



Proposed changes to taxi and private hire licence fees

Consultation responses

1. Introduction

Consultation on the council's proposed changes to taxi and private hire licence fees took place between Monday 13 November 2023 and Monday 8 January 2024.

These proposals were consulted on alongside consultations on the council's draft budget proposals.

2. Consultation methodology

The following methods were used to seek views:

- written representations were welcomed, one was received.

The consultation was promoted in the following ways:

- an article on the council's [newsroom site](#)
- posts on the council's social media channels
- multiple emails on behalf of Canterbury City Council to all relevant licence holders informing them of the consultation process
- a public notice was shared in the Kentish Gazette for a period of 2 weeks.

3. Written representations

One written representations was received.

3.1. A licence holder

A licence holder submitted the following comments via email:

I have been a Private Hire driver since April 2023.

I am aware of the fees Canterbury Council charged me to help children to and from school and no doubt there is no incentive to continue in this line of helping underprivileged children because clearly your using us as a tool to raise money for the Council which clearly cannot reflect in allowing us to help children get to and from school.

The fees are simply charged to balance your books or allow your pay to increase. I consider the fees a disgrace and worse than a pimp. Whilst there are documents, papers and various other expenses you may incur without the cabs available the entire school run would ground to a halt therefore I am asking that all fees on Private Hire Taxi's should not exceed £50.00 each year.

Please explain why the fees today are at this level and why you feel you need to penalise private hire cabs that provide the Council with a service to children, I can understand circuit cabs incurring such fees but for private hire which specifically collect children from their home to school and return should not be levied as a circuit cab or be anywhere near the present fees.

I reject any increase and support a reduction in fees by £287.70, which will bring inline a farer level of fess and a fare way to deal with any documents which need to be issued, its not that Private Hire drivers need Canterbury Council, is that Canterbury Council need Private Hire drivers, You have a real cheek to charge exorbitant fees to help the Council.

Thank you

4. Conclusions

No conclusions to be drawn given the lack of response.