Appendix A

Summary Responses to the Statutory Consultation on Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle and Private Hire Operator's Fees 2022

Role	Comment
Community Panel and Parish Councillor	I am in favour of the proposed increase in fees.
Resident	I am not a taxi or private vehicle hire operator, only an interested council tax payer. The proposed below inflation increase seems reasonable.
Community Panel and Parish Councillor	Most parishioners in our village are fortunate enough to have their own transport or access to members of the community who can transport them to hospital appointments etc. Accordingly, I would not normally deem myself qualified to comment on this issue. Although, from my limited experience, I have formed the opinion that taxis are very expensive around here.
	However, I was chatting today with a golfing chum who lives in Thatcham. He was bemoaning the high cost of taxis in his area. In his experience taxi ranks in Thatcham/Newbury are usually full of idle drivers because; as the drivers relate, there are insufficient fares.
	This may well be as a result of the public not using the taxis due to their high cost. You may wish to consider whether the district would be better served by the old maxim of lower prices generating more business. Raising peripheral costs for cab drivers would appear to have the opposite effect.
Resident	I don't understand the jargon about fee-remittance for electric and hybrid vehicles. If it means that owners of these green vehicles receive a rebate, then I support that.
	In terms of the knowledge test requirement for taxi drivers, I would like to point out my experience that companies are sometimes run remotely from other countries. This can result in the taxis arriving late because they have been given the wrong pick-up location by the telephone operator.