

# Totnes Taxis Limited

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Mr Ian Luscombe  
Head of Environmental Health & Licensing  
South Hams District Council  
Follaton House  
Totnes  
TQ9 5NE

17<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Dear Mr Luscombe,

Please find enclosed a petition on behalf of South Ham's Taxi Licence holders.

Not having access to all the driver's details, meant the petition had to be taken around manually, so not all drivers were approached. Not all drivers visit their local Taxi ranks, being satisfied with the school runs they get from Devon County Council. Therefore the 50 signatures, although only 38% of the 130 Taxi Licence holders in South Hams, are in fact, 95% of the 53 drivers actually canvassed.

As requested, we have jointly put forward the changes we would like to see implemented, which as you can see are not solely price increases.

I would respectfully ask, that should the committee feel any of these changes are not acceptable, there be a general discussion with the drivers or alternatively a meeting with driver's representatives, to discuss the problem area more fully.

In order to avoid such a jump in prices in future, the general feeling among the drivers is for there to be a rate review more frequently. We would suggest annually or biannually?

Yours Sincerely



A.Routledge. Director



## SOUTH HAMS TAXI RATE PETITION

To Mr Ian Luscombe, Head of Environmental Health and Licensing.

1<sup>st</sup> March 2022

We the undersigned, being holders of taxi licences within South Hams District, respectfully request that the taxi rates currently in place be increased at the earliest opportunity.

The current rates have been in place for the last five years, over which time we have seen the cost of fuel and the cost of living both increase. This is before taking into account the dramatic fuel increases seen over the past six months and more recently the retail price index jump up by 7.8% and forecast to rise even further very soon. In real terms this means that all drivers are now worse off than they were five years ago.

Taxi Drivers all rely on mobile phones to conduct their day to day business and most of us have been notified within the last few days that a price increase of between 7.3% & 9.3% will take place in March in line with inflation regardless of supplier.

East Devon, Teignbridge, Torbay and Plymouth already have rates, based on a two mile trip, which are over 10% higher than South Hams.

In order to take into account the imminent additional fuel increase, with prices at some garages already over £1.60 per litre and in some cases over £1.70 per litre, we suggest the following rates be implemented.

Vehicles with 6, 7 or 8 Seats, when specifically requested or needed, charge Tariff 2 between the hours of 07.00 to 23.00. Tariff 3 be reintroduced where 6, 7 or 8 seater vehicles be requested or needed between the hours of 23.00 to 07.00, and anytime Sunday or Bank Holidays. These vehicles are more expensive to buy and have much higher fuel consumption particularly when loaded with 8 passengers and luggage.

The Rate Card be changed to read Tariff 1, 2 & 3 rather than Cost 1, 2 & 3.

The wording of Booking Costs also needs changing so that it is not open to abuse. To include Pick up AND drop off more than 2 miles from a Taxi Rank.

DISTANCE & TIME	TARIFF 1	TARIFF 2	TARIFF 3
For any distance up to 804.65m (880 yards)	£3.40	£4.40	£4.60
For each following distance of 129.23 m (140 yards)	.20p	.30p	.40p
Waiting time per 48 seconds	.20p	.30p	.40p

### Extra Charges.

For each piece of luggage or other item carried in the boot of the car. .... .60p

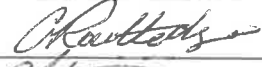
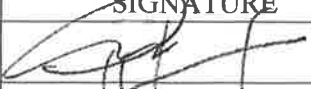
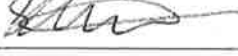


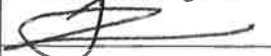

After one passenger, each individual passenger may be charged extra. Two children between the ages of 3 and 6 years may be charged as one passenger. A child under 3 years will not be charged. .... .60p

For each animal carried. (Assistance/Guide Dogs Free). .... .60p

If the car needs cleaning due to the passengers accidental spillage or soiling. .... £120

Passengers picked up and dropped off less than 2 miles from a Taxi Rank may be charged an extra. .... £1.20

Passengers picked up More than 2 miles from a Taxi Rank and dropped off more than 2 miles from a Taxi Rank may be charged an extra. .... £6.00

NAME	SIGNATURE	NAME	SIGNATURE
IAN ROWLEDGE		ANBY PEARSON	
Sharon Collins		STEVE COOK	
KEVIN PARRY		DAVID YED	
J. Cox		SAMUEL DAVIES	