

24 August 2018

WORCESTERSHIRE REGULATORY  
SERVICES

28 AUG 2018

Mr P. Bladon

Licensing and Support Services Manager  
Redditch Borough Council  
C/o Worcestershire Regulatory Services  
Wyre Forest House  
Finepoint Way,  
Kidderminster,  
Worcestershire  
DY11 7WF

Dear Sir,

Re: Variation of the table of fares for Hackney Carriages  
– Public Notice in the Redditch Advertiser 22 August 2018.

I lodge an objection, and urge the Council to use metric units.  
Replace the yards with metres, and re-calculate the 'per mile' to the equivalent  
'per kilometre'.

I know the tariffs for Oxford City and Worcester City are in metric.  
The table for Oxford is much clearer to understand than Worcester's.  
Here are the links:

[https://www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20087/taxi\\_licensing/77/hackney\\_carriage\\_fare\\_chart](https://www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20087/taxi_licensing/77/hackney_carriage_fare_chart)  
and

<https://www.worcester.gov.uk/vehicle-licensing>

[A print out of these is enclosed]

I raised this matter in 2011 and received correspondence from Mrs Garratt.  
I pointed out her error in my letter dated 18 March 2011. This is also enclosed.

Finally, metrication has nothing to do with Brexit, and the EU, it is the International  
System of Measurement.

I sincerely hope Redditch Borough Council will adopt a taxi fare table that  
shows only metric units, like for example, Oxford or Broxbourne.

Yours faithfully,



Copy: Councillor Gareth Prosser (Portfolio holder which includes WRS)

**Oxford City**  
**much clearer than Worcester**

[https://www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20087/taxi\\_licensing/77/hackney\\_carriage\\_fare\\_chart](https://www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20087/taxi_licensing/77/hackney_carriage_fare_chart)

We set fares for Hackney Carriages within Oxford. Fares are charged by meter. Outside Oxford you should negotiate a fare or agree a tariff for the meter.

The driver must, unless he has reasonable excuse, accept any hiring within the City of Oxford boundary if the destination is also within the City of Oxford boundary. The fare for such a journey, shown below, will be calculated by the taxi meter.

The driver does not have to accept journeys that end outside the City of Oxford boundary; the fare or rate of hire must be by agreement between the hirer and driver before the journey commences. The fare is likely to be higher than within the City as drivers cannot accept a return hiring. Where no such agreement exists then the scale of charges applicable to journeys within the City shown below will apply.

Maximum fares set by us for licensed Hackney Carriage Vehicles operative from 25th March 2014 can be found below:

**General tariffs**

- £0.20 for each passenger above one
- £0.10 for each item of baggage carried outside the passenger compartment
- £1.00 for each adult bicycle
- £30.00 charge for cleaning the inside of a vehicle when soiled

**Monday to Saturday (06:00 to 22:00)**

- £2.50 for the first 67 metres (or part)
- £0.10 for each subsequent 67 metres, up to 1608 metres
- £0.10 for each subsequent 107 metres (or part) after that
- £0.10 for every 20 seconds of waiting time
- £1.00 for each trunk carried

**Monday to Saturday (22:00 to 06:00), Sundays and bank holidays**

- £2.50 for the first 46 metres (or part)
- £0.10 for each subsequent 46 metres, up to 2208 metres
- £0.10 for each subsequent 107 metres (or part) after that
- £0.10 for every 20 seconds of waiting time
- £1.00 for each trunk carried

**Christmas**

4 December 20:00 until 27 December 06:00, and 31 December 20:00 until 2 January 06:00)

- £2.80 for the first 67 metres (or part)
- £0.15 for each subsequent 67 metres, up to 1608 metres
- £0.15 for each subsequent 107 metres (or part) after that
- £0.15 for every 20 seconds of waiting time
- £1.50 for each trunk carried

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## Broxbourne

<https://www.broxbourne.gov.uk/business-licensing-and-legislation/taxis-and-private-hire-vehicles>

### Taxis

These vehicles can be booked in advance, hailed from the street when the 'For Hire' light is on, or hired from a taxi rank within the Borough. They are also known as hackney carriages.

When the hire light is on drivers cannot refuse a hiring without a reasonable excuse. They can be recognised by a white plate on the rear of the vehicle with the Council's logo and a three-figure number with an 'H' prefix. Taxis must use the meter on journeys entirely within the Borough.

Passengers should not be charged more than is displayed on the meter for the journey and any waiting time. For journeys that terminate outside the Borough taxi drivers may use the meter or agree a fare with the passenger before the journey commences. A tariff card displaying the meter charges must be displayed in the vehicle.

### Table of fares for hackney carriages from 1 November 2014

Rate	Hiring time	Fare up to 1100 metres	Each additional unit of 166 metres or part thereof or every 38 seconds waiting time
1	6am to 10pm Monday to Saturday inclusive	£3.00	20p
2	10pm to 6am Monday to Friday inclusive. 10pm Saturday to 6am Monday. All day Bank Holidays	£4.00	30p
3	Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day and after 6pm Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.	£5.00	40p
4	For vehicles licensed to carry up to 8 passengers and carrying 5 or more passengers substitute Rates, 2, 3 and 4 for Rates 1, 2 and 3.	£6.80	60p

There is no charge for assistance dogs. There is no charge for all other dogs, although they are carried at the driver's discretion.

A charge of up to £75 can be made to passengers who cause soiling to the driver's vehicle.

### Complaints

If you have a complaint about a company, vehicle or driver licensed by Broxbourne Council, please contact the Licensing Officer using the contact details to the right of the page. Complainants should quote the vehicle registration number, licence number or the driver's badge number.

## **Worcester City**

<https://www.worcester.gov.uk/vehicle-licensing>  
Hackney Carriage Fare Tariff Jan 2017

### **TARIFF ONE**

7am to midnight, Monday – Saturday

£3.60 for the first 1208m or uncompleted part thereof 10p for each subsequent 100.5m or uncompleted part thereof after 1208m up to 1610m (1 mile) Then 10p for each subsequent 94.7m or part thereof, equal to £1.70 per mile. 10p for each period of 30 seconds or uncompleted part thereof ("Waiting Time")

### **TARIFF TWO**

Midnight to 7am, Monday – Saturday All day Sunday & Bank Holidays 6pm – Midnight Christmas Eve & New Years Eve All day Christmas Day, Boxing Day & New Years Day

£4.60 for the first 1208m or uncompleted part thereof 10p for each subsequent 71.5 metres or uncompleted part thereof after 1208m up to 1610m (1Mile) Then 10p for each subsequent 70m or part thereof, equal to £2.30 per mile. 10p for each period of 20 seconds or uncompleted part thereof ("Waiting Time")

### **EXTRA CHARGES**

For each passenger in excess of three - 50p each

Note: If this vehicle or seating is so soiled by any passenger or animal as to require cleaning, the proprietor may make a charge. This must be clear to the passenger at the end of the journey there will be a charge of - £75.00.

**FOR ALL JOURNEYS ENTIRELY WITHIN THE CITY OF WORCESTER, THE METER MUST BE USED AND NO MORE THAN THE AMOUNT DISPLAYED ON THE METER AT THE END OF THE JOURNEY MAY BE CHARGED BY THE DRIVER OF THIS VEHICLE.**

In case of complaint please contact: [wrsenquiries@worcsregservices.gov.uk](mailto:wrsenquiries@worcsregservices.gov.uk) Telephone: 01905 822799

18 March 2011

**Attention: Mrs S Garratt**  
Licensing Section  
(Worcestershire Regulatory Services)  
Redditch Borough Council  
Town Hall  
Walter Stranz Square  
Redditch B98 8AH

Dear Mrs Garratt,

**Proposed Fare Tariffs - Your letter dated 11 March 2011**

With reference to your last sentence it fails to answer my concerns.

In your letter you say 'all local authorities advertise and display their current tariff in miles and yards', this is wrong. I provide you with the following examples to illustrate local authorities where correct units are published:

- Broxbourne Council  
[http://www.broxbourne.gov.uk/transport\\_and\\_streets/taxis\\_and\\_private\\_hire/taxi\\_hire.aspx](http://www.broxbourne.gov.uk/transport_and_streets/taxis_and_private_hire/taxi_hire.aspx)
- Oxford City Council  
<http://www.oxford.gov.uk/PageRender/decB/TaxiFares.htm>

Your reference to the 'new EU Directive' (March 2009) is not relevant. The relevant law is the UK's Units of Measurement Regulations 1986 as amended. These Regulations repeat the wording of the Directive - that is, "road traffic signs, distance and speed measurement." The exemption clearly only applies to distances and speed measurements on road traffic signs (otherwise the regulations would have just said "distances and speed measurements" without qualification). Since taxi meters are not "road traffic signs", they are not covered by the exemption, and the law therefore requires that distances should be expressed in metres and kilometres.

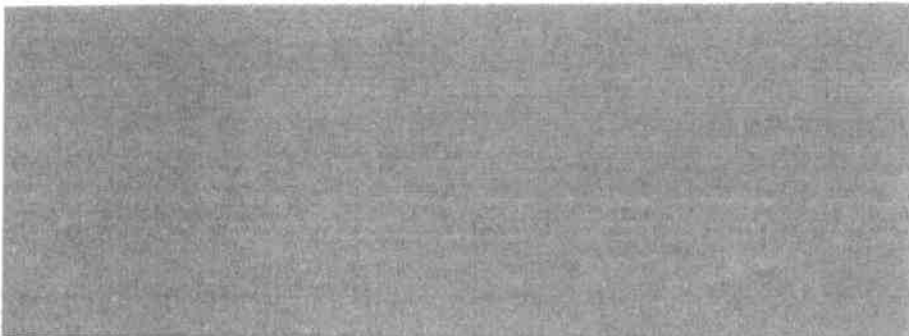
By looking at the information provided by Broxbourne Council and Oxford City Council you will see the fares are charged using metric units.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Philip Bladon



*email*

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**REPLY dated 11 March**

**Proposed Fare Tariffs Notice published in the Redditch Advertiser 23**

**February 2011**

Thank you for your letter dated 3 March 2011.

Units of measurement, as you have pointed out, are subject to European law in order to ensure consistency of measurement across member states and to ensure that the use of different units does not create a barrier to trade or restrict the free movement of goods and services across the European Community.

Originally, it was intended that the use of all imperial measures would be phased out but the United Kingdom negotiated exemptions for certain measures; these included the mile, yard, foot and inch for road traffic signs, distance and speed measurement.

In March 2009 a new EU Directive came into force to reflect the intention and to allow exemptions and supplementary indications to continue indefinitely.

I can confirm that nationally all local authorities advertise and display their current tariff in miles and yards - simply because the taxi tariff on the meter held within a Hackney Carriage displays the same. It would also be confusing to the passenger for the driver to display the price he has to pay in metric style, when road signage is in miles and yards.

I trust this letter answers your queries.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs S Garratt  
Senior Practitioner (Licensing)  
Worcestershire Regulatory Services**

On behalf of Redditch Borough Council