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Hackney carriage tariff review

We had a good response to the review and the replies have been collated and will be presented to the Council committee shortly.



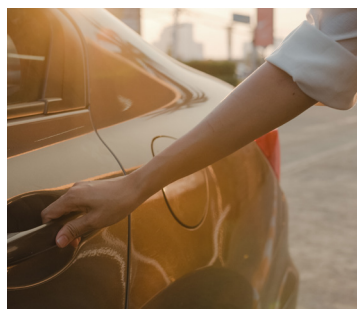
The recommendation will be a 'no change' to the fare tariff.

The rationale is that a sizeable amount of responses wanted no change to the tariff and we currently have the third highest tariff in the County.

Please be aware that if you have a Cygnus meter, Andy will not be able to recalibrate them in the future. If you're unsure if you have a Cygnus meter, we do hold a list, so you can ring the office on 01992 785593 and check if needed.

Uber vehicles parking on yellow lines near Cheshunt Station

Further to our meeting, our Parking Enforcement team have increased their presence at the road leading to the station.



Comment stickers

As previously confirmed, compliance garages are scheduled to begin to check whether a licensed vehicle is displaying a Broxbourne comment sticker in their vehicle. The only exception is private hire executive vehicles. If you do not have a comment sticker, please contact taxi@broxbourne.gov.uk to request one. You will be notified when they are available to be collected from reception.



No smoking stickers

Licensed vehicles are required to display 'no smoking' stickers in their vehicles, if you do not have any, please email taxi@broxbourne.gov.uk to request some. You will be notified when they are available to be collected from reception.



Safety

The Department of Transport has issued some guidance with regards to staying safe, please take some time to read:

[Taxi Drivers](#)

[Private Hire drivers](#)



Unlicensed vehicles parking on taxi ranks

Parking enforcement continue to ticket vehicles parked on our ranks, with 187 tickets being issued since 1 January 2023.

We have also requested for the road markings at the taxi rank in Hoddesdon to be re-painted and this is planned for once we have drier weather conditions in the spring.

Hoddesdon Rank

We have had allegations of drivers at the front of the rank turning away passengers that want to go on a short journey.

We wish to remind drivers that you cannot turn down a journey within the Borough of Broxbourne because economically you may feel it is not worth it. We appreciate it can be frustrating if you have been in the queue for some time and then receive a short journey and have to head to the back of the queue again. However, that does not justify turning the job down. Anyone who is found to be doing this may face enforcement action.

Age of Vehicles

It was raised at our last meeting whether we would consider increasing the minimum age for a first licensed vehicle. This has been fully considered now by reviewing our existing Policy and benchmarking alongside other Local Authorities.

The decision is that our existing Policy is satisfactory and will not be changed at this time.

Vehicle Inspections

We will be carrying out ongoing inspections on the ranks, at operators and when the vehicles are brought to the Council offices.

So please make sure your vehicle is up to standard at all times, our checks will include:

- Plate displayed and in correct place (outside rear of vehicle)
- Top lights working (Hackneys)
- Tyre treads
- Internal/external cleanliness of vehicle
- Displayed table of fares (Hackneys)
- Displayed comment sticker
- Displayed 'no smoking' signs

We will also be checking if you have facilities to take card payments, this is not a licensing requirement but it is good for us to be aware of the numbers of vehicles that do offer this facility.

Broxbourne Website

We have been working on improving the Hackney carriage/private hire licensing part of the website. You can now download and print your licence renewal forms if you mislay the form sent to you, directly from the website.

The link to licensing on our webpage is:

[Hackney Carriage and Private Licensing – Borough of Broxbourne Council](#)

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Hackney Carriage and Private Licensing

In this section...

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- Renewal of operator licence

New driver process

You can apply for, or renew, three types of taxi licence:

- hackney carriage
- private hire



DRINK DRIVING

With the festive period fast approaching, please be aware of the facts:

- Drink driving is illegal and puts lives at risk.
- It is not possible to say how much alcohol you can drink and stay below the limit. The way alcohol affects you depends on:
 - » your weight, age, sex and metabolism (the rate your body uses energy)
 - » the type and amount of alcohol you're drinking
 - » what you've eaten recently
 - » your stress levels at the time

So if you're driving, it's better to have none for the road.



Ceasing smoking

Leading up to the Christmas period is a very stressful time for taxi drivers due to the workload/additional demands, and subsequently undoubtedly they may smoke more due to stress.

If you wish to consider stopping smoking our Healthy Hub in Waltham Cross offers "quit smoking"

For further information please email healthyhub@communityalliancebeh.org.uk.

The Hertfordshire Stop Smoking Service is a program that provides support to individuals who

want to quit smoking. The service offers a free 12-week one-to-one support to help you quit smoking through various methods such as face-to-face or over the phone sessions, creating a plan with you to help you quit, motivation to support you through the challenging times and help you combat cravings, and regular carbon monoxide breath testing to show you how your progress has benefitted your health. The service is available to those who live, work, or are registered with a GP in Hertfordshire.

You can contact the service by calling 0800 389 3998, texting SMOKEFREE to 80818, emailing the [Health Improvement Service](#), or signing up online.



We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Taxi Licensing Team

