

**RIPON CITY TAXI PROPRIETORS
ASSOCIATION**

RECEIVED

29 MAR 2007

28th March 2007

RE; TARIFF INCREASE

Scrutiny Committee
Harrogate Borough Council
Council Offices
Crescent Gardens
HARROGATE
HG1 2SG

Dear Councillor

As Chairman of the above Association I write to you on behalf of my members to submit for your consideration an item we wish to put before the scrutiny commission For their recommendations regarding the tariff increase for 07/08.

As I am sure you are well aware, the Cabinet Member for this item is Councillor Ellington, every year we, along with Harrogate Association are asked to submit our proposals for an increase in the tariff rate, these are then submitted to Cllr Ellington for his consideration with the intention of coming up with a satisfactory result to all parties.

After continuous discussions with Cllr Ellington and despite, as we feel, providing a very strong argument for our case, we feel we are being totally ignored, particularly as what we are trying to achieve would make very little difference to the tariff rate that he has finalised, yet would solve a problem we are experiencing and is unique to Ripon.

Last year I personally highlighted to Cllr Ellington that we in Ripon have a totally different type of custom compared to Harrogate, in that a large proportion of our fares fall within the initial 440yds of the first meter drop and so meaning that we gain very little of a percentage increase in the tariff rate.

Therefore one of our requests this year was initially to reduce the initial drop to 220yds, however, after the details of Cllr Ellington's proposals were revealed we felt that we would be happy to negotiate this down to 400yds so only reducing it by 40yds, meaning a minimal additional increase to his proposal, but a big help to drivers in Ripon, this has been totally disregarded, giving the reason, "would increase fares to an unacceptable level".

Please see attached correspondence along with the example of the difference it would make compared to Cllr Ellington's finalised proposal.

Yours Sincerely



Richard Fieldman (chairman)

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**Councillor Ellington's
Proposal.**

1 Mile £3.94 Inc 4.5%
2 Mile £5.46 Inc 5%
3 Mile £6.98 Inc 5.27%
4 Mile £8.50 Inc 5.45%
5 Mile £10.02 Inc 5.58%

Average over 5 miles 5.16%

**Ripon Taxi Association
Proposal.
(Reduced by 40yds)**

1 Mile £3.97 Inc 5.3%
2 Mile £5.49 Inc 5.57%
3 Mile £7.01 Inc 5.73%
4 Mile £8.53 Inc 5.83%
5 Mile £10.05 Inc 5.9%

Average 5 miles 5.66%

Difference = 0.5%