

Email johnrstocker@hotmail.com

ajl_taxi_man@hotmail.co.uk

14 January 2016

To Cllr Vera Tomlinson, Chair Taxi Licencing Committee
Cc Kathryn Ashton, Taxi Licencing
Mike Shears, Taxi Licencing

Dear Cllr Tomlinson

Following a recent meeting where a fare increase was proposed and submitted by Mr Keith Radway and supported by Mr Hunt, we have had the opportunity to examine the implications on both the Taxi trade and to their passengers.

Mr Radway proposes no less than 7 separate increases within this submission, the greatest to reduce the higher rate threshold to only £7.00 at night, increasing fares by over 30% in some cases.

There has been a deliberate attempt to mislead both the council and the trade as to the full extent of the fare increases submitted and it appears that many members have been coerced into signing support for this proposal without being shown how much the fares will actually rise to.

We believe that as vehicle costs licence fees have increased considerably there is a case for a small rise. However, a fare increase on this scale is unacceptable and will not only damage the reputation of the Taxi trade and drive away business; it will create multiple zones within Swindon which will split communities with different rate charges.

We therefore submit a fare increase proposal which is transparent, with simply a 60 pence increase across the day and night start rates and a £1.00 increase on the Christmas and New Year start rate. The higher rate threshold will remain at £16.10 to incorporate all of Swindon at the lower rate and all other charges will remain as they are.

We feel this increase is fair, and in line with other increases within the public transport sector. There is broad support within the trade for this increase and we look to the council to approve this with the view to review fares on an annual basis from here.

Please find attached proposal for submission with fares on a mile by mile basis as requested.

Yours Sincerely

John Stocker
Andrew Lucas