

## Appendix B – Consultation Responses

Number	Representation / Objection
1-15	<p>Dear Taxi Licensing Office</p> <p>I am writing to express my strong objection to the fee increases outlined on <a href="http://coventry.gov.uk/taxilicensingfees">coventry.gov.uk/taxilicensingfees</a>. I find this increase to be unfair, particularly considering the challenges we, as taxi drivers, are currently, facing.</p> <p>The rise of app-based taxi companies has presented numerous difficulties, and it is disheartening that the taxi licensing department has not taken adequate measures to safeguard our livelihoods. A prime example is the chaotic situation at the station where regular customers cannot be dropped off due to the overwhelming number of taxis causing congestion.</p> <p>Moreover, the recent changes to taxi regulations and the imposition of new taxes on us are also unjust. The financial burden of acquiring these new vehicles, costing £60k+ or a monthly finance of £1000+, adds to the strain. It appears that the licensing department is actively working against the best interests of the taxi community, pushing us out of pocket and jeopardising our trade and livelihoods.</p> <p>My objection extends beyond the fee increase; it encompasses the cumulative impact of these issues highlighted. I urge the committee to consider the broader challenges we face and take steps to rectify the situation.</p> <p>Additionally, it is disheartening to note that despite our efforts to provide input, the licensing office consistently proceeds with its own proposals, seemingly disregarding our opinions. This pattern of behaviour raises the concerns about the transparency and fairness of the decision-making process. We would appreciate a more collaborative approach, where our input is genuinely considered and respected, rather than being a mere formality.</p>
16	<p>Fees increases. In current economic climate its not fair to increase the fees especially when we are struggling to make ends meet and when Uber taking all the work which our Council is doing nothing about.</p>
17	<p>Good afternoon after I read your proposed fee increase I decided to object the proposal.</p> <p>As we all know the cost of living is going to skyrocketing and taxi work is disappearing and income is decreasing substantially. We are already an income losses we cant afford to pay more towards the licensing fee. The problem we have here in Coventry is there are too many drivers come from other towns taking the Coventry jobs as they have licensed other councils.</p>
18	<p>Hello, I have seen the increase reviews &amp; think they are ok considering the current economic situation, But please could you consider that all drivers have a 1 year inspection on there vehicles (that would help us enormously), you could do random spot check on there vehicles to make sure they are road worthy.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
19	<p>To whom it may concern</p> <p>I am totally against any fee increases especially when any household and incomes are stretched with high inflation and a poor economy forecasts.</p> <p>Already licensed drivers are struggling to make an income with low demand for journeys and UBER and Wolverhampton drivers working in the City impacting Coventry drivers, whom the council are happy for to operate with no consequence. And two Mots a years which we cant afford. Instead of creating</p>

## Appendix B – Consultation Responses

	<p>more difficult for people why not create ease for the working man and woman, for a change. So an increase in fees is not justified. Regards</p>
20	<p>Hi there I am writing regarding the price increase on private higher vehicles I submit my objection as the cost of living has increased and we can not even afford to run the private higher vehicle With tax and maintaining of the car it is costing us to leave the private higher job There should be help for us in such a hard time not to increase the prices</p>
21	<p>I object to these fare increases because with the increasing number of out of town licensed vehicles working in Coventry has already made it harder to earn a living.</p>
22	<p>Can you justify the increase everyone is struggling because of the incompetence of the council and all you can do is put the prices up. So please don't put the prices up.</p>
23	<p>Objection</p>
24	<p>Hi I object to the increase in the Mot fee, as the council are already the most expensive fee around and I'll also like to know fee you pay dvla has increased or is it your just trying to hit drivers in this cost of living crisis</p>
25	<p>I totally object to increase Its not been 2 years since the last increase and then their was a 33% increase before that as well We have to make an appointment only We can't walk in anymore Most of the paperwork is done by the drivers Then it is mostly just signed off by taxi licensing We are limited to opening times as some days are so called phone in only Its ONLY APPOINTMENT anyway Most of the work is being taken by uber, who don't pay a penny to Coventry city council But take our work Council don't do anything about that Coventry city council should start to charge them for taking Coventry fares But instead penalise Coventry drivers instead The taxi licensing can not justify the increase As the fares haven't gone up But the council want to increase the fees The taxi licensing department are out of touch with drivers Thanks</p>
26	<p>To whom it concerns. I received this email. I am not happy with the increases of the fees going up as previously you increased the fees not that long ago. We already struggling with work as it is as we are not busy and other expenses we have to cope with it. Thanks</p>
27	<p>As if the job isn't hard enough kick us why we are down money money</p>

## Appendix B – Consultation Responses

28	Due to easy and cheaper options lot off drivers gone to others Council's for licensing and Coventry council got no choice left for they own pay rise keep ripping off struggling drivers well done
29	Raising everything will destroy our lives cost of living, already struggling with other companies such as unheralded etc extra fees will
30	Objection against raise on all raised fees I s going to effect cost of living, it's difficul enough with other compani
31	Hi I would like to object in the proposed increase in fare as I believe in will have a negative impact on out trade due to the ongoing impact of competition with uber and bolt and more importantly the cost of living crisis we are all going through Thanks
32	Hello dear Yes I have objection with fee increase
33	Dear Sir/Madam Good evening. My name is {redacted} am a Black Cab driver in Coventry. I am writing to you to Stop Taxi Licensing and MOT fees and objecting this proposal. The reason I objecting this proposal is there are not enough jobs at the moment in Coventry to make any profits or to live nicely with family as a Taxi driver due to cost of living crisis and Ubers. There are far too many Uber drivers in Coventry they have taken all of our jobs. Most of the customers are using Uber now a days. Hardly they use Black cab taxis. The money I am making is too small and cannot support myself and my family. I can't afford to pay the extra fees if you increase the licensing fees in future. I hope and expect that you will stop increasing the licensing fees considering the present situations.
34	Dear taxi licensing, I totally agree with this fee increase its justified. Over the years myself and other taxi drivers have made a fortune from the black cab trade. Most of us live in nice houses drive nice cars and go on great holidays. Don't listen to the moaners and stingy buggers as the great Mr. {redacted} once said not a single driver has ever returned a hackney plate saying he cannot make a decent living. Over the years taxi licensing have been good to the trade. Anyway that aside a lot of us have made a fortune from this trade so a small increase will not make much of a difference. Please print this and display it so it annoys the ones who moan and groan. Thanks all the best
35	Sir it's really sad to hear that taxi licensing Coventry want to increase the licensing fees, we are already struggling with the present fees, which are too high. Another increase will make more difficult for Coventry taxi trade, thanks.
36	Dear taxi office I like to opposed Proposed fee increases. Taxi trade and driver such myself already suffering due to cost of living crisis and Uber and other app based competitors. We struggling to make any living and in this environment I would like taxi office to reducers fee instead of increasing. Thank you

## Appendix B – Consultation Responses

37	I would like to object the rise in fee's we still have to many uber's and other out of town taxi's taking our work
38	Hi been taxi driver over 30 years, my view is there should be no increase fees, the reason is that the work has declined due to Uber app drivers. I work at Coventry station our fares dramatically declined I would say 80 percent I am very co.....
39	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I would like to put forward an objection to the proposed fee increase. I feel that this is not affordable for taxi drivers currently given the increased cost of living crisis and the reduction in work due to the presence of Uber in Coventry.</p> <p>I am already struggling to make ends meet, despite working full time 7 days a week. I do not feel this increase can be justified.</p> <p>If you wish to proceed, I would recommend you to kindly reconsider the allowance for Uber to operate in Coventry as this has had significant negative impact on our workload.</p>
40	<p>I totally object to the price going up  It doesn't justify the price hike  We get bad service from the taxi licensing  I am not complaining about all the staff  Some of them are great people and helpful  Our work has gone down  Drivers are leaving Coventry and going to other councils for badges and plating their vehicles and then work in Coventry  I don't blame them  As I have been a Coventry city black driver and now a private hire driver for over 30 years  The Coventry taxi licensing / Hackney carriage office has never really listened to the concerns of drivers  All appointments only we cannot go in  We can only pay by card why not cash</p>
41	We all taxi drivers haven't got enough work because Uber and other companies took Coventry taxi work. All drivers struggle to meet expenses e.g taxi insurance, taxi repair, hackney licence fee and others.
42	Dear Taxi Licensing Office, I am writing to express my strong objection to the proposed fee increases outlined on <a href="http://Coventry.gov.uk/taxilicensingfees">Coventry.gov.uk/taxilicensingfees</a> . I find this increase to be unfair particula.....
43	<p>I am writing to express my strong objection to the proposed fee increases outlined on <a href="http://Coventry.gov.uk/taxilicensingfees">Coventry.gov.uk/taxilicensingfees</a></p> <p>I do think this is unfair as taxi drivers are facing much more competition and higher costs. I do believe the council are taking such steps which are increasing costs and are not the adequate measures to safeguard our livelihoods. This is furthered by the change towards the purchase of new taxis which are costing £60,000 plus which is not viable for the earnings of a taxi driver.</p> <p>I am totally against the fee increase as it is just pushing taxi drivers out of the market due to higher costs, less demand and higher competition due to app based taxi services.</p>

## Appendix B – Consultation Responses

	<p>Could you please ensure this decision is not finalised and the fees remain the same.</p>
44	<p>Dear Sir/Madam We are already struggling to make a living in the taxi trade and the cost of living. Please don't increase the licence fees</p>
45	<p>Dear Taxi Licensing Office I am writing to express my strong objection to the proposed fee increases outlined on <a href="http://Coventry.gov.uk/taxilicensingfees">Coventry.gov.uk/taxilicensingfees</a> I find this increase to be unfair, particularly considering the challenges we, as taxi drivers, are currently facing I agree that the cost of living has gone up due to higher inflation, but that applies to everyone including taxi drivers. So if Hackney carriage office feel the need to increase fees, then it goes to say that taxi driver also need fare increase to keep up with inflation. I would urge Hackney carriage office to look at ways of making cuts in the office i.e less staff, pay cuts. We already have less support from the office due to the office being closed some days. Also many functions are already internet based, more can be done to reduce work in the office.</p>
46	<p>Dear Sirs Already the fees are high. And, with Uber operating in Coventry there is none to little work in the city. Drivers can't afford increased fees. Thank you.</p>
47	<p>Dear all Just like the rest of the world, we are all trying to deal with the rising cost of living crisis. These proposed taxi licensing fee increases are challenging for those who have to bear the rising petroleum prices, as well as other costs. I hope you consider not to go ahead with the proposed increases which is a big burden for someone like me who is a single mum and just about to start the profession. I would like to thank everyone who has been a great help so far like Rujinder and Rony. I appreciate the good work you guys do, and pray that it won't get too expensive for us to make a good profit. Best wishes</p>
48	<p>The fees should not increase as our work has decreased a lot and we not as busy as before. The taxi trade is suffering with a lot of other competitions. And not that long ago the taxi office increased their prices, so I don't understand why you are increasing the fees again.</p>
49	<p>To taxi licensing office I object to the fees increase due to inflation and cost of living Taxis operating in Coventry are struggling due to the impact of out of town and app based Taxi drivers Therefore an increase in the fees will result in stress and burden on the taxi drivers to the manage cost.</p>
50	<p>With regards to other inflation increases for prices such as bills, food and other expenditures, it has come to my attention that this increased charge fee is unfair and unjustifiable. Therefore, I object to this increase in charge fees. If anything, as a taxi driver, Uber is taking over Coventry. This means that there</p>

## Appendix B – Consultation Responses

	<p>is an increased competition in the taxi industry. Making it harder for me to earn an income. Especially with how populated Uber is. The cost of living is already expensive as it is, and adding this charge fee would only make our lives harder than it already is. This charge fee would only benefit you. And we, as taxi drivers, gain nothing but a loss of more money. In conclusion, I ultimately object for this charge fee to take place. Thank you.</p>
51	<p>All ready we are struggling please don't increase. Please</p>
52	<p>The recent proposal to increase fees for taxi services has been met with strong objections from both taxi drivers and customers. This proposed increase would result in a significant rise in the cost of using taxis, making it difficult for many people, especially low-income individuals, to afford this mode of transportation. Taxi drivers have expressed their concerns about the proposed fee increase, stating that it would put a strain on their already meager earnings. Many of these drivers work long hours and struggle to make ends meet, and an increase in fees would only make their financial situation worse. They argue that the increase in fees would not only affect their livelihood but also drive away any potential customers who may turn to other modes of transportation. Customers, on the other hand, have also voiced their objections to the proposed fee increase. They argue that taxis are already a expensive means of transportation, and any further increase in fees would make it unaffordable for them. Many customers rely on taxis for their daily commute, and an increase in fees would significantly impact their daily budget. This could also lead to a decrease in the number of people using taxis, resulting in a loss of business for the taxi companies.</p> <p>Moreover, the proposed fee increase raises questions about the fairness of the pricing system for taxi services. With the rise of ride-sharing apps, customers have more affordable options of transportation, and an increase in taxi fees would only make the gap between these two options even wider. It is unfair to burden customers with higher fees when there are alternative options available that offer competitive pricing.</p> <p>The timing of this proposed fee increase is also questionable. With the ongoing pandemic, many people are already facing financial difficulties, and an increase in taxi fees would only add to their financial burden. It is crucial to consider the current economic climate before making any decisions that would affect the public's daily lives.</p> <p>In conclusion, the proposed fee increase for taxi services has been met with strong opposition from both drivers and customers. It would have a significant impact on he livelihoods of drivers and make taxis unaffordable for many customers. The fairness and timing of this proposed increase are also questionable. It is important for authorities to carefully consider the implications of the fee increase and come up with a solution that is fair and reasonable for all parties involved.</p> <p>Kind regards</p>
53	<p>I strongly Oppose the increases</p> <p>1) Hackney Carriage dept should cut its own costs Like reduce staff Because no one is seen anywhere in and around the city Staff should be more proactive Nothing done about the Chaos created by Uber at the Station and on the streets in the city centre Uber parking on rank spaces because Hackney staff are not about</p> <p>2) the work for Taxi's has dramatically Gone Down We as a trade is suffering We should get help for MENTAL HEALTH as we up against low income and</p>

## Appendix B – Consultation Responses

	<p>going home Depressed Rising costs for Taxi repairs and maintenance costs have gone up by at least 50per cent Diesel is fluctuating and is rising The City Council Should Provide Councillng the may suicide if not carfull</p> <p>All in all the Hackney Carriage dept is not fit for the job very weak . Even the local Coventry plated Taxis and Private Hires Blatantly picking up at the Station The station permit holders just left to see the Injustice And patiently waiting for Fares and the waiting is anything from 1 hour to 3 hours for a job So how on earth can the taxi fees be increased Don't you know there is a Cost Of Living Crisis</p>
54	<p>Dear sir / madam, With ref: Proposed fee increase.</p> <p>I wish to object to the aforementioned proposal. I do not believe that it would be justifiable in the current circumstances that we as taxi drivers are having to face, what with rising costs across the board with rising fuel and insurance costs and ever increasing costs for repairs and maintenance.</p> <p>Along with diminishing revenues due to Uber , the taxi Hackney trade is on its last legs. It appears to me having been in the trade for over 30 years that this is the darkest period we have ever faced .</p> <p>The last thing we need is a further increase in costs! Reduce staffing costs or increase your revenue streams by licensing Uber! I trust this clarifies my position. Thanking you</p>
55	<p>I object profusely to any fee increases by Taxi licensing office as our earnings have fallen and expenses have risen. Taxi office have never done anything to stop Uber taking our business specifically from the station</p>
56	<p>Dear Sir / Madam</p> <p>I wish to object to the increase in fees for Hackney / Private Hire Cars.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MOT / Inspections the fee is set by DVLA @ 54-85 which is set for Taxis</li> <li>2. I believe the fee is £48 so how is the increase justified.</li> </ol>

Appendix B – Consultation responses