

Nigel Marston,
Licensing Manager,
South Somerset District Council
The Council Offices
Brympton Way
Yeovil,
Somerset

Sarah Langdon
Crewkerne Taxis
3 North Street
Crewkerne
Somerset
TA18 7AJ

25TH February 2016

Dear Mr Marston,

With Reference to the proposed changes to the taxi operating fees.

I am totally opposed to such an unjustified dramatic change in the operating costs detailed in the Western Gazette today.

Have you taken in to consideration that the majority of taxi firms in South Somerset are small businesses or in fact sole traders?? What warrants such an increase in the fees?

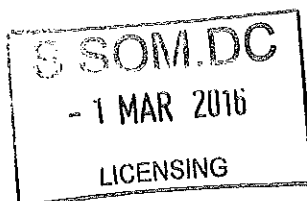
We have taken small increases over the years which we have accepted as par for the course but for a sudden unexpected jump it's a lot to accept. I feel you need to look at the wider picture and take in to consideration the actual service taxi operators and drivers provide to the community .

I believe a sudden dramatic increase in operating fees would be detrimental to the taxi trade within South Somerset and should be reconsidered to better suit the economic climate.

Yours Sincerely



Sarah Langdon



Nigel Marston
Licensing Manager
South Somerset District Council
The Council Offices
Brympton Way
Yeovil
Somerset
BA20 2HT

Charles w Apps
CandS Taxis
5 North Street
Crewkerne
Somerset
TA18 7AJ

25th February 2016

Dear Sir

Ref: The article in today's Western Gazette, propose changes to taxi fees.

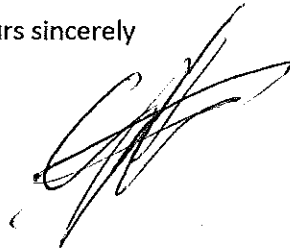
I strongly oppose the changes. I am beginning to think that the council want to get rid of all the taxis in south somerset.

By adding all these extra costs the council are making a difficult job even harder.

Putting these extra costs on drivers will make it harder for drivers to maintain their vehicles also it has been made difficult to replace vehicles with 5 year age limit on new licences and having to have brand new hackney carriage vehicles wheel chair accessible (I have never been asked for one in 17 years of taxi driving).

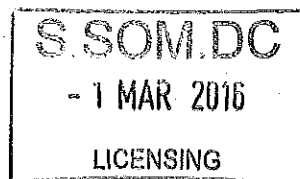
I think the operating fees should stay as they are. Also I think the council should realise that this is south somerset not London or Bristol.

Yours sincerely



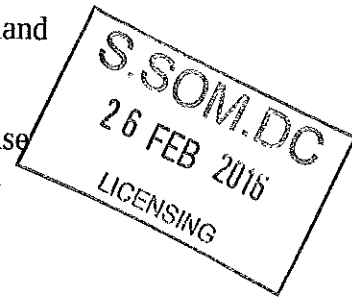
C.W.APPS.

C.and S. Taxis



Nigel Marston
Licensing Manager
South Somerset District Council
The Council Offices
Brympton Way
Yeovil
Somerset
BA20 2HT

Roger A Woodland
CR Taxis
The Cottage
De Combe House
Mount Pleasant
Crewkerne
Somerset
TA17 8AH



25th February 2016

Dear Mr Marston

Ref: Proposed changes to taxi operating fees.

I am writing to you regarding the proposed rate changes as detailed in the Western Gazette this week.

I very much oppose the changes that you have specified and fail to see how you can justify increasing our operating costs by over 50% per annum.

Each year there have been various increases in one or two different areas and, we have had to absorb these costs. What you are proposing now is a substantial increase across the board.

Due to various rule changes that have been implemented recently additional new costs have been brought in, i.e. 6 monthly MOT checks etc.

Taxi meter rates, which most private hire operators work in line with to remain competitive, have not been increased since 2008.

I feel that it is time that consideration is given to operating taxi drivers in your district. I believe that operating fees should remain unchanged for the foreseeable future, until such time as a more favourable economic climate exists.

I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "R A Woodland". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a horizontal line.

R A Woodland
CR Taxis

To: <peter.gubbins@southsomerset.gov.uk>
Subject: TAXI LICENCE INCREASES 2016/17

Dear Sir,

After some research on the council web site I have found you are the "Portfoilo Holder" for Taxi Licensing; I am part of the Management Team and also drive for a family firm in Wincanton. We were disgusted to find the proposed changes to pricing listed in the back corner of the Western Gazette. We were even more disgusted when we worked out the increases. How can you justify putting the cost of a Private Hire Operators Licence up by six times, £ 85 to £ 820 !!! Equally how can you justify a 3 year Drivers Licence increasing from £ 80 to £ 260 !!!

It is " economic suicide" and will make a large hole in the Private Hire Fleet and the number of Drivers available. Why are these operations suddenly taking so much extra money to run.

Over and above this, now that licencing has been moved back to Yeovil from Wincanton Town Council we are being expected to make a 30 round trip to Yeovil every time we have a vehicle/driver application despite being told we would be able to complete the paperwork at Churchfields in Wincanton.

I would welcome a reply as soon as possible as we shall now have to look at the future of our vehicles and drivers.

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Yours Faithfully
Ian Trotter.

