

The Licensing Unit  
County Offices  
Bath Street  
P.O. Box 233

John Jones  
Chairman of Herefordshire  
Hackney Carriage and  
Private Hire Association  
Sunnybank Cottage  
Little Birch  
Herefordshire  
HR2 8BB

30/03/11

As chairman of the Herefordshire Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Association I feel obliged to put in a formal objection to the proposed 2% rise to our licensing fees. It is a number of years since the Trade has had a tariff increase. We have not asked for a rise because we acknowledge the fact that the country is facing a severe recession and so we have all had to look to cutting down on our overheads to survive. It does not help that since deregulation the ratio of taxis per head of population is 384% times higher than the national average. (Figures taken from a Review of Local Authority Quantity 2010) Nationally it appears to have been accepted that councils in general need to make cost cutting in their own departments rather than put their charges up and I feel that we are already overburdened by a top heavy, largely inefficient, bureaucracy.

I have listed a few other reasons for the objection to the rise.

- 1) Last April we had a rise in licensing costs with no increase to the tariff prices.
- 2) Hackney and Private Hire insurance costs have increased year on year above national rate of inflation.
- 3) Fuel prices continue to rocket.
- 4) Vat on all our outgoings has risen by 2.5% this year.

Before any rise, however small, is made to our licensing costs the trade would need to see an increase in tariffs.

Yours sincerely,



John Jones

Chairman of Herefordshire Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Association

