

Responses to the fees increase consultation 2020

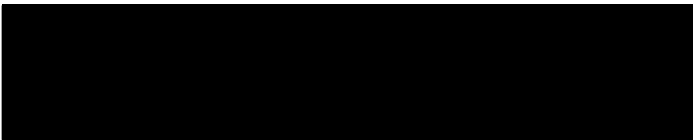
Date: 23.10.2020...

Re: Increase in License Charges 2020

I am writing to say that I do not agree that GBC should be putting up the taxi license charges in the middle of this pandemic. I am already struggling to put food on the table. I urge you not to make any increase.

Yours sincerely

Signed ...Yours sincerely .....

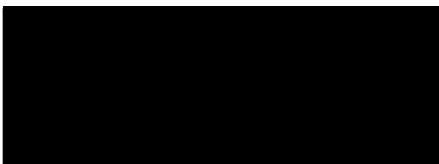
 .....

Date: 23/10/2020

Re: Increase in License Charges 2020

I am writing to say that I do not agree that GBC should be putting up the taxi license charges in the middle of this pandemic. I am already struggling to put food on the table. I urge you not to make any increase.

Yours sincerely




Date: 25 October 2020

Re: Increase in License Charges 2020

I am writing to say that I do not agree that GBC should be putting up the taxi license charges in the middle of this pandemic. I am already struggling to put food on the table. I urge you not to make any increase.

Yours sincerely

 .....

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Reference your latest taxi fee increase.

I am writing to object to this proposal of an increase in licensing fees for 2020.

I am struggling to make ends meet, there is NO work out there during this Pandemic and the general public hence has NO Stable income coming in, majority of the public have lost their jobs.

This has taken our taxi trade to a all time low and Gedling Borough Council I am surprised they want to increase taxi fees in this climate of Coronavirus. Instead of reducing taxi fees and helping struggling taxi drivers, some taxi drivers I know have worked for 25 years in the trade and now are claiming Universal Credit, because they can not survive during this Coronavirus Pandemic, there is NO trade from Pubs/clubs/restaurants, this has crippled the taxi trade, and I don't think it will ever recover to what it has been previously.

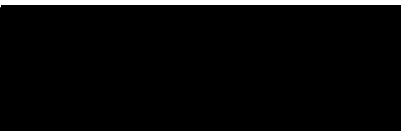
GBC I am very surprised that has not reduced their taxi fees but hence are proposing to increase them, this is utterly disgraceful and not compassionate behaviour from a licensing Authority who should be helping their fellow taxi drivers.

I strongly OBJECT to any increase in this current situation-of the Coronavirus Epidemic. Councils and licensing should be freezing or hence giving reductions in fees NOT increasing fees in this time of need.

GBC actions to increase fees are totally unacceptable.

I Strongly object to this INCREASE in Taxi fees.

Yours sincerely

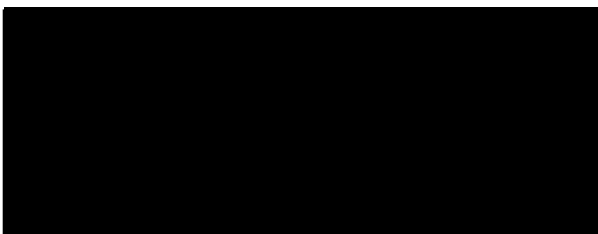


Date: ...24/10/2020

Re: Increase in License Charges 2020

I am writing to say that I do not agree that GBC should be putting up the taxi license charges in the middle of this pandemic. I am already struggling to put food on the table. I urge you not to make any increase.

Yours sincerely



Date 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

Re: Increase in License Charges 2020

I am writing to say that I do not agree that GBC should be putting up the taxi license charges in the middle of this pandemic. I am already struggling to put food on the table. I urge you not to make any increase.

Yours sincerely...

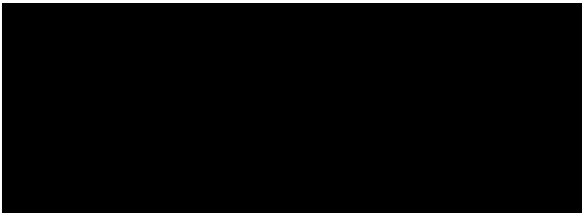


Date: 25/10/2020

Re: Latest Taxi Charge Increase

I write to object to the proposed increase in licensing charges for 2020. I am already struggling because of the lack of work due to the coronavirus. I am shocked that GBC is even thinking about increasing charges at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely

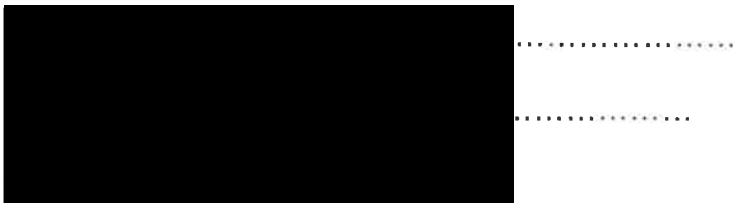


Date.. 27/10/20..

Re: Increase in License Charges 2020

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Yours sincerely

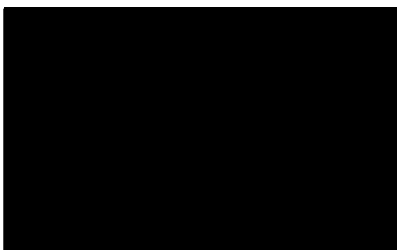


Date: 23/10/2020

Re: Increase in License Charges 2020

I am writing to say that I do not agree that GBC should be putting up the taxi license charges in the middle of this pandemic. I am already struggling to put food on the table. I urge you not to make any increase. In this time you guys should be supporting drivers and not shafting them. If you look Liverpool council this will be a good example for you guys. However if this continues you will find alot of drivers will be leaving.

Yours sincerely



25/10/20



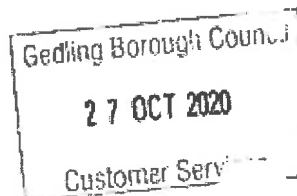
Dear Mr Newlon

I write to object to the proposed Gedling fee increases which have appeared in the Nottingham Post. The current rate of inflation is of the order of 1% yet you propose an increase of approximately 6.5%. Other councils seek to help the trade! I have sought to highlight this to others in the hope that they will also object.



Kevin Newlon

Community Protection



28/10/20

I am totally against these increase in fees coming in on 1st of December 2020. It's shameful the council is even thinking about these increases in Coronavirus times. Driver's are having to find alternative work to make a living as work is at a all time low in the history of our trade. I personally am seriously considering leaving Gedling borough in protest over these increases. Gedling borough taxi driver





29/10/20

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you to appeal and raise my Profound objections to Gedling Council madness of increased licence fees.

I am shocked and appalled by my local government Council if their lack of compassion and understanding on how the local taxi industry has been coping these difficult times throughout this pandemic year of 2020.

This has been an extremely difficult year, The Cronoa Virus has left this trade devastated aswell on the verge of collapse. This year will be a completed as a financial loss a right off. We are already in the red and running our businesses in financial deficit for 2020.

The Gedling taxi trade has been decimated, the Nottingham Taxi drivers have lost their revenues annihilated and have had their profits pulverize down to 20-25% from our regular annual turnovers.

Some drivers have left the trade to take on and learn new trades, some drivers are working 2-3 part-time jobs to make ends meet and cover their running costs of their taxi businesses.

Most drivers now are now surviving off the government assistance of universal credits in order to keep their heads of above water. The taxi trade is on the blink of collapse.

So now you have a clearer picture on how the Gedling taxi driver community is surviving. Now please can you kindly describe to me in what God's name Theia Mania would Gedling Council whats to introduce new increase licence fees while the trade is on it's knees.

Where is the this Council responsibility to our trade, what benefit are you about to unleash to our trade. What do you think your ridiculous and obscenity fee increases will do to this trade as we stand. Is Gedling Council obsessed of a desire to put sole traders out of business!

Why is their a necessity for increases to take place on the worst financial hit year in this century!!!

Why can not Gedling Council not hold back their obsessed fee increases to next year or at least till the pandemic is under more uncontrolled circumstances. And wait till their is a light of hope in the horizon for for recovery of this trade. Or is Gedling Council on quest to deliberately destroy what's remaining of this honorable trade and completely wipe us out?

Now I understand why their is obsession to joining Wolverhampton Council. Perhaps Gedling Council would like the whole of Gedling taxi trade to do a mass cross over and join Wolverhampton council taxi licences. And join a Council that doesn't want destroy trade a that's on the blink of collapse.

Liverpool Council says this

"Liverpool City Council is to give a grant to thousands of hard-pressed cab drivers struggling as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic."

"The city's 3,886 licensed drivers rely on the previously booming hospitality, events and tourism sector for a lot of their income, and were hit hard earlier this year when it dried up overnight due to the lockdown."

A report approved by the council's Cabinet on Friday 23 October will see Hackney and private hire vehicle drivers given a grant equivalent to the £40 cost of their driver badge, plus a further £170 for their vehicle plate if they own the cab – a total of up to £210.

"The taxi trade is a valued part of the city's economy, particularly as they are among the first people that visitors to our city come into contact with. So this is our way of doing what we can to assist them during these unprecedented times.

"I would also urge people to use local taxi drivers and firms where they can, to help support the trade through this tough period."

Nottingham City is on the verge of a lock down and further hardship to be unleashed to Gedling taxi trade and this is the Gedling Council offer offer the Gedling taxi community.

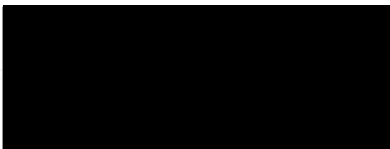
Gedling Council says this...

Notice Hereby Given

That from the the 1st December 2020

The Gedling Borough Council intend to repeal and replace the fees presently charged from Hackney and Private Hire Drivers Licences and Hackney Carriages and Private Hire Vehicle Licences and Private Hire Operator Licences are set out below.

Bravo...👏👏👏 Gedling Council you definitely the pillar of symbolism for our trade.



P.S My application to Wolverhampton Council licensing is already in the post.

29 October 2020

Dear Councillor.

I refer to the Environment and Licensing Committee meeting of 6th October 2020 of which you were Chair.

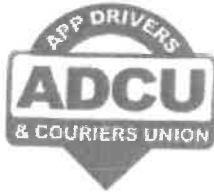
The Committee approved the increase in Taxi Licensing fees and charges for 2020/21, pending a consultation period. Appendix 1 clearly states that this would amount to an increase of 8%, on the 2019/20 charges.

Firstly, I am bewildered as to why the Committee would approve such a move in the middle of a pandemic. This will bring even further hardship to the drivers and their families. And secondly, 8% is way above the rate of inflation. In fact around ten times the current rate. How is this justified?

Year on year , our trade becomes less profitable and yet our fees are constantly increasing at a ridiculous rate. Our fees should reflect our rates and how much work there is . Also I would like to know why our fees are so much more than other local councils ?

I look forward to your comments.





## App Drivers & Couriers Union

Broxhead House  
60 Barbados Rd,  
Bordon GU35 0FX  
Email: [office@adcu.org.uk](mailto:office@adcu.org.uk)  
Web: [www.adcu.org.uk](http://www.adcu.org.uk)

Community Protection Manager - K. Nealon  
Gedling Borough Council  
Customer Services, Civic Centre  
Arnot Hill Park  
Arnold  
Nottingham  
NG5 6LU

RECEIVED  
29 OCT 2020

27<sup>th</sup> October 2020

### Replacement of HC and PH Drivers License Fees from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020

Dear K. Nealon

Further to the above notice being consulted upon to your drivers and license holders on the price increases that Gedling Borough Council intend to repeal and replace the fees presently charged for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers Licences and Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Licences as set out as: - Driver Licence Fee 1 year - £162.00 Driver Licence Fee 3 year - £419.00 Vehicle Licence Fee - £158.00 Vehicle Inspection fee - £88.00

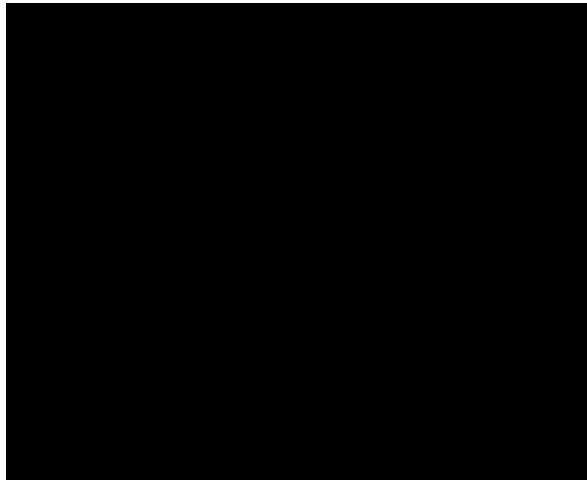
We the undersigned hereby provide our objections to this increase based on the following:

1. Places precarious workers under further financial strain
2. There are no financial implications for the Council. However, there are to passengers, owners and possibly drivers of Hackney Carriages.
3. Covid-19, the pandemic has decimated the trade and earnings by 90% and would be adversely affecting drivers' incomes with restricted trading hours of 10pm curfew
4. PH & HC drivers across other cities like Liverpool City and in Ireland have had financial support from their respective licensing authorities yet here, Gedling Borough is financially burdening their licensed drivers by increasing fees. Is this really justifiable?
5. Other business has had support dedicated both by Government and Local Authorities yet the Taxi trade widely has had no financial support
6. The proposed increase is extremely ill-timed on the part of Gedling Borough Council when they know the countries current financial position and their own MP's approving wage increases of 7% is beyond despicable and an act of sheer greed
7. Tier 3 that Nottingham and Gedling will be going into from Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October for a min 28 days will add further financial constraints on earning potentials with further business closing as a result of the local lockdown and businesses that we service closing
8. Brexit looming, the financial impact on the trade would impact drivers even further

9. Fees are currently high enough as is and in line with region and therefore any further increase would be subject to being overpriced within the wider Nottingham region but also across the UK
10. Drivers would leave the Gedling Council and seek to ply their trade in other boroughs for example and not limited to Broxtowe Council, Wolverhampton Council or even Nottingham Council in light of point 6 above as the rates are not competitive with other councils
11. A healthy and viable Hackney Carriage Service within the Borough has the potential to influence a number of the Council's key Community Strategy and Corporate Plan Objectives relating to integrated transport strategies, regeneration of the Town Centre and the reduction of Crime and Disorder
12. The Council's discretionary power to determine prices is largely utilised so as to enable the taxi trade to operate effectively whilst ensuring that the general public can afford to use them in a borough with low private car ownership, a limited train/tram service and a growing bus service. Hackney Carriages also provide a valuable door to door service for the disabled
13. There are no direct risks to this Local Authority regardless of the decision taken. However, as raised previously the council must balance the provision of a quality service with the desire to keep prices low for passengers and thus make it financially viable for Hackney drivers/owners to continue to ply their trade
14. Any increase would adversely affect the BAME communities as well over 90% are from the BAME community and therefore would there be a legal challenge on the licensing increases that then take financial resource away from dedicated essential services run by Gedling council and thus depriving our community further
15. This maybe contravening my human rights by increasing licensing fees

Drivers hereby undersigned by:

Azeem Hanif (Mr.)  
ADCU Nottingham Branch Chairman





29 October 2020

Dear Councillor.

I refer to the Environment and Licensing Committee meeting of 6th October 2020 of which you were Chair.

The Committee approved the increase in Taxi Licensing fees and charges for 2020/21, pending a consultation period. Appendix 1 clearly states that this would amount to an increase of 8%, on the 2019/20 charges.

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I look forward to your comments.

  
Gedling Licensed Drivers Association

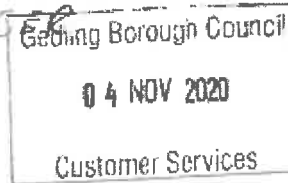
29 October 2020

Dear councillor Palin I am totally against these new taxi increase in fees coming in on 1st of December 2020. It's shameful that Gedling borough council is even thinking about these increases in Coronavirus times. Driver's are having to find alternative work to make a living as work is at a all time low in the history of our trade. I personally am really upset and worried at driver's in the borough not getting any support what so ever. Nottingham city council has stopped a recent increase in taxi MOT to support there driver's. I feel you should help support us in these difficult times. Please help us thanks

Gedling borough taxi driver  


FAO: Kevin Nealon

COMMUNITY PROTECTION MANAGER  
CIVIC CENTRE  
ARNOT HILL PARK  
NOTTINGHAM  
NG5 6LY.



1-11-2020

Dear Sir,

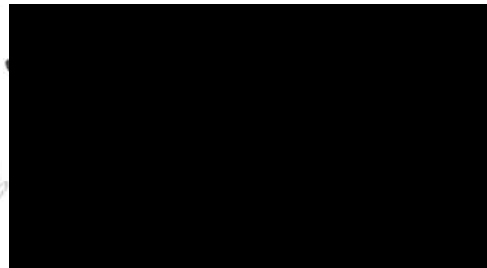
I am writing to you to object to the proposed increase in licensing charges 2020.

How can you be thinking about an increase when all taxi drivers are struggling at the moment with a pandemic in progress.

I am quite amazed that you are even considering this increase with the state of the Trade at the moment.

Yours Sincerely

BRUCE Numb



Kevin Nealon  
Community Protection Manager  
Civic Centre, Arnot Hill Park,  
Arnold, Nottingham  
NG5 6LU

30 October 2020

Dear Mr Nealon

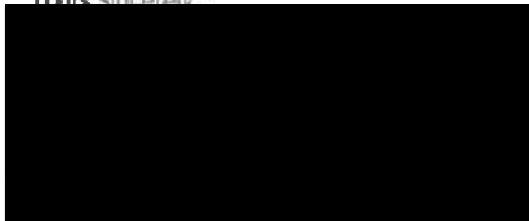
**Re: Proposed Increase in Licensing Charges**

I write to object to the proposed increase in taxi licencing charges.

Although we, the trade, appreciate that GBC did not implement the increase scheduled for April 2020, we do not believe this is the right time to bring in that increase.

This has been a very difficult year for everyone especially the taxi trade and I think it is at the very least insensitive to increase charges now. Nottingham is in Tier 3 lockdown and it would appear restrictions will only get tighter and this will affect trade negatively even further. Therefore I ask that you postpone any increase until lockdown restrictions have been lifted.

Yours sincerely

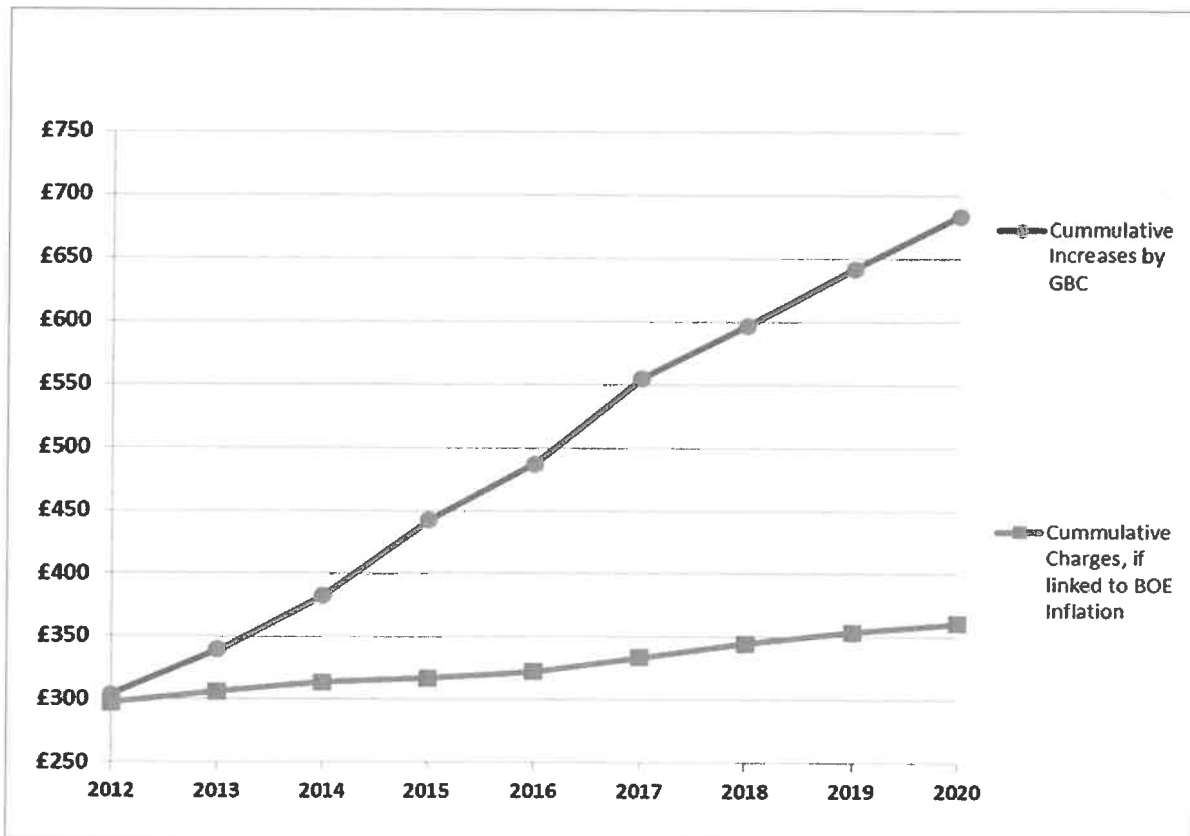


Dear Councillor Paling

I understand that taken in isolation an increase of a few per cent may not seem significant, but over time this can amount to an almost exponential increase. Please look at the increases in taxi licensing charges over the last few years.

	GBC Increase	BOE Inflation
2012	5.40%	3.20%
2013	11.90%	3.00%
2014	12.70%	2.40%
2015	15.60%	1.00%
2016	10.20%	1.70%
2017	14.00%	3.60%
2018	7.60%	3.30%
2019	7.50%	2.60%
2020	8.00%	2.00%

The chart below shows the cumulative effect of the above charges when set against charges if they had been based on (Bank of England) BOE Inflation:



Best regards

██████████  
Gedling Licensed Drivers Association