

A

Central Bedfordshire Council
Hackney carriage department
Dunstable
Beds

Burgins Taxis
Vernon Garage
Station approach
Leighton Buzzard
Beds
LU7 2LY

Date 15th May

Dear Mrs James,

Due to ever increasing cost of fuel, insurance and maintenance since the merger of south Beds and mid Beds, we are requesting a fare increase.

We propose an increase of 20p on tariff one, 30p on tariff two and 40p on tariff three. In addition to these tariff changes we like to lower the yards from 1500 yards to 1300 yards.

In addition we would like to bring to your attention that both Leighton Buzzard and Dunstable's bus lanes are not accessible to taxis. We feel it would be beneficial to the customer who would be charged less and to taxi operators would keep the fuel costs down. With everyone trying to be green nowadays it would help environmentally.

Last year there was a meeting about a proposed extension to the taxi rank in Leighton Buzzard high street and we were just wondering if there was any further development from that meeting.

Please find enclosed an additional list of hackney badge holders who agree with the above. We would be grateful if this could go to Licensing Committee as soon as possible.

Thank you for your assistance regarding these matters, we hope to hear from you in the near future.

Yours sincerely,



On behalf of Central Beds hackney and private hire badge holders.

B

**Central
Bedfordshire**

**To all:-
Hackney Carriage Proprietors**

Your ref:
Our ref: MEJ.FARES
Date: 01 July 2012.

Dear Sir or Madam

Hackney Carriages – Application for an Increase in Fares

I am in receipt of a letter from a Leighton Buzzard proprietor requesting an increase in hackney carriage fares.

As you are aware, any decision regarding this matter would apply to the district as a whole and I enclose a copy of a notice of the proposed changes for your information. A copy of the notice will also be published in the local press.

I should be grateful if you would let me know your comments on the proposal by 14 July 2012. The matter may then be put before the Licensing Committee for consideration.

I shall, of course, write to you again in due course but if you have any queries regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Margaret James
Licensing Enforcement Officer
Direct telephone 0300 300 4521
Email Margaret.james@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Please reply to:
Watling House, High Street North, Dunstable, Beds. LU6 1LF.

Central Bedfordshire Council
Priory House, Monks Walk
Chicksands, Shefford

Telephone 0300 300 8647
Email customer.services@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

**CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES**

Notice is hereby given that the Central Bedfordshire Council, in exercise of its powers under Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, proposes to vary the table of fares in respect of hackney carriages as follows and to bring them into effect on 01 August 2012.

FARES FOR DISTANCE

If the distance does not exceed 1300 yards For the whole distance.	£ 3.20 (currently £3.00 for 1500 yards)
If the distance exceeds 1300 yards For the first 1300 yards	£ 3.20 (currently £3.00 for 1500 yards)
For each subsequent 98 yards or Uncompleted part thereof:	£ 0.10 (no change)

WAITING TIME

For each period of 40 seconds or uncompleted part	£ 0.10 (no change)
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ADDITIONAL CHARGES

For hirings commencing:	
Between 23.30 hours and 06.30 hours	50% of the normal rate (no change)
On Bank Holidays	50% of the normal rate (no change)
On Sundays	50% of the normal rate (no change)
On Christmas Day and Boxing Day	100% of the normal rate (no change)
On New Years Day between 0001 hours and 06.30 hours	100% of the normal rate (no change)
For each additional adult person in excess of two.	£ 0.20 (no change)
For each piece of luggage carried.	£ 0.10 (no change)
For each bicycle or perambulator	£ 0.10 (no change)
Vehicle Solling Charge	£35.00 (no change)
London Congestion Charge	100% of charge (no change)

If you have any objections to the proposed variation of table of fares you should send your objections, in writing, to the address below stating the grounds of your objection by 14 July 2012. A copy of this Notice is available free of charge from Central Bedfordshire offices during normal office hours.

Dated 01 July 2012

Central Bedfordshire Council, Watling House, High Street North, Dunstable, Bedfordshire. LU6 1LF.

Margaret James

From: ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
Sent: 12 July 2012 15:31
To: Margaret James
Subject: Central Beds Taxis - Proposed Price Increase

Good afternoon,

I note, with interest, the CBC are proposing to increase, again, the standard fare for taxis in its area.

I must advise that I am opposed to such an increase.

I do appreciate that times are hard, as they are for all of us, however, before the council looks to increase the fares I would suggest that the council employs its resources in ensuring that the current service provided is up to scratch.

Living in a village &, for my social life at least, being reliant on taxi's I have noticed a number of serious issues with the local Taxi firms recently.

We take it as read that they will turn up, when it suits them, & we live with this. We also accept that the state of a number of Taxi are less than perfect (are they all road worthy? They should be but I doubt it!). What I do take exception too is the amount of times I am overcharged for my journey.

I have lived in my village for 17 years I KNOW what the fare is but when you are, continually, being asked to over pay it starts to grate.

Yes, I appreciate that some passengers can be 'challenging' at times & I wouldn't wish their behaviour on anyone but Taxi drivers choose, for the most part, to do their job.

If we are forced to pay more could I suggest that the local taxi drivers association is forced to put (at least a half page) advert in the local press stating their costs. This would, once & for all, explode the myth that rate II actually starts at 11.30pm (not 11.00pm as most taxi drivers would have you believe), that ALL fare's (even if a price is agreed) should be metered. This would stop taxi drivers 'claiming' their meter isn't working & using this to over charge. If the meter really isn't working they shouldn't be on the road! Also state that the number of pick up's or drop offs does NOT affect the fare, again, as most drivers would have you believe.

In this way all parties, drivers & passengers, will understand the parameters within which their contract is agreed.

Regards

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**Central
Bedfordshire**

To all:-
Hackney Carriage Proprietors

Your ref:
Our ref: MEJ.FARES
Date: 18 July 2012

Dear Sir or Madam

Hackney Carriages – Application for an Increase in Fares

On 1 July 2012 I wrote to inform you that I had received a letter from a Leighton Buzzard proprietor requesting an increase in hackney carriage fares. I enclosed a notice of the proposed changes with my letter and informed you that a copy of the notice would also be published in the local press. I explained that any increase in fares would affect the trade as a whole and I asked for your comments on the proposal by 14 July 2012.

No comments on the proposal have been received from the trade but I am in receipt of a letter of objection from a member of the public. This means that the matter must be put before Members of the Licensing Committee for consideration. The next Licensing Committee meeting is due to take place on Wednesday 12 September. If you would like your views on the matter to be considered, please ensure that I am in receipt of your comments by 17 August in order for me to include them in my report.

I shall write to you again with further details of the meeting but, in the meantime, if you have any queries regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

M James
Margaret James

Licensing Enforcement Officer

Direct telephone 0300 300 4521

Email Margaret.james@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Please reply to: Watling House, High Street North, Dunstable, Beds. LU6 1LF.

Central Bedfordshire Council
Priory House, Monks Walk
Chicksands, Shefford
Bedfordshire SG17 5TQ

Telephone 0300 300 8xxx
Email customer.services@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

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Hackney Carriage Fares – Comparison Table

Authority	Flag	Cost in miles				Date implemented
		1	2	5	10	
Luton (Airport)	£4.00	£5.30	£7.30	£13.20	£23.00	October 2011
Luton	£3.00	£3.70	£5.70	£11.60	£21.50	October 2011
North Herts.	£3.40	£4.10	£6.30	£12.90	£23.90	October 2011
Dacorum	£2.80	£3.68	£5.44	£10.72	£19.52	August 2011
St. Albans	£2.50	£3.60	£5.80	£12.40	£23.40	March 2011
Milton Keynes	£2.40	£3.80	£5.40	£10.20	£19.20	April 2008
Bedford	£3.20	£3.20	£4.80	£9.60	£17.60	May 2008
Central Beds Current rate	£3.00	£3.30	£5.10	£10.50	£19.50	January 2009
Central Beds Proposed rate	£3.20	£3.70	£5.50	£10.90	£19.85	



Margaret James

To: Najam Mohiuddin
Subject: RE: Regarding application for an increase in fares
Good Morning Shamas

Many thanks for your views. A Copy of your e-mail will be included in the report that will be put before the Licensing Committee in September.

Kind Regards

Margaret James
Licensing Enforcement Officer (Public Protection)
Central Bedfordshire Council

From:
Sent: 30 July 2012 18:54
To: Margaret James
Subject: Regarding application for an increase in fares
Importance: High

Dear Margaret James,

My views towards the increase of fares, should happen, this is because inflation has gone up, thus causing the fuel prices to rise, insurance company charging more money, living costs have risen. I know the customers wont be happen, but we haven't increase the fare price in a good numbers of years.

Regards,

Woking in flitwick, ampthill and surrounding central bedfordshire

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31/07/2012