

As Chairman of Torbay Licensed Taxi Association (TLTA) I have been asked to submit a proposal for a Hackney Tariff rate increase on behalf of TLTA members and drivers of the trade.

The members of TLTA are all Hackney Drivers or proprietors and membership makes up almost 50% of the Hackney Trade. We have over 100 years' experience in the trade

We have consulted with the Hackney trade and spoke to most of the drivers and the general feedback is they are in favour of a minimum 10% increase factoring in the rate of inflation over the last 2/3 years is around 8/9%.

We are not looking for annual reviews as most felt this was time consuming and would be more cost to operators for the small increases it would bring.

Historically, we have left the yardage untouched as most felt this was already low as research showed us how low we are compared to neighbouring authorities.

The Private hire trade has already seen some companies increasing their tariffs, unfortunately the Hackney Trade can't do this without going through proper procedure.

The escalating cost of fuel, maintenance/repairs and insurances have had a monumental impact on a driver's financial viability with some drivers even choosing to leave the trade altogether. While the national living wage has recently been increased the hackney driver has seen his profits drop.

Our proposal considers many influencing factors, in 2021 the rate of inflation was 7.5% and in December 2021 alone the rate of inflation was 5.9%. House prices and rents have increased dramatically, and the average weekly costs are consistently increasing. We feel that an increase of around 10% may encourage more drivers into the trade and keep the existing drivers in the trade.

We hope you will look favourably at the proposal and put forward a rise on behalf of the trade at the next Licensing Committee meeting

If you require any further clarification, please contact me on



Many Thanks

Raymond Hall