

Station Taxis

Tel: 01444 410410 / 230230 Email: taxi@410410.co.uk www.410410.co.uk

APPENDIX 2

13a Station Road Burgess Hill West Sussex RH15 9DE

Email: accounts@254444.co.uk

Mid Sussex District Council Oaklands Road Haywards Heath West Sussex RH16 1SS

15/06/2018

Dear Sirs

Re: Meter Increase

I am writing this letter on behalf of those signed below to ask the council to approve a pay increase to the meter for hackney carriages. We understand that at present the council will only speak to the MSTA. This seems rather unfair as at the last meeting held to vote for a small increase, out of a possible 250 plus drivers that could have attended only 13 actually did attend and therefore the meeting could not go ahead.

We believe that the council should now listen to other people and drivers who use the meter to calculate the fare as it has now been 4 years since the last meter rise.

I personally have worked in the trade for over 20 years and the attendance at MSTA meetings has always been a problem.

Fuel, our largest expense has risen by 15p a litre in the last seven weeks together with increased labour costs at garages, parts etc.

We think it is unfair that the council will only speak to the MSTA as we believe the association appears to be dead in the water, and the attendance at the last 2 meetings seems to back this up.

This proposal was initiated by Station Taxis, a company that has been operating in Mid Sussex for 63 years and complete 300,000 jobs each year, but has now been signed by over 100 drivers, many are independent taxi drivers. We feel that we are justified in asking the council to listen to others and not just the MSTA.

Many drivers have said they do not attend MSTA meetings because they do not believe those running it have their best interests at heart. One of the committee members actually



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put derogatory comments about the licensing officer in writing to drivers down the rank. Not the actions of someone striving for a strong relationship with the council or its officers.

Those of us whose main job is supplying a valuable service to the people of Mid Sussex can no longer do this if we are working on rates from 2014 and fuel is 28p per litre more than in 2014.

I hope the council will listen to us, as all those signed below believe that the trade is being held back by a group of independent taxi driver who do not agree with an increase. As the meter rate is the maximum that can be charged surely those that disagree can charge less?

I enclose a chart showing what we are charging currently and what we propose, 0 to 20 miles on the meter is an average increase of 5.5% I would also like to propose that future increases are in line with what local government award. If the council workers do not get an increase then the meter rate does not increase.

We are hoping the council will meet with us and realise we are not trying to obtain a pay increase out of line with inflation/cost of living. We just want a small but fair increase which we will not get if we have to rely on the MSTA.

Yours faithfully

Mark Humphrey

Director

Station Taxis