

Responses to the West Berkshire Council Consultation on Proposed Changes to Hackney Carriage Tariffs

Representing	Comments
Trade	<p>I would like to formally object to the proposed increases to hackney carriage rates for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the pandemic ongoing at present and the risks of a subsequent influenza pandemic on the horizon, now is the wrong time to be considered a rise. Each and every rise sees a fall in the number of passengers. • The UK economy and the local economy is already fairly frail. • Locally Bayer pulled out of town and with Vodafone also relocating a lot of staff to Paddington, the local trade is suffering. • Therefore the loss of any passengers due rate increases will be detrimental to the trade. • I would also add that this pandemic has affected us all, however the majority of the trade has been well looked after by central and local government with the provisions of loans and grants, therefore, I feel that this is another reason why it would be inappropriate for the trade to be requesting more money from the general public. • Lastly, whilst I accept we haven't had a rise since 2013, I would ask that you consider deferring a decision for 12 months or until we as a country know what is happening surrounding the pandemics.