Taxi Fares and Tariffs Consultation

Taxi fares in London are normally revised every April, based on changes to a Cost Index in use since 1981. The Index combines changes in operating costs with changes in national earnings, to produce a change in average fares aimed at maintaining drivers’ earnings.

In February 2016, the Transport for London (TfL) Board requested a review of the current taxi fares and tariffs structure.

We commissioned consultants to carry out a full in-depth and independent review of taxi fares and tariffs and a number of other related issues. In response to the recommendations, we are now consulting on the following proposed changes to taxi fares and tariffs:

- Increasing the minimum taxi fare (the flagfall);
- Reducing Tariff 3 (22.00 to 05.00 every night);
- Changing when the tariff rate for longer journeys starts (sometimes referred to as ‘Tariff 4’), from six miles to 12 miles;
- Retaining the current fuel surcharge arrangement;
- Increasing the soiling charge;
- Carrying out further research and analysis on options for fixed fares for booked taxis;
- Exploring options for capped or fixed fares to and from Heathrow Airport;
- Updating the taximeter specification.

The proposals aim to make taxi fares more affordable for customers late at night and for longer journeys, while ensuring that taxi drivers can continue to recover their costs.
We are keen to get the views of the taxi trade on the proposals in the consultation, which is available at https://consultations.tfl.gov.uk/tph/taxi-fare-and-tariff-review-2017.

The closing date for responding to the consultation is 19 February 2017.

Regards

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