

Proposed New Fees-Consultation

15th April 2016

Objection to rises in drivers fees.

We the undersigned wish to object to the new proposals on the following :

1. The increase of 33% in drivers fees.

We feel that whilst an increase may be necessary any increase should be done over a longer period of time e.g. Spread over 3 years.

There are many drivers who are employed without their own car who will make no saving as you suggest and have already been faced with a 10%plus rise in car park fees as from the start of this month.

2. 3 year driving licence.

The over 60 drivers of which there are many will not be able to have this as they have to have an annual medical unless they are able to take the medical each year and submit within an allowable period. If not they are being discriminated against which is ageism and we think is illegal.

Many are prepared to pay the 3 years to save £54.

Abigail Exelby-763 Roy Pearse - 165 David Harwood-725

Niwsor Burws-1282 Craig W Fox-469 Richard Cobden-628

Jeffary Spreadbury-427

Contact: davidmh65@googlemail.com



Alex Barson

From: Alex Barson
Sent: 26 April 2016 16:31
To: 'davidmh65@googlemail.com'
Cc: Laurence Foord
Subject: Response to Fees Objection - David H

Dear Mr Harwood,

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 **Re: Proposed new fees**

I note the content of your objection, which is also signed by 6 other licensed drivers.



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Please be reassured that we have undertaken a comprehensive review of our taxi and private hire licensing fees as part of this process. This is to ensure that we are as accurately as possible charging for costs solely attributable to delivering each element of the licensing regime, in terms of drivers, vehicles and Private Hire Operators. This has led to a reduction in the vehicle fees, as less officer time is spent on that aspect, partly due to the requirement for vehicles over 5 years to be tested on a 6 monthly basis, whereas the driver's fee has increased due to the amount of time spent by officers dealing with specific driver related matters. It is appreciated that if you are only paying a driver's fee each year, then this will not be offset against the saving made through a reduced vehicle licence fee.

In terms of your second point. Licence holders, or applicants aged over 60, are more than welcome to apply for a 3 year licence if they so wish. It is our intention to send out a reminder letter for the medical each year to any driver aged 60 or over. This will also be the case in relation to the Criminal Record Check, if a check is required outside of the year of renewal for a 3 year licence.

As you point out in your letter, if you opt for a 3 year licence, then this would result in a £30 increase to what is currently being paid. This would work out at £10 extra a year.

Existing Licensing Fee - $3 \times £85 = £255$
Proposed 1 year fee over a 3 year period - $3 \times £113 = £339$
Proposed 3 year licence - £285

I would be most grateful if you could please advise me by close of office hours this Thursday (**28th April**) as to whether the above information is sufficient to allay your concerns and enable you to withdraw your objection. If not and you still wish for the objection to stand then your comments will be referred to our General Licensing Committee where they will be considered further. The Committee will also set a date, not later than two months after 1 May 2016, when the new proposed fees will come into effect, with or without modification after consideration of the objections. I would also respectfully mention that it is worth noting we are in receipt of only one other objection at this time.

Many thanks,

Alex Barson

Licensing Technician

Licensing Team

Chichester District Council

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www.facebook.com/ChichesterDistrictCouncil | www.twitter.com/ChichesterDC

Alex Barson

Subject: FW: Response to Fees Objection - David H

From: David Harwood [mailto:davidmh65@googlemail.com]

Sent: 27 April 2016 18:19

To: Alex Barson

Subject: Re: Response to Fees Objection - David H

Dear Alex

Thank you for your reply to our letter of objection which we have discussed today. We are not just 7 people but represent over 60 drivers and still feel that the increase to us is much to large in one hit.

Therefore we would like the council to consider a stepped increase over 3 years.

Kind regards

David Harwood