

Hackney Carriage Tariff

In total, we received 15 responses to the recent letter about the hackney carriage tariff (a 52% response rate). None of those that responded wanted to adopt the East Devon tariff and so this proposal (initially supported by 7 proprietors) appears to be 'off the table'.

Generally speaking, the responses can be split in to 2 groups – those that have answered the questions (6 respondents and proposal 'A') and those that have suggested a specific tariff (9 respondents and proposal 'B'). A brief summary of the overall responses is provided below:

- All agree to a percentage increase to Tariff 1 (with regards to the current £0.20 charge). In total, 13 respondents (86.6% of total responses) believe this should be increased by 10%, giving a charge of £0.22.
- All agree that the flag should be increased for Tariff 1. This increase is split between it being £3.00 (6 respondents) and £3.50 (9 respondents).
- 6 respondents would like the flag for tariff 2 to be £4.50 (i.e. tariff 1 plus 50%) and 9 respondents would like it to be £4.00.
- 6 respondents would like the flag for tariff 3 to be £6.00 (i.e. tariff 1 plus 100%) and 9 respondents would like it to be £5.00.
- 12 respondents (80% of total responses) would like the option of a booking charge with 11 suggesting this be a fee of £12.
- It seems like all respondents would like to keep the additional charge for when there are more than 4 passengers. However, it should be noted that 9 respondents have included this as a separate 'tariff 4'. On a practical note, the tariff 4 suggested in this proposal is the same as the suggested tariff 3.
- 13 respondents (87% of total responses) would like the tariff 2 start time to change (i.e. start earlier). It is currently effective between 23:30 – 07:00 and 9 respondents would like this to change to 19:00 – 07:00; 2 respondents would like it to be 23:00 – 07:00; 1 respondent would like 22:30 – 07:00; and 1 respondent would like 22:00 – 07:00.

In summary, the two general proposals are as follows:

Proposal A

This is supported by 6 respondents and although there are some differences in opinion, what follows appears to be the general consensus:

Increase the tariff 1 flag to £3.00 and increase the £0.20 fixed distance charge(s) by 10% (i.e. £0.22). Tariff 2 and 3 would then stay as they are. This would mean that tariff 2 (which is tariff 1 plus 50%) would have a flag of £4.50 and fixed distance charge of £0.33. Tariff 3 (which is tariff 1 plus 100%) would have a flag of £6.00 and fixed distance charge of £0.44. This proposal keeps the tariff 2 fares for when there are more than 4 passengers.

This proposal would result in a 2 mile journey on tariff 1 costing £6.74. This would place Mid Devon 53rd nationally, out of 364 Councils, and be the 4th highest price in Devon (out of 9).

Proposal B

This was proposed by 9 respondents:

Increase the tariff 1 flag to £3.50 and increase the £0.20 fixed distance charge(s) by 10% (i.e. £0.22). Tariff 2 would then have a £4.00 flag and a 25% increase on the fixed distance charge(s) for tariff 1 (i.e. £0.275). Tariff 3 would have a £5.00 flag and a 50% increase on the fixed distance charge(s) for tariff 1 (i.e. £0.33). This proposal also includes a tariff 4 for when there are more than 4 passengers but this tariff is essentially the same as tariff 3 (i.e. a £5.00 flag and a 50% increase on the fixed distance charge(s) for tariff 1 (i.e. £0.33)). Additionally, it should be noted that tariff 2 for proposal B is, comparatively, less than proposal A, but the intention is to have it start from 19:00 (instead of the current time of 23:30).

This proposal would result in a 2 mile journey on tariff 1 costing £7.24. This would place Mid Devon 13th nationally, out of 364 Councils, and be the highest price in Devon (out of 9).

To try and help you compare the two proposals (and the existing tariff), we have produced some tables with the relevant figures side by side. This includes examples of the charges for a range of journeys between 1 – 10 miles.

<u>Comparison of flags and fixed distance charges (i.e. each 180 / 170.7 yards)</u>						
Tariff	Tariff 1 flag	Tariff 1 fixed distance charge	Tariff 2 flag	Tariff 2 fixed distance charge	Tariff 3 flag	Tariff 3 fixed distance charge
Current	£2.30	£0.20	£3.45	£0.30	£4.60	£0.40
Proposal A	£3.00	£0.22	£4.50	£0.33	£6.00	£0.44
Proposal B	£3.50	£0.22	£4.00	£0.275	£5.00	£0.33

<u>Comparison of tariff 1</u>			
Miles	Tariff 1 - Current	Tariff 1 - Proposal A	Tariff 1 - Proposal B
1	£3.70	£4.54	£5.04
2	£5.70	£6.74	£7.24
3	£7.90	£9.16	£9.66
4	£9.90	£11.36	£11.86
5	£11.90	£13.56	£14.06
10	£22.30	£25.00	£25.50

<u>Comparison of tariff 2</u>			
Miles	Tariff 2 - Current	Tariff 2 - Proposal A	Tariff 2 - Proposal B
1	£5.55	£6.81	£5.93
2	£8.55	£10.11	£8.68
3	£11.85	£13.74	£11.70
4	£14.85	£17.04	£14.45
5	£17.85	£20.34	£17.20
10	£33.45	£37.50	£31.50

<u>Comparison of tariff 3</u>			
Miles	Tariff 3 - Current	Tariff 3 - Proposal A	Tariff 3 - Proposal B
1	£7.40	£9.08	£7.31
2	£11.40	£13.48	£10.61
3	£15.80	£18.32	£14.24
4	£19.80	£22.72	£17.54
5	£23.80	£27.12	£20.84
10	£44.60	£50.00	£38.00

As a result of the different proposals, we have decided to have a vote on some of the outstanding issues. This is not a 'redo' of the previous letter / questionnaire – the previous set of responses are still relevant and we are not seeking to change these results. The previous results seem to confirm the following:

- The majority of proprietors believe that the current fixed distance charges for tariff 1 (i.e. each 180 / 170.7 yards) should be increased by 10%
- The majority of proprietors would like the option of a booking charge
- All proprietors would like to increase charges when there are more than 4 passengers (i.e. use a higher tariff)
- The majority of proprietors would like tariff 2 to start earlier

We ask that you now answer the following questions enclosed with this letter – please do not make any alternative proposals at this stage as we simply want to see which proposal has the most support. We appreciate that some of you may not be in favour of a particular proposal but as the majority of respondents were in favour of particular things, we have worded the question accordingly.

PLEASE NOTE: The adopted tariff represents the maximum charges possible. Drivers can still offer discounts and a booking charge need not be applied.

Once you have completed the questions, please take a picture of the relevant page(s) and send it to us via email – licensing@middevon.gov.uk. If this is not possible, you can post it to Licensing, Mid Devon District Council, Phoenix House, Phoenix Lane, Tiverton, Devon, EX16 6PP.

Please be aware that responses must be provided no later than **13 August 2021**. If you have any questions then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Finally, we realise that there has now been a few letters about this and we do not want to unnecessarily take up your time. However, as another alternative tariff has been put forward we believe it is important to highlight this to the trade as a whole. Additionally, we hope the comparison tables are helpful and ensure you can properly see the implications of the different tariffs.

Please be aware that your response to this letter is very important. If you have any questions or concerns before responding, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Hackney Carriage Tariff Questions

1. Which proposal do you support? (please insert a tick next to your choice)	Proposal A	
	Proposal B	
	Both	

2. What time do you think tariff 2 should start? (please insert a tick next to your choice)	19:00 hours	
	21:00 hours	
	23:00 hours	

3. How much do you think the maximum luggage charge should be, for each piece of luggage? (please insert a tick next to your choice)	£0.20 (current)	
	£0.22	

4. How much do you think the maximum fouling charge should be? (please insert a tick next to your choice)	£75.00 (current)	
	£87.50	
	£100.00	

Name:	
Date:	