

# West Berkshire Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Operators Association

15 Ashley Piece, Ramsbury, Wiltshire, SN8 2QE

Mr Brian Leahy  
Senior Licensing Officer  
West Berkshire Council  
Council Offices  
Faraday Road  
Newbury  
Berkshire  
RG14 2AF

17<sup>th</sup> January 2005

Dear Mr Leahy,

## Revision of Hackney Carriage fares.

The members of the above mentioned association have instructed me to apply to you for an increase in charges.

Our application is as follows:

- 1) For the first 550 metres or part thereof: £ 1.80.
- 2) For each subsequent 102 metres completed or part thereof: £ 0.10p.
- 3) For each hiring that takes place on Christmas day until 06.00 hrs on Boxing day 100% of the above rate.

All other charges to remain the same.

In calculating our increase we have used the formula agreed and set out by the TGWU and the Public Carriage Office. Calculations are based on the following criteria,

1. The average cost of providing a vehicle. (In this case a Peugeot 406). Calculations are based on 4 different methods.
  - a) Purchase new and run for 9 years.
  - b) Purchase new and run for 3 years.
  - c) Purchase at 3 years and run for 6 years.
  - d) Lease.

2. Vehicle Spares:

A basket of 15 components is taken into account, along with tyre costs from 3 manufactures.

3. Garaging and Servicing:

These are divided into property derived costs (rent, rates, heating, lighting), using the Hillier-Parker rent index for industrial premises and labour derived costs using the TGWU National Joint Council for the Motor Retail Repair Industry's Minimum rates of pay index.

4. Fuel costs:

The price of derv per gallon is taken from the Petroleum Times Energy Source, and assumes typical consumption of 25 miles to the gallon.

5. Insurance:

Three insurance companies provide quotes; this figure is then averaged out.

6. Miscellaneous costs:

- 1) Licence fees
- 2) Class 2 NI contributions
- 3) MOT

7. Earnings:

As taxi fares comprise taxi drivers main income the formula takes account of earnings as 45% of the overall calculation for a fares increase. The earnings figure is derived from the average earnings index for the whole economy.

We would be obliged if you could consider the above and arrange for the appropriate Committee to consider our application at their earliest convenient meeting in order that the proposed increase can be implemented from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2005.

Yours faithfully,

Mr R.Nemeth  
Vice-Chairman