

Responses to formal consultation on taxi fare proposals.

Response 1

I think the current charges are fine

We currently use the booking fee so would be a drop in revenue if removed, also the cost of changing the tariffs on all taximeters as they would have to be removed probably hasn't been considered

I would be in favour of leaving this alone at the present time

Response 2

Remove the 50p surcharge for a customer pre booking a taxi. Should never have been introduced in the first place. Why penalize your own customer/new customer for booking a taxi? I never charged it. The soiling fee at present is fine as it stands.

Response 3

1. Soiling charge all but unenforceable, if they are not prepared to pay you will not see your money without going ludicrous lengths.

2. Pre booking charge never used.

Response 4

I think the soiling charge should be increased to £150. If someone is sick in your car at a time in the early evening you can almost guarantee that that is you and your car off the road for the evening and a proper valet for that car costs £70 already so no matter what you're going to lose money anyway but £150 at least would give you around £80 to help with bills that we all be etc.

I don't take any bookings so have no view of the charge for booking a taxi.

Response 5

I would never charge for pre-booking.

Just keep the fares the same, they are already expensive enough.

Response 6

1. The soiling charge can sometimes never be enough, however just getting the fine from a (probably) drunk customer can prove very difficult, so the current charge seems fair enough to me.

2. I've never implemented a pre-booking fee and never would, so I'd rather see that removed from the fare card.

Its good to see that the committee are proposing no change to the fares as its the only realistic option (other than a reduction!). I find it increasingly hard to get our fair share of the local market due to the fare reducing companies out there, and indeed can only very rarely charge the full meter price. We are forced to under charge the meter drastically or would become non viable. Companies who won't move from the meter price are going to find it very hard to survive and personally I find some fares embarrassing to ask for and am obliged to heavily discount. Just as well the meter only shows the maximum that can be charged or a lot of people would be priced out of using taxis. I did reply to the previous email inviting our opinions before the last fare consultation, stressing that I was dead against any increase as I think our areas taxi fares are too expensive. Should there be any more fare increases in the next few years I feel that the private hire route might be the way for us to go, freeing us from the ever increasing moans of the public.

Summary

Pre booking fee

- 1 person in favour of keeping
- 2 persons in favour of removing
- 3 persons state it has never been used but express no preference

Soiling Charge

- 1 person in favour of increase
- 2 persons state fares – presumably including soiling but without mentioning it – should remain the same
- 1 person says the soiling charge is fine
- 2 person state spoiling charge is difficult / impossible to collect with one of those stating the amount is fine