



15<sup>th</sup> June 2011

Mrs Kate Golledge Licensing Manager Wiltshire Council Monkton Park Chippenham Wiltshire SN15 1ER

Dear Kate

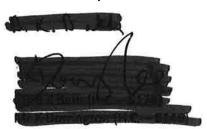
RE: Proposed Increase of Taxi Tariff

With regards to the recent proposal for an increase in Taxi tariff, we think that the large increase for the night tariff (2 a.m. to 5.59 a.m.) is too severe financially in this current economic climate, also the extra charge for 5 to 8 seaters is far too high. We suggest we keep the existing 3 tariff system, but increase the overall tariff by 15%, the public are expecting there to be an increase, due to the fuel costs etc, but we do need to keep a fair balance between an acceptable increase and not so high an increase that it would be to our detriment, and we will lose business.

We feel the best way forward is for you to come down to Salisbury and discuss an increase and work out a tariff option for the trade to vote on at a later date.

We look forward to hearing from you. Many thanks.

Yours sincerely







11 June 2011

Dear Madam,

#### **RE: PROPOSED TAXI TARIFF INCREASES**

In response to your letter of 03 June 2011 regarding tariff increases.

I firmly believe that having tariff 3 between 2am and 6am will decimate and ultimately destroy an already fragile late night taxi trade in Salisbury as this proposal more than doubles the current cost of late night taxi travel. I think that tariff 3 should be just for Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

Tariff 2 on a Sunday, I think, is reasonable as is the £100 soilage charge. There seems to be no change to the pull off charges and I would suggest that they are increased to £3 on tariff 1 and £4 on tariff 2.

In your letter, you correctly state that we have had no increase in 3 years with prices rising sharply but it seems tariffs 1 and 2, especially, have a minimal suggested increase. I would propose that a larger increase (maybe 1/11 of a mile) instead of 1/10 of a mile would be appropriate and no tariff 3 between 2am and 6am.

Also, I do not understand why multi-seaters have a tariff 4 and 5 as this will only cause more problems on the taxi ranks with customers walking the ranks to negotiate lower fares causing resentment and bad feeling between already pressurised rival taxi drivers.

After speaking with the majority of taxi drivers in Salisbury, it would seem that the general consensus of opinion is as stated above and I would implore you to give serious consideration to any changes that are to be made.

Yours faithfully



Independent Salisbury District Taxi Driver





## Dear Mrs Kate Golledge.

I feel that I have to inform you that I strongly disagree with the proposed changes in the new taxi tariffs for the south zone.

I do believe that an increase has to be made due the reasons stated in you letter i.e. fuel, insurance etc but feel that the price structure of tariffs 3,4 and 5 needs scrapping I feel that we need to stay with a 3 tariff system as we do already charging an increased rate that is transparent to all types of vehicle regardless of amount of passengers travelling. Keeping the added person extra can then be charged by the taxi proprietor at his or hers discretion.

To back this case I would like to give you an example. Presently a journey from Salisbury to Tidworth (15 Miles) with 5 people on board after 11pm the max charge would cost £43. With the new price structure the price is going to work out at somewhere near £92. This is not only a massively excessive charge but one that will not be tolerated by customers.

As you know we are in difficult times and by using rate 3, 4 and 5 this could seriously damage not only our income, but those of bars, restaurants, entertainment venues etc within the local area.

I would like to propose that we stay with the same tariff system as we have now including charging the same prices on a Sunday and with tariff 1 from 7am till 10.59 pm. Tarrif 2 then runs from 11pm through to 6.59am. Tarriff 3 then only needs to be used on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day.

I hope that you will be able to understand my views on this matter and take them into consideration on this very important matter.

Best wishes,



# The Value Cars Group

Mrs Kate Golledge Licensing Manager Wiltshire Council Monkton Park Chippenham Wiltshire SN15 1ER





Palue Carx Eaxis 01722 505050

#### Dated 07.06.11

## Reference- Proposed tariff increase for South Zone

Dear Mrs Golledge,

Thank you for sending me the proposed new tariff increase, I have studied this very closely and although I agree with some parts of the proposed new structure the plan to have an increased tariff between 2am-5:59am would have a really damaging effect to the entire taxi industry in the South Zone.

I totally agree we need an increase to cover rising costs of fuel/ insurance etc but the proposed tariff 3 and 5 will be absolutely detrimental to our industry. Christmas day and New years day would be fine but as we are a military town we would loose our bread & butter work at the weekends from the soldiers as they just would not be able to afford to visit Salisbury for a night out and they would be encouraged to visit other city's where the transport would be a lot cheaper.

I urge you to reconsider this proposal and I am more than happy to discuss this with you in more detail. I own a fleet of around 80 Taxi and private hire vehicles in the South Zone and my drivers feel exactly the same.



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I look forward to hearing from you.



Group Managing Director

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Public protection services
Wiltshire council
Salisbury SP2 2HX

Dear k Golledge

I am writing this letter on behalf of myself and all those that have signed it regarding the new tariff proposal for Salisbury. We believe that there is not only not enough work for taxis in Salisbury but the work that there is at present would considerably drop-off due to the proposed tariff system. We are all in agreement that the "extras" system should some how be incorporated into the tariffs but that the tariffs should stay at there respected times and frequency as they are at present.

Although we appreciate the fact that there has been no increase in tariff prices for 3 years and acknowledge the rise in fuel costs and insurance prices, we believe that the income in which we already struggle to achieve would be impossible to reach if the proposal went ahead due to the detrimental effect in which it would have on the trade. The simple fact is that if the proposal were to go ahead all taxi drivers would struggle to provide for themselves and for their families in this current economic climate. We are all against this new proposal and feel very strongly about it as it affects our livelihood directly. Custom would completely drop because people just wont pay those prices. We urge you to please take our thoughts into consideration and maybe leave the tariffs as they are at present and re-address the change in a year's time when Salisbury's economy has hopefully strengthened.

Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Public Protection Services Wiltshire Council PO Box 2281, Salisbury SP2 2HX

9<sup>th</sup> June 2011

# For the attention of K Golledge, Licensing Officer.

With reference to your letter dated 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2011, regarding the proposed tariff increase. We, the undersigned, would to like advise you of our strong opposition to the rate increase that you are proposing. Whilst we do agree that a tariff increase is required, as we have not had an increase in the last 3 years, the severity of the increase that you are proposing, we believe, will permanently damage the Taxi trade in Salisbury.

We would like to have further consultations with you on the proposed increase, to come to an appropriate increase and a time schedule, which will bring us in line with the rest of Wiltshire within the next 3 years.

In addition the separate tariffs for multi-seater journeys is of particular cause for concern, as in Wiltshire South any new plates issued have to be wheelchair accessible vehicles until October 2013. At the moment the current 3 tariff system works well, drivers and public alike understand them. Therefore, for the time being, we would like to retain the 3 tariff system.

Yours sincerely Hackney Carriage Driver's of Salisbury.