

Antrobus, Lisa

To: Cox, Steve
Subject: FW: Proposed fees increase
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From: Paul Le Huray [mailto:_____] <_____\>
Sent: 30 January 2020 11:25
To: O'Shea, Gary <Gary.OShea@torbay.gov.uk>
Subject: Proposed fees increase

Hi Gary,

I am writing to object to the proposed increase in licensing fees.

I feel that in Torbay we are struggling to attract new drivers to the trade and I believe that the proposed increase in fees will be detrimental to the acquisition of new drivers and will also be a factor in older drivers taking early retirement, we already experience this with the existing charges. There is already a substantial cost to becoming a taxi driver and increased fees do not help. I understand that Torbay Council is under considerable financial pressure, but I do feel that any shortfalls should not be attempted to be raised through licensing fees, if that is indeed what is happening? I also wonder why there is a need for an increase due to the change from a yearly driver licence to a 3 year licence which surely must have reduced administrative costs, also the move to online applications, again that should have reduced your costs. There are also 2 fewer licensing officers since Craig Noble and Millie left, again this must have reduced the running costs?

The costs to become a PH driver are currently as follows:

1. DBS £67.80
2. Group 2 Medical £90.00
3. DSA test £125.00
4. Knowledge test £35.00
5. 3 year drivers badge £323.00
6. Vehicle Licence £244.00
7. Operator Licence £67.00
8. Disability Awareness course £75.00 ? as yet unknown this is an estimate
9. Vehicle Compliance test £ 75.00 ? as yet unknown this is an estimate
10. Insurance for a new to trade driver £2500 approx

Total: £3,601.80

As you can see the cost to become a driver are very expensive.

Best regards,
Paul.

Paul Le Huray
Director

9