

THEALE TAXIS & CHAUFFEUR HIRE
17 HIGH STREET THEALE READING BERKSHIRE RG7 5AH
Tel: 0118 9302345

Tuesday, 04 May 2010

Proposed Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Table of Fares (wef 05-05-10)

Dear Brian,

On behalf of my Drivers and myself, I wish to object to the scale of fees as advertised, not being reasonable. LG(MP)A 1976. s53 (2)

As your aware the Councils Licencing team allowed Hackney Carriage (HC) Licenced drivers to operate Private Hire Vehicles (PHV) using their Hackney Carriage Licence. This was rectified by the department by the issuing a PHV Paper Licence and Drivers Badge at the cost to drivers as advertised in the table of Fees, as agreed with this association. Since then I believe this has not been consulted on fully. This fee to drivers who require both licences would be unreasonable, i don't believe to check and file documents cost £164.00.

Drivers who have held both and are due to re licence, or have re licenced as drivers are finding the fee unreasonable, I her from others that some have given up one of the licences held.

I work it out to renew (existing driver) £607.00 to be able to hold both licences. Application of £233 for HCV £233 for PHV £51 for CRB and £90 Medical. (New Driver £671.00)

Please reconsider your proposed fees by using the charges within the table of fees, Replacement Badge £34.50 and Replacement Licence £34.50, with the addition of an admin charge.

A simple one page document attached to the HC drivers application should be sufficient to hold the information required.

It is important to appreciate that a statutory power to levy a fee dose not give the council an absolutely free hand in relation to the scale of the fee that is levied, The impact of any increase upon the livelihood of those effected has to be taken into account, as dose the scale of the increase itself.

We accept that the control of HC & PH vehicles and associated drivers and operators is a time-consuming and costly exercise, and it is quite legitimate for the council to recover as much of their costs in relation to this.

I am happy to confirm all other fees i accept.

Yours sincerely *Richard J Brown*