

From: asim nazir <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2026 12:24:41 AM
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: Proposed licence fee increase

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Dear Redditch Borough Council

We are writing to you on behalf of the drivers of the Redditch taxi and private hire trade, regarding the proposed increase in licence fees starting April 2026. We as a trade feel that these are unjustified and unreasonable in the service we receive. Licencing is not delivering a service that is expected of them. We have delays in both vehicle and driver licence application's. When drivers are contacting WRS the standard of service is appalling with little or no information regarding the query in question. Drivers have reported the conduct of staff as being rude and being lied to about documents that have been submitted.

With cutbacks from the town hall we as a trade do not have a go to hub, and the face-to-face time we do have is limited to the amount of drivers licenced in the borough.

The trade is also feeling the pressure with the fast pace of the UBER takeover, which all journeys are carried out by out of area licenced vehicles.

A livable wage is becoming harder and harder by the day.

Licencing can confirm that many of our drivers and operators are opting to be licenced by Wolverhampton, as they are a lot more efficient in process times and price.

With the proposed fees a lot more drivers are looking at other authorities rather than Redditch.

We have raised concerns with various departments about the illegal parking on town taxi ranks including out of town private hires, to which we have had no response or action being taken.

A few questions that our drivers would like answered are

- Why do the fees need to be raised?
- Where will the fees be spent?
- What improvements in service can the drivers expect in dealing with their applications?
- How will the raise in fees add any value to the drivers?
- Will there be an introduction to reimbursement for delays in processing plates and badges by licencing to the drivers?

We as drivers want to know the justification for this increase and if it is still economically viable to be a driver with Redditch Borough Council.

We as a trade will await your response.

Please help the trade before you lose the trade.

We are happy to sit with you and discuss this matter and other issues we are facing.

Kind regards

Asim Nazir, Imran Altaf and Mohammed Ilyas
Redditch Taxi Association