

Ms. Lorraine Neale
 Maidstone Borough Council,
 Licensing Department,
 Maidstone House,
 King St,
 Maidstone.

Mr. Neil C Cox
 (ADDRESS REDACTED)

Dear Ms. Neale,

You will be aware that the last time the Hackney Carriage trade had an increase in taxi fares was back in December 2013. The trade have asked me to write to you in order that the Licensing Committee can consider a proposal for such an increase at their earliest convenience.

The detail of our proposal is as follows with the current fare structure alongside.

Tariff 1.

6am to Midnight every day except Sunday

	Current Fare (£.p)	Proposed Distance & Times	Fare
The first 598.5m of hire	2.80	550	3.00
Each additional 140.4m	20p	125	20p
The first 3m 5s of waiting time	2.80	2m 30 s	
Every additional 37.2 s of waiting time	20p	30 seconds	

Tariff 2

50% **above** Tariff 1 rate from Midnight to 6am every day, all of Sunday, Bank Holidays and from 6pm to Midnight on 24th & 31st December.

Tariff 3

Double Tariff 1 rate from 00.00 25th December till 6am on 27th December and 00.00 1st January till 6am 2nd January.

The attached table gives an indication as to what the changes will mean on Tariff 1. This amounts to an increase of 11.7% at 1km (0.6m), 12.5% at 2km (1.25m), 9.4% at 3km (1.9m), 10.2% at 4km (2.5m) and 10.8% at 5km (3.1m). While this may seem a large change I would inform you that inflation has measured 15.5% since 2013 according to the Bank of England website.

I have used metric measurements for ease of calculation and used whole numbers rather than decimals so that the public, trade and MBC can understand the fare structure more easily. I further suggest that the fare chart that we must display by law is about as useful as a chocolate teapot. It is technically accurate but uninformative.

I recommend that the likely fares to any given destination should be displayed alongside the fare chart. To that end can I suggest that the list below of approximately 50 landmark addresses in and around this borough and the likely taxi fares from the town centre displayed for the benefit of the taxi using public. This might help reduce overcharging by some of the drivers. I include those landmarks in alphabetical order after the table of fares.

I look forward to this being discussed at a future Licensing Committee meeting.

Kind Regards

Neil Cox
Chair
Maidstone Taxi Association.

Proposed**Current****3.**

Distance in metres	Fare £.p	Distance in metres	Fare
0 – 550.0	3.00	0 – 598.5	2.80
550.1 – 675.0	3.20	598.6 – 738.9	3.00
675.1 – 800.0	3.40	739.0 – 879.3	3.20
800.1 – 925.0	3.60	879.4 – 1019.7	3.40
925.1 – 1050.0	3.80	1019.8 – 1160.1	3.60
1050.1 – 1175.0	4.00	1160.2 – 1300.5	3.80
1175.1 – 1300.0	4.20	1300.6 – 1440.9	4.00
1300.1 – 1425.0	4.40	1441.0 – 1581.3	4.20
1425.1 – 1550.0	4.60	1581.4 – 1721.7	4.40
1550.1 – 1675.0	4.80	1721.8 – 1862.1	4.60
1675.1 – 1800.0	5.00	1862.2 – 2002.5	4.80
1800.1 – 1925.0	5.20	2002.6 – 2142.9	5.00
1925.1 – 2050.0	5.40	2143.0 – 2283.3	5.20
2050.1 – 2175.0	5.60	2283.4 – 2423.7	5.40
2175.1 – 2300.0	5.80	2423.8 – 2564.1	5.60
2300.1 – 2425.0	6.00	2564.2 – 2704.5	5.80
2425.1 – 2550.0	6.20	2704.6 – 2844.9	6.00
2550.1 – 2675.0	6.40	2845.0 – 2985.3	6.20
2675.1 – 2800.0	6.60	2985.4 – 3125.7	6.40
2800.1 – 2925.0	6.80	3125.8 – 3266.1	6.60
2925.1 – 3050.0	7.00	3266.2 – 3406.5	6.80
3050.1 – 3175.0	7.20	3406.6 – 3546.9	7.00
3175.1 – 3300.0	7.40	3547.0 – 3687.3	7.20
3300.1 – 3425.0	7.60	3687.4 – 3827.7	7.40
3425.1 – 3550.0	7.80	3827.8 – 3968.1	7.60
3550.1 – 3675.0	8.00	3968.2 – 4108.5	7.80
3675.1 – 3800.0	8.20	4108.6 – 4248.9	8.00
3800.1 – 3925.0	8.40	4249.0 – 4389.3	8.20
3925.1 – 4050.0	8.60	4389.4 – 4529.7	8.40
4050.1 – 4175.0	8.80	4529.8 – 4670.1	8.60
4175.1 - 4300.0	9.00	4670.2 – 4810.5	8.80
4300.1 – 4425.0	9.20	4810.6 – 4951.0	9.00
4425.1 – 4550.0	9.40	4951.1 – 5091.4	9.20
4550.1 – 4625.0	9.60	5091.5 – 5231.8	9.40
4625.1 – 4750.0	9.80	5231.9 – 5372.2	9.60
4750.1 – 4875.0	10.00	5372.3 – 5512.6	9.80
4875.1 – 5000.0	10.20	5512.7 – 5653.0	10.00

	Distance In km/miles	Town Centre Rank Fare £.p
Allington Castle	4.5/2.8	9.40
Aylesford Village	5.6/3.5	11.00
Bearsted Green	5.6/3.5	11.00
Bull, Barming	4.3/2.7	9.00
Boxley Village	4.3/2.7	9.00
Burham	8.5/5.3	16.20
Chatham station	14/9.0	25.00
Cherry Tree, Tonbridge Rd	2.9/1.8	6.80
Coxheath centre	6.7/4.2	12.80
Ditton Corner	6.6/4.1	12.60
Downswood	4.6/2.9	9.60
East Malling, King & Queen	8.7/5.4	16.00
East Station	1.6/1.0	4.80
East Farleigh (Bull)	4.7/2.9	10.00
Eccles	8.0/5.0	14.80
Gillingham station	16.0/10.0	27.60
Harrietsham	13.0/8.1	22.00
Headcorn Centre	15.3/9.6	26.00
Hollingbourne Centre	9.6/6.0	15.00
Hospital	4.8/3.0	10.20
Landway, Bearsted	4.5/2.8	9.40
Leisure Centre, Mote Park	2.4/1.5	6.00
Langley	8.0/5.0	14.80
Lenham Square	16.0/10.0	27.60
Linton Crossroads	6.4/4.0	12.40
Maidstone Girls Grammar School	1.6/1.0	4.80
Malta Inn	3.2/2.0	7.40
Marriott Hotel, Bearsted	5.8/3.6	11.40
Mereworth	9.1/6.8	16.60
Mid Kent College, Oakwood Park	2.3/1.4	5.80
Mid Kent Shopping Centre	3.2/2.0	7.40
New Hythe Lane	8.0/5.0	15.00
Northumberland Rd shops	4.0/2.5	8.60
Park Wood Shops	6.0/3.7	11.00
Penenden Heath	2.7/1.7	6.60
Quarry Wood	5.1/3.2	10.40
Queens Rd/Oakwood Park	2.6/1.6	6.40
Rainham (station)	14.7/9.2	25.00
Ringlestone	2.3/1.4	6.00
Rochester	13.4/8.4	23.60
St. Michaels Church, Tonbridge Rd	1.6/1.0	4.80
Strood	17.6/11.0	27.00
Sutton Valence	10.1/6.3	18.00
Tescos Grove Green	4.3/2.7	9.20
20/20 Industrial Estate	4.5/2.8	9.40
Wateringbury crossroads	8.0/5.0	14.80
West Malling (centre)	11.0/6.9	19.80
West Station	0.8/0.5	3.60
Willington Street shops	5.4/3.4	10.80
Yalding	10.6/6.6	19.00