

# Licensed Private Hire Car Association

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**Ms Lindsey Vallis**

Service Director – Transport Services

Communities Directorate

Buckinghamshire Council

**BY Email**

**15 March 2023**

Dear Lindsey,

**Taxi and private hire licensing fees consultation Submitted on 2023-03-15 18:55:12 Proposed fees and charges**

**Do you agree with or object to the proposed fees? - Object**

**Please tell us the reasons for your previous answer:** - I feel it is a big hike, following the pandemic and would have expected the unification of the licensing regimes to deliver savings. I do believe that costs could be made to reduce overheads for both licensees and licensing authority. There are also many ways that I believe the council could utilise, which could save licensees money. If fees are frozen, these ways could be explored. High fees, elsewhere should not be a basis for fees in Buckinghamshire, in fact, lower fees elsewhere would be a far better place to look at.

**If taxi and private hire fees do not cover the cost of the taxi licensing service these costs would have to be paid for by the taxpayer. Do you think this is acceptable? - Yes**

**Please tell us**

**the reasons for your previous answer:** - The Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Trade is already suffering with fuel & insurance increases and many other issues post-pandemic including driver shortages. Public safety will be compromised if more drivers are forced out through other increased costs like fees. It is reasonable to get some of the licensing regimes funding from taxpayers as the industry alone should not be burdened with the whole issue of public safety.

**Who are you responding as? Trade Representative**

**About you Which of the following describe you? (Select all that apply)**

**Other (please give details below)** We are a trade organisation just outside Buckinghamshire and we represent many operators there. I also visit shops, restaurants, travel through, have sports & social activities, do business, do car servicing and use taxis and PHVs in the County.

**How did you find out about this consultation? (Select all that apply)** From Buckinghamshire Council staff

**Other communications method:**

**Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation (e.g. a business or a voluntary group)?** On behalf of an organisation

**Please provide the following details: Name of organisation::** Licensed Private Hire Car Association

**Your job title:** Chair

Yours sincerely,

**Steve Wright MBE – Chair LPHCA**