

**Proposed Licensed Hackney Carriage (Taxi) Fares 2024**

**Background**

Under the [**Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 Section 65 Hackney Carriage Fares**](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1976/57/section/70/2007-09-01), we're undertaking a three week statutory consultation prior to making any amendments to the Licensed Hackney Carriage (Taxi) fares. The period has been extended as the consultation will be taking place over the Easter break. The proposal to amend the fares for 2024 was submitted by a member of the trade on the 26 December 2023 and was discussed at the [**Licensing Committee of the 08 January 2024**](https://decisionmaking.westberks.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=152&MId=7690&Ver=4)and the meeting of the [**Executive on the 14 March 2024**](https://decisionmaking.westberks.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=117&MId=7345&Ver=4)**.**

The current fares which came into effect on the 19 June 2023 can be viewed on [**the Public Protection Partnership website.**](https://publicprotectionpartnership.org.uk/licensing/taxi-and-private-hire-licences/west-berkshire-taxi-and-private-hire-licences/)

**What we are proposing**

To make amendments to the Licensed Hackney Carriage (Taxi) fares. The proposed changes are:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Current** | **Proposed** |
| **Tariff 1**  Any journey with 1-4 passengers  Applies for any hiring when journey commences between 06:00 and 21:59 Monday to Saturday (Excluding Bank Holidays, Public Holidays,24th,25th,26th,31st December and 1st January) | For the first 1340.307 yards **£5.00**  For each subsequent 243.692yards **40p**  Waiting time per hour £33.00 | For the first 1276.5 yards or 231 seconds **£5.00**  For each subsequent 232.1 yards or 42 seconds **40p**  Waiting time per hour £34.65 |
| **Tariff 4 (T1B) (Unchanged)**  Any journey with 5 or more passengers  Applies for any hiring when journey commences between 06:00 and 21:59 Monday to Saturday (Excluding Bank Holidays, Public Holidays,24th,25th,26th,31st December and 1st January) | For the first 1340.307 yards **£7.50**  For each subsequent 243.692yards **60p**  Waiting time per hour £49.50 | For the first 1340.307 yards **£7.50**  For each subsequent 243.692yards **60p**  Waiting time per hour £49.50 |
| **Tariff 2**  Any journey with 1-4 passengers  Applies for any hiring when journey commences between 22:00 and 05:59 Monday to Saturday, 06.00 and 21.59 Sundays, bank holidays, and public holidays, between 06:00 and 23.59 on 24th,26th and 31st December. | For the first 1340.307 yards **£7.50**  For each subsequent 243.692yards **60p**  Waiting time per hour £49.50 | For the first 1276.5 yards or 231 seconds **£7.50**  For each subsequent 232.1 yards or 42 seconds **60p**  Waiting time per hour £51.98 |
| **Tariff 5 (T2B) (Unchanged)**  Any journey with 5 or more passengers  Applies for any hiring when journey commences between 22:00 and 05:59 Monday to Saturday, 06.00 and 21.59 Sundays, bank holidays, and public holidays, between 06:00 and 23.59 on 24th,26th and 31st December. | For the first 1340.307 yards **£11.25**  For each subsequent 243.692yards **90p**  Waiting time per hour £74.25 | For the first 1340.307 yards **£11.25**  For each subsequent 243.692yards **90p**  Waiting time per hour £74.25 |
| **Tariff 3**  Any journey with 1-4 passengers  Applies for any hiring hiring when the journey commences between: 00.00 and 23.59 on 25th December;  00.00 and 05:59 on 26th December;  00.00 and 05:59 on 1st January | For the first 1340.307 yards **£10.00**  For each subsequent 243.692yards **80p**  Waiting time per hour £66.00 | For the first 1276.5 yards or 231 seconds **£10.00**  For each subsequent 232.1 yards **80p**  Waiting time per hour £69.30 |
| **Tariff 6 (T3B) (Unchanged)**  Any journey with 5 or more passengers  Applies for any hiring hiring when the journey commences between: 00.00 and 23.59 on 25th December;  00.00 and 05:59 on 26th December;  00.00 and 05:59 on 1st January | For the first 1489.235 yards or 264 seconds (whichever is reached first) **£15.00**  For each subsequent 135.385 yards or every 24 seconds (whichever is reached first) **60p**  Waiting time per hour £90.00 | For the first 1340.307 yards **£15.00**  For each subsequent 243.692yards **120p**  Waiting time per hour £99.00 |
| **Fouling Charges** | Fouling charge to be retained and charged at: Interior - maximum £100  Exterior - maximum £25 | Fouling will be charged at a maximum of (Interior T1/T4 £150, T2/T5 £225, T3/T6 £300)  (Exterior T1/T4 £50, T2/T5 £75, T3/T6 £100)  Payable to driver immediately. |
| **Extra Charges** | If a hackney carriage is booked by telephone, text, email or other electronic means a booking fee may be charged by prior arrangement only  Congestion Charge, Ultra Low Emission Zone, or any tolls will be applied for any journey where such charges or tolls are incurred. These charges would not appear on the meter. | If a Hackney Carriage is booked by telephone, e-mail, app or other electronic means a booking fee may be charged.  Congestion Zone Charges, Ulez, Tolls or similar will be applied for any journey where such charges or tolls are incurred. |

Customers should be aware that these charges are the maximum to be charged, and any lesser fare agreed prior to commencement of the journey must still be applied.

Where the taxi is used for pre-booked journeys, "the fare or charge shall be calculated from the point in the district at which the hirer commences his journey." ([**Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 sec. 67**](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1976/57/section/67))

**Why we want your views**

We're committed to balancing the legitimate aims of the taxi trade to maintain profitability in the face of increasing costs, while protecting the public from excessive fares. The issue of setting fares for hackney carriage drivers is an important one for two reasons: the fare set by licensing authority largely determines the ability of drivers to earn a decent living, but also aims to ensure that passengers receive a fair deal when taking a journey in a licensed hackney carriage. We would therefore welcome your views in order to ensure that we are balancing these two objectives.

**How to take part**

If you'd like to comment on the proposed fares, you can do so by email to [**PPPConsultations@westberks.gov.uk**](mailto:PPPConsultations@westberks.gov.uk?subject=Consultation%20on%20WBC%20proposed%20Taxi%20Fares%20July%202022), or by post to Mrs Moira Fraser, Public Protection Manager, Public Protection Partnership, Theale Library, Church Street, Theale, Berkshire RG7 5BZ.

The consultation is **open until 5pm on Thursday 11 April 2024**.

If you have any questions, please contact [**PPPConsultations@westberks.gov.uk**](mailto:PPPConsultations@westberks.gov.uk?subject=Query%20about%20WBC%20proposed%20Taxi%20Fares%202022)

For general [**enquiries about Taxi and private hire licences**](https://publicprotectionpartnership.org.uk/licensing/taxi-and-private-hire-licences/west-berkshire-taxi-and-private-hire-licences/west-berkshire-private-hire-vehicle-licence/), please visit our webpage

**What happens next**

If no objections are received, or any such objections are subsequently withdrawn, the revised table of fares will come into operation from Friday, 12 April 2024.

If objections are received and not subsequently withdrawn, the matter will be discussed by elected Members at the [**Executive meeting on the 16 May 2024**](https://decisionmaking.westberks.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=117&MId=7346&Ver=4), who will make a decision on implementation. Should the Executive Committee approve implementation, the revised table of fares will then come into operation no later than 11 June 2024.

**Links**

[PPP - Privacy Notice](https://publicprotectionpartnership.org.uk/about-us/privacy-statement/)

[PPP - West Berkshire taxi and private hire licences - Fares](https://publicprotectionpartnership.org.uk/licensing/taxi-and-private-hire-licences/west-berkshire-taxi-and-private-hire-licences/)

