2 - Night Rate: 2300-0600 & Public Holidays (except Xmas/New Year)</u>	
For distances up to 390 yards	2.60
Thereafter for each subsequent 195 yards or part thereof	0.30
Waiting time for each 45 seconds or part thereof	0.30
<u>Tariff 3 - Sunday Rate: 0600-2300</u>	
For distances up to 330 yards	2.40
Thereafter for each subsequent 185 yards or part thereof	0.25
Waiting time for each 45 seconds or part thereof	0.25
<u>Tariff 4 - Christmas & New Year Rate: From 1800 24th December to 0600 27th December & from 1800 31st December to 0600 2nd January</u>	
For distances up to 880 yards	4.00
Thereafter for each subsequent 195 yards or part thereof	0.40
Waiting time for each 45 seconds or part thereof	0.40
<u>Additional charges</u>	
For each article of luggage carried outside the carriage	0.20
For each person in excess of one (Children under 3 years not counted)	0.20
For cleaning following the soiling of the interior of the vehicle, a charge not exceeding	75.00
For cleaning following the soiling of the exterior of the vehicle, a charge not exceeding	25.00



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6th April 2022

Taxi Rate Meter Increase Proposal

We would like to propose a taxi rate increase as the last one was in 2013 since then the cost of living has risen significantly since 2013, The living wage has gone up 30% and is set to rise again.

All costs to run the vehicle and maintain them has risen as well, there is a national shortage of Taxis Drivers and to attract new people into this game requires paying higher wages and feel it is the right time to propose this increase.

With the new proposed increase, we would like to reduce it to three tariffs (day tariff 0600-1900) (night tariff 1900-0600) and a (bank tariff).

I have also like to propose a starting rate for the first mile (on all tariffs so the price is the same up to a mile), The night-time rate starts at 1900 this should encourage more drivers into the industry to work unsociable hours.

I enclose the suggested rates as well as compassion table for your perusal.

If this could be heard at the next meeting of the committee.

Yours sincerely,

Kevin Boyne
Manager

All carriage carried out under RHA terms and conditions available on request

Director C.L.Smith Company Number 4977279 Vat No 521 4654 67

Proposed Change of Hackney Carriage Table of Fares

TARIFF 1 – DAY RATE 0600-1900

FOR DISTANCES UP TO 1760 YARDS.....£5.00
 THEREAFTER FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT 176 YARDS OR PART THEREOF£0.25
 WAITING TIME FOR EACH 45 SECONDS OR PART THEREOF£0.25

TARIFF 2 – NIGHT RATE 1900-0600 & PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

FOR DISTANCES UP TO 1760 YARDS.....£6.00
 THEREAFTER FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT 195 YARDS OR PART THEREOF£0.35
 WAITING TIME FOR EACH 45 SECONDS OR PART THEREOF£0.35

TARIFF 3 – XMAS & NEW YEAR RATE 1800-0600

FOR DISTANCES UP TO 1760 YARDS.....£8.00
 THEREAFTER FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT 195 YARDS OR PART THEREOF£0.45
 WAITING TIME FOR EACH 45 SECONDS OR PART THEREOF£0.45

ADDITIONAL CHARGES (BAGS & PASSENGERS EXCESS OF 1)£0.30

SOLING CHARGES INTERIOR VEHICLE.....£80.00 EXTERIOR OF VEHICLE.....£30.00

APPENDIX 3

Consultation 1

Name	Comments
Plateholder	Yes I agree as cost of fuel repairs etc spiralling and haven't had increase since 2013
Driver	Agree in full
Driver	Yes I agreed to the proposal of fair increase
Driver	I agree in full to the price increase proposal
Driver	I would agree with the proposal in full
Driver	Hi I disagree with these price rises as a taxi driver people are chosen other methods of transport as it is electric scooters buses etc and this would push. That even more . I'm also questioning why swift taxis have applied for this as they have sold the taxi business to albies taxis from end of may 2022 so not sure why a tariff increase would make a difference to them
Plateholder	As fuel prices goes up everyday i agree with increasing prices on Hackney taxi or private hire transportation, thank you
Driver	agree with the proposal in full
Driver	I agree with the proposal in full.
Driver	Yes, I agree fully
Driver	Hi there I agree with the proposal in full. With cost of living going up we need a increase.
Driver	I agree
Driver	While price increases are never welcomed unfortunately with household bills up as much as 50% for gas and electricity, food prices increasing, rents, and fuel up to levels never seen before a price increase has to happen in my opinion. Also with the new bridge due for completion soon some fares will be cut by 50% as its going to cut out a fare from the Barkis estate to Gorleston by half in fact any fare from the seafront area of town to Gorleston side of town would be expected to use the new bridge. with the already shortage of drivers the last thing we need is drivers leaving the Industry because they just aren't making enough money.. or in turn having to do 16hr shifts to make the money they use to make putting the public in danger as the driver is on a 80hr week...

Driver	I agree with the proposed fare increase and have no further comments to make
Driver	I agree this is needed
Driver	I agree with the proposal in full - it is not worth driving at the moment.
Plateholder	I am totally for the increase due to fuel increase and cost of living, this has gone up outrageously since taxis have had a fare increase. It's a struggle every day now with the cost of running a taxi so please go with the proposal.
Driver	I don't take fares, as I'm only a School Bus Driver, so it's not for me to give an opinion on this matter. Trusting this is satisfactory,
Plateholder	Yes, I agree with the proposal in full
Driver	Yes I agree with these proposals
Driver	I agree with the fare increase
Driver	I'm agree with the proposal in full.
Driver	I agree with it
Driver	I would like to say i disagree with the price increase at this present time. My reasons for disagreement are set out below. As a taxi driver yes i would benefit from the price increase however do we not need to consider our customers? The current rise in fuel and cost of living is having a very negative impact on many who use our service as a treat or rely on it to go to work. If we increase costs the customers we currently have will drastically need to look at thier finances and may be more likely to consider using public transport, the price increase will then have a negative impact on us taxi drivers. I go to work to earn to pay my bills not to leave our paying public tossing up if its paying a bill or getting to work on time because the bus was late ect. I simply feel if this proposal was 6 months later it would be more palatable. The bigger companies like Swift Anglia and Albies can take the fuel price rises for another 6 months without the need to raise prices. we are a service to our public. I understand fuel increases but during the pandemic fuel went down in price did taxi companies or swift come and put a proposal to lower taxi tariffs in line with price drops? No they did not. I really feel strongly with everything price rising we should hold steady at least for 6 months to watch how market increases are really effecting the businesses.

Driver	I definitely "AGREE" with the proposal as the fuel prices are going up every day and also the fare will help taxi drivers to recover since covid-19 as there was some lockdowns in past.
Driver	I agree with swifts and new tariff is fine by me there's not been a price rise in years
Plateholder	Yes 100% agree with the increase and is a must for the future of the industry . it's been since 2013 so will be nearly ten years since the last rise the amount minimum wage has increased along with fuel ,insurances and council fees have all gone up over this period. The only thing I would add is might be a good time to put future increases in line with council charges as the council only put up fees when cost have risen this will mean that in future the rise will be only minimal percentage
Taxi Firm	Totally agree with swifts proposal for the new rate increase
Driver	i agree with full proposal
Driver	I agree in full with the proposed tariff increase. We in the trade have not had a fare increase since February 2013, which is a long time. In addition our costs have increased enormously and income has declined.
Plateholder	I agree with the proposal in full.
Driver	It's a tricky one as with rising costs to the drivers in fuel etc could be enough to kill the trade a bit more so I possibly think a meet in the middle at 50p price increase across the board and review it again in a year or 2.
Driver	I'm in full agreement of the proposal by swift.
Driver	Yes I think its time we had an increase
Driver	Yes, Agree with proposal in full
Driver	I don't think the extras ending in .05 p is a good idea, who has loads of 5pence pieces on them, and no change holder allows for 5pences or copper so it wouldn't work really, if you had them in a bag in the car, it's something else to remember to take out every time you leave the car, so it doesn't get broken into 🤔 just round it off, 25p -30p, 35p-40p and 45p-50p, would be so much easier, regards W Doggett
Plateholder	I agree go for it

Driver	Having looked through the proposal it seems very fair to me. Even in rough times things have to change including taxi fares.
Driver	I don't agree. As i think it will put other prices up & will put people of using taxis,thanks
Plateholder	I would like to add my comments to the proposal rate rise by Swift . I am in total agreement with the proposal for the rate rise over the years since 2013 which was the last rate rise costs have dramatically increase in the running of a private hire taxi most notably the latest increase in fuel costs . Personally from what I was paying last year for the same mileage the increase is a extra £150 for fuel a month . There is a definitely a decrease in taxi drivers not only in this area but nationally covid did have a detrimental effect in this as most drivers are self-employed and they had to find other means of income . What has happened is a lot of them do not want to come back it's not cost effective to run a taxi at the present rate we have to charge governed by Great Yarmouth borough council . I also Think reducing the night rate from 23.00hours to 19.00 hours Will attract more taxi drivers to work nights as the earning potential will be much better and will attract more drivers to come back to the industry . This will be especially helpful to the public as there is a total lack of taxis at night time . Personally been a father of 3 daughters I would hate the fact that on leaving a nightclub or bar in the early hours when they shut they are able to get a taxi home safely . I have heard of waits of up to 2 to 3 hours or more to get a taxi would you want your daughter /son walking the streets at night trying to get home . Plus by not getting a taxi it could potentially put people off going out which will affect the local economy . I know by speaking to people who get in my private hire taxi they are astonished that the rate hasn't gone up since 2013 . I have been informed that Great Yarmouth borough council licensing have The license fee by £10 a year another increase we have to absorb .
Driver	I agree with the proposal in full
Driver	I agree with this proposal put by swift
Driver	Fully agree with fare increase
Plateholder	I agree with the proposed fare increase for Hackney Carriages but would prefer the start of rate 2 to be at 22.00 hrs instead of 1900 hrs I think this increase will encourage drivers to stay in the trade and to encourage new drivers which we badly need especially in the evenings
Driver	yes i agree to swifts increase
Driver	Agree in Principle, but I think the starting tariff rate should all be £1 less & the increments rounded up eg 30p , 50p & so forth.

	My rationale is that to increase the starting rate so much unduly penalises those doing short journeys, which the majority of jobs in town are , so increasing the increments more spreads the burden.
Plateholder	Following the Tariff Update. I would be happy for the Proposal to go ahead. Maybe one thing to note is to possibly make the night rate slightly later say 8pm as to not penalise the people going home from a days work. I wouldn't want these guys on the night rate as they are using travel for daytime work.
Plateholder	Yes in favour of increase
Driver	I have to say I agree with the proposal to raise the tariff rates as shown in the attachment thanks
Driver	Please can you accept this as my acceptance of the increase proposals. I do think the price rise is low as it is 9 years since we were allowed a price increase. I would say we are still below the minimum wage. I agree that rate 2 should start earlier as the public can still use public transport at 19.00 hours if they so wish.
Driver	I think a rate increase would be good not only would it be good for drivers but also the costs involved in running such company ie : vehicle costs fuel insurance An increase to £2.50 starting fee for tariff one and so on If you put prices to high people won't hire taxis and there for we will miss out on that all important summer business awaiting us
Driver	Yea I want fare go up because everything going up
Driver	I for one completely support the proposal and agree to it in full, which to be fair is long long overdue. I have spoken with a number of mainly independent drivers and can state that the proposal will be widely welcomed and gratefully received.
Driver	I've just seen the proposed taxi fare increase and I feel the increase is far to high. To over double the starting price is ridiculous in the current climate, I know the first mile is included but still a big increase on smaller fares. To change tariff 2 to 19 00 is also ridiculous as its not unsociable hours and will put people off using taxis. I believe an increase is needed but possibly tariff 1 an increase of £1 starting and a small increase.

	In such a town as yarmouth many people are on low incomes and use taxi as a vital part of their lives such as shopping and getting to work. This will just put people off using them.
Driver	I agree with the proposal in full.
Plateholder	1. I disagree with a fare increase at this time. 2. In these difficult times for our customers we need to raise the profile of our social role in reducing drink/drive risk, domestic dispute calming etc 3. If we become expensive for customers we will have fewer customers 4. The volatile economic future makes tariff level setting guesswork at this time. 5. The current tariffs are already viewed as prohibitive by the customers. 6. More customers is more important than higher tariff rates; no customer=no income
Driver	Yes i do agree
Driver	I agree to the price increase proposal submitted by Swift Taxi's. With the industry (as a driver/vehicle owner) being directly affected by the substantial increase in fuel costs, road tax costs and insurance(s) primarily. The second effect being the increased cost of daily living. I believe this increase is very overdue.
Driver	Good afternoon, as the rise in price of all goods affects everyone including taxi drivers I would be in favour of the proposed fare rise.
Driver	I agree with all the proposal apart from the times for rate 2 19:00 start will just kill the work till 23:00 people are use to the 23:00 rate 2 start and many people plan there nights mid-week for getting home before 22:30 so they don't pay rate 2 plus will hit everyone finish work 7-9pm, Were the public will understand the rates going up the first time in 8/9 years but times changing will just be unnecessary.
Driver	Im happy to accept price increase
Driver	Yes I agree with the increase in fares
Driver	I wish to agree with the proposed increase
Driver	Although I agree to a fare increase I am not sure that this is a good time. The cost of living is snapping at all of us and to increase fares

	could prove to lower the use of taxi's. This in turn would lower our income, a very difficult situation in my opinion.
Driver	Hello...i agree in principal to the proposals for an increase, however its not a good idea to have incremental values ending in 5p.!
Driver	I agree with the proposal in full
Taxi Firm	We have looked at the proposed tariff increase and have made suggestions on what we feel would be best and attached a spreadsheet to show this. The other proposal we have is to have the night rate start at 10pm instead of the current time.
Driver	Agree with increase.
Plateholder	May I comment concerning the new proposed Rate increase. I agree that we do need an increase as it has been many years, since our last one. I wholeheartedly disagree with the Swift Proposal as I feel that it serves just them and not the Taxi Trade as a whole or indeed some sections of the Public. The two larger Taxi / Private Hire firms would like this as it increases their income executing smaller jobs, but does so to the detriment to that group that have to use Taxis for small trips due to ill health. They will have a captive audience and I feel that this will unduly penalise many who will not be able to afford such as increase. Many Taxi / Private Hire drivers might see this as appealing but I do not. Moreover, we hear that Swift has allegedly sold off portions of its business and will look to sell the whole business in the very near future. This increase might look more appealing to any future new buyer. As I feel that the GYBC, especially the Councillors would never agree to such an increase, and I have therefore, with others, put forward another a more fair proposal. I attach it here and look forward to any comments, you might have, and from any other interested parties .
Driver	I agree
Driver	I agree entirely with the proposed fare increase put forward by Swift Taxis. It's been 9 years since the last increase, dare I say it will be another 9 years before the next one???
Driver	With reference to your email concerning the taxi tarif increase, I wish to inform you that I agree with the proposal in full.
Plateholder	I have reviewed the swift proposal and find it impractical due to night rate beginning too early, and having £5.00 showing on the meter for the first mile. I believe this will have a detrimental impact on business.

	I find myself in favour of the counter proposal submitted by R. Symonds of the Great Yarmouth Borough Taxi Association of which I am a member. The much needed moderate increases suggested should not noticeably impact business negatively, and help those of us who are plate holders to remain in business. An increase is desperately needed at this time to combat ever rising costs for plate holders, to enable us to maintain effective transportation services.
Driver	I am in full agreement with Swift Taxi's proposed Tariff increase, it is much needed the current tariff has been in use for at least 7 years and in that time there has been a minimum wage increase every year meaning we are falling further and further behind, and with the current cost of living crisis added I believe this proposed tariff increase is absolutely essential.
Driver	I agree
Plateholder	I am replying to your letter regarding Swifts proposal for fare increases. I don't agree with the proposal and feel that £5 just to get into the car is Swifts way of insuring that they have more business as they step down to private hire only where fares can be negotiated, they are trying to put others out of business. I did see the proposal by Mr Kirk and found it to be a much more reasonable suggestion that wouldn't put customers off completely.
Driver	I would agree with the proposal in full.
Plateholder	First of all I would like to ask how Swift have put in another tariff proposal? The rule has always been 6 months. I've been working with Roy Symonds on finding a happy medium with a new tariff. We've been waiting the 6 months to put it in. However I think your find Roy has now just put it in anyway. I hope you can see its a much better tariff proposal, which will work for everyone and not just benefit Swift with there proposal. Also I would like to add. I've been the leading Taxi meter agent for the whole of Norfolk and Suffolk for over 20 years. Probably covering 70% of taxis with in the whole areas. So I've alot of experience in other areas with tariffs starts (flag) and drop rate. So moving forward, I'm emailing you to put across my views on the current Swift tariff proposal. I for one can't agree to it at all, Due to the vast hike in tariff 1 to £5 start. I can see that Great Yarmouth over a mile it will continue to stay at £5, meaning an 0.80p incress.

	I believe there is a better way of reaching the £5. Lower start rate and drop the yard. I feel its a psychological issue that if the customer see £5 start on the meter, it will scare off any future fares. Norwich beening a city only start at £3.00, which going £4.80 over the mile. Rate 2 starts way to early. Rate 2 was always put in place for unsociable hours. 7pm, this day and age is definitely not unsociable, buses are still running upto 11pm. Norwich does have a Tea time rate, which does work for them. Which is between 6pm and 11pm. Myself and Roy have looked into using Tariff 3 as a tea time rate. You've probably seen the tariff now that Roy and I have worked out. I hope you can put this forward.
Driver	Agree in full
Driver	I do agree with the proposal in full of the fare increase.
Plateholder	I agree with the new price proposal as the cost of living has increased including fuel which had had a big impact on me.
Driver	I disagree with the increase at the moment as I feel that the local economy is not strong enough at this time.
Plateholder	I would like to make the following comments on the Proposed Taxi Fare Increase as follows: • I totally disagree with this Taxi Fare Increase Proposal from Swift Taxis. • I agree with a Taxi Fare Increase in principal but one that is fair and modest. This proposal is way too expensive. • Tariff 1 would increase by 127% on the Start Rate from £2.20 to £5.00 and the Running Mile would increase by 25% from £2.00 to £2.50. • Tariff 2 would increase by 131% on the Start Rate from £2.60 to £6.00 and the Running Mile would increase by 17% from £2.71 to £3.16. It is also proposed that this Rate is brought forward to 19:00 compared to 23:00 at the present time which would once again bring additional costs to the Public. • Tariff 3 would be scrapped meaning no extra incentive for working on a Sunday between the hours of 06:00 and 23:00. • Tariff 4 would increase by 100% on the Start Rate from £4.00 to £8.00 and the Running Mile would increase by 12% from £3.61 to £4.06. I will be submitting my own proposal in due course

Plateholder	I feel it is absolutely essential that we have an increase at this time and preferably without delay as things are only getting more expensive. We have not had an increase since 2013 The UK minimum wage in 2013 was £6.31 Now 9.18 That is a 45% increase in the intervening time. Deisel was £1.42 its now 32% Higher and Cars are over 30% more expensive second hand/new than 2013. However in order to keep in mind the publics financial situation I would be more in favour of the rise proposed by Mr Sean Morley. That said as a trade an increase is essential and I hope the Council will support a trade that is struggling financially and with supply at this time by approving an increase asap
Driver	With regards a fare increase £5 start equates to £280 rise per 100 jobs, this is too much. I propose £3.40 start rate 1. This helps towards the rising cost of living and gives a driver a rise of £120 a week per 100 jobs. Keep yardage the same, rate 2 the same at £3.40 1 rate of £3.40 for all tariffs

GYTaxi Association proposed Tariff

<u>Tariff 1 - Day Rate: 0600-1900</u>	
For distances up to 160 yards	2.80
Thereafter for each subsequent 160 yards or part thereof	0.20
Waiting time for each 40 seconds or part thereof	0.30
<u>Tariff 2 - Night Rate: 2300-0600 & Public Holidays (except Xmas/New Year)</u>	
For distances up to 176 yards	3.00
Thereafter for each subsequent 176 yards or part thereof	0.30
Waiting time for each 30 seconds or part thereof	0.30
<u>Tariff 3 - Sunday Rate: 0600-2300 and Evening rate 19.00-23.00</u>	
For distances up to 330 yards	2.90
Thereafter for each subsequent 176 yards or part thereof	0.30
Waiting time for each 40 seconds or part thereof	0.30
<u>Tariff 4 - Christmas & New Year Rate: From 1800 24th December to 0600 27th December & from 1800 31st December to 0600 2nd January</u>	
For distances up to 880 yards	5.00
Thereafter for each subsequent 176 yards or part thereof	0.40
Waiting time for each 30 seconds or part thereof	0.40
<u>Additional charges</u>	
For each article of luggage carried outside the carriage	0.30
For each person in excess of one (Children 5 years and under not counted)	0.30
For cleaning following the soiling of the interior of the vehicle, a charge not exceeding	100.00
For cleaning following the soiling of the exterior of the vehicle, a charge not exceeding	30.00

Ocean Cab proposal

<u>Tariff 1 - Day Rate: 0600-1900</u>	
For distances up to 176 yards	2.50
Thereafter for each subsequent 176 yards or part thereof	0.25
Waiting time for each 30 seconds or part thereof	0.30
<u>Tariff 2 - Night Rate: 1900-0600 & Public Holidays (except Xmas/New Year)</u>	
For distances up to 330 yards	3.40
Thereafter for each subsequent 195 yards or part thereof	0.36
Waiting time for each 30 seconds or part thereof	0.30
<u>Tariff 3 - Christmas & New Year Rate: From 1800 24th December to 0600 27th December & from 1800 31st December to 0600 2nd January</u>	
For distances up to 880 yards	6.00
Thereafter for each subsequent 195 yards or part thereof	0.40
Waiting time for each 30 seconds or part thereof	0.30
Additional charges	
For each article of luggage carried outside the carriage	0.30
For each person in excess of one (Children under 3 years not counted)	0.30
For cleaning following the soiling of the interior of the vehicle, a charge not exceeding	90.00
For cleaning following the soiling of the exterior of the vehicle, a charge not exceeding	30.00

S Morley proposed Tariff

<u>Tariff 1 - Day Rate: 0600-2300</u>	
For distances up to 160 yards	2.80
Thereafter for each subsequent 160 yards or part thereof	0.20
Waiting time for each 45 seconds or part thereof	0.20
<u>Tariff 2 - Night Rate: 2300-0600 & Public Holidays (except Xmas/New Year)</u>	
For distances up to 260 yards	3.20
Thereafter for each subsequent 180 yards or part thereof	0.30
Waiting time for each 45 seconds or part thereof	0.30
<u>Tariff 3 - Sunday Rate: 0600-2300</u>	
For distances up to 180 yards	3.00
Thereafter for each subsequent 180 yards or part thereof	0.25
Waiting time for each 45 seconds or part thereof	0.25
<u>Tariff 4 - Christmas & New Year Rate: From 1800 24th December to 0600 27th December & from 1800 31st December to 0600 2nd January</u>	
For distances up to 760 yards	4.60
Thereafter for each subsequent 180 yards or part thereof	0.40
Waiting time for each 45 seconds or part thereof	0.40
<u>Additional charges</u>	
For each article of luggage carried outside the carriage	0.20
For each person in excess of one (Children under 3 not counted)	0.20
For cleaning following the soiling of the interior of the vehicle, a charge not exceeding	100.00
For cleaning following the soiling of the exterior of the vehicle, a charge not exceeding	30.00

APPENDIX 5 - Tariff 1 – Day rate 06:00-23:00

In red have proposed this day rate changes to 06:00-19:00

Journey in miles	Current Cost (£)	Swift Proposal (£)	GYBTA Proposal (£)	Ocean Cabs Proposal (£)	Sean Morley proposal (£)
1	4.20	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
2	6.20	7.50	7.20	7.50	7.20
6	14.20	17.50	16.00	17.50	16.00
10	22.20	27.50	24.80	27.50	24.80

Tariff 2 – Night rate 23:00-06:00 & Public Holidays (except Xmas/New Year)

In red proposal is night rate changes to 19:00-06:00

Journey in miles	Current Cost (£)	Swift Proposal (£)	GYBTA Proposal (£)	Ocean Cabs Proposal (£)	Sean Morley proposal (£)
1	5.30	6.00	6.00	6.64	6.20
2	8.00	9.50	9.00	9.88	9.20
6	18.80	22.10	21.00	22.84	20.90
10	29.60	34.70	33.00	35.80	32.60

Tariff 3 – Sunday rate 06:00-23:00 and Evening Rate 19:00-23:00 * the evening rate is a new proposal from GYBTA

Please note the existing Tariff 3 is removed from both Swift and Ocean cabs proposal.

Journey in miles	Current Cost (£)	Swift Proposal (£) <i>Existing Tariff 3 has been removed</i>	GYBTA Proposal (£)	Ocean Cabs Proposal (£) <i>Existing Tariff 3 has been removed</i>	Sean Morley proposal (£)
1	4.65	N/A	5.90	N/A	5.50
2	7.15		8.90		8.00
6	16.65		20.90		17.75
10	26.15		32.90		27.50

Tariff 4 – Xmas & New Year Rate 18:00 24 December to 06:00 27 December and from 18:00 31 December to 06:00 2 January

Journey in miles	Current Cost (£)	Swift Proposal (£)	GYBTA Proposal (£)	Ocean Cabs Proposal (£)	Sean Morley proposal (£)
1	6.40	8.00	7.40	8.40	7.40
2	10.00	12.50	11.40	12.40	11.40
6	24.40	28.70	27.40	28.40	27.00
10	38.80	44.90	43.40	44.40	42.60

APPENDIX 6

	Charges calculated at 'day' rate by distance only – no allowance for waiting time, public holidays or extras				
	Date implemented	1 mile	2 miles	6 miles	10 miles
Breckland District Council	April 2022	£5.00	£8.00	£20.00	£27.00
Kings Lynn & West Norfolk	January 2022	£5.00	£7.00	£15.00	£23.00
North Norfolk District Council	August 2018	£3.80	£5.80	£13.80	£21.80
Norwich City Council	January 2018	£4.80	£6.80	£14.80	£21.20

APPENDIX 6

	Charges calculated at 'night' rate by distance only – no allowance for waiting time, public holidays or extras				
	Night time start	1 mile	2 miles	6 miles	10 miles
Breckland District Council	23:30 – 06:00	£7.50	£12.00	£30.00	£48.00
Kings Lynn & West Norfolk	23:30 – 06:00	£7.50	£10.50	£22.50	£34.50
North Norfolk District Council	23:00 – 07:00	£5.70	£8.70	£20.70	£32.70
Norwich City Council	23:00 – 06:00	£5.40	£7.60	£16.40	£24.20

APPENDIX 7

Consultation 2

Name	Comments
Plateholder	I have been a taxi driver in the town and in Leeds for many years. We cannot have a tariff that starts at £5 pound this is extortionate and will only damage the taxi industry in a time when people do not have extra money in their pockets but we do need an increase , I propose Sean Morley s tariff as a lot of research went into this and he looked at what Lowestoft and Norwich were charging and compared the rates . I hope we get a reasonable increase.
Driver	Thank you for your email, I have read the proposal's for a tariff increase and believe the Swift proposal remains the best option, I believe one of these proposal's must go ahead in the light of significant cost of living increases, there is a ongoing shortage of taxi drivers causing ever lengthening waiting times I believe this to be caused by drivers finding employment elsewhere with better pay to arrest this situation a tariff is essential.
Driver	No! .. I don't want any price rises. This will make the council thinking we are even richer than they can imagine and probably provoke them rising plate and license fees even further !
Plateholder	I myself personally think the most realistic one would be Sean Morley's. I don't even understand how swift can submit one when they no longer exist?
Driver	Thanks for email reference proposed tariff increases, I have read all sections and I would say the Swift Taxi proposal sounds the best one. The main reasons are as follows. The start rate would be adequate not only for now with the high cost of living but would last for a good few years to come. With everything that is getting more expensive and in particular the high cost of fuel which we rely on to make a living it is getting harder and harder to make a living as a taxi driver. Hence the fact that I have to work seven days a week just to keep mine and my wifes head above water. At the moment this really does negatively effect my quality of life, having no time with my wife and family. The evenings for me are at home but I am so tired that very little time is left for my wife. I also agree the scrapping of 'rate 4' at Christmas and New Year, changing to rate 3 would result in more people using Taxis at this time of year. I hope that my comments on this matter will assist in the decision for a tariff increase.

Driver	Could you tell me why this has to be put in front of the committee and why is this even up for debate. Every driver is going to want the increase and they will want the increase that means they will earn the most. I have worked for several companies and I have never heard of any company emailing their staff and asking if they want a pay rise as the answer is a very obvious one. All other staff that work for the council have had pay rises over the past nine years so why is there even a question as to whether us drivers would want. I have had to take a second job as driving a taxi for forty hours a week does not even come close to bringing in minimum wage, and the only reason I continue with driving a taxi is because I love the job but I am not surprised that many drivers have left to go to jobs where they can make a living wage and if something is not done sooner rather than later there will be many more of us that leave, as a love for the job does not pay the bills or support the family or home.
Plateholder	I would like to confirm my preference for the fare increase to the one put forward by Swift Taxis but with the night rate starting at 22.00 hrs