

## Appendix B

Which of the following licen Please write your comments in the box below to support your objection	
Driver;Vehicle;Operator;	Fees donot need to be increased. Sufficient cost already . Cost of living is difficult for drivers. They will not renew if badge and vehicle fees are increased.
Driver;Vehicle;Operator;	Please do as you think is best for you.
	<p>I cannot understand for the life of me how you can justify these increases . It seems that for the last few years the costs associated with me doing my job and running my business have increased very regularly where as the service I now receive from Licensing at Uttlesford is significantly less than say 10 years ago.....therefore I'm paying more for a significantly less than average service, this doesn't sit well with me as I'm very much a 'value for money' kind of person . It seems the onus is now always with us as drivers and operators with regard to adminstration etc, being told not to enquire by phone or email re progress on various applications , I find that quite insulting. Its all very one sided . My personal opinion is that the Licensing dept is not what it was when I started out and that these price hikes are completely unjustified especially as the services we receive as residents in Uttlesford for the high cost of council tax is not good value either.</p> <p>The Licensing section on your website and payment portal are awful . So no i definitely do not feel comfortable with another price hike . Thank you.</p>
Driver;	<p>I was never told that I had to pay any fees when I started employment with Kinect. I'm now un-employed £8,000 in credit card debt, just had my van along with all my tools stolen so unable to earn any income and will probably have my driving license suspended and now claiming universal credit. I haven't got the money to pay my heating bill never mind a fee that I spent 1 month of my time for free training for the license so if you insist your have to take me to court. I can't be clearer than that.</p>
	<p>We have such a shortage of drivers in Uttlesford and it's becoming so hard to get new drivers and with increased fees every year it's just not fair.</p> <p>You wonder why people break the rules, you as a council need to do more to help us recruit new drivers by making this process easier ... with all the other add on to getting the license it's just not going to be viable much longer ?</p>
Operator;Driver;	We need help not increased fees
Driver;Vehicle;	Too expensive

Dear Licensing team,

Firstly, the rationale behind this increase has not been adequately communicated. The lack of transparency about the reasons for this hike raises questions and concerns. Stakeholders like us need to understand why such changes are necessary, especially when they directly affect our financial obligations.

Moreover, this increase seems disproportionate in the current economic climate. Many of us are already grappling with financial challenges, and this additional burden could be detrimental. The earnings in our sector have not seen a commensurate rise, making it increasingly difficult to absorb these escalated costs. This disparity between rising operational expenses and stagnant income levels is a serious concern that needs addressing.

I understand there may be underlying reasons for this decision that are not immediately apparent. However, without a clear explanation, it is challenging to appreciate the necessity of this increase. It would be greatly beneficial if the Licensing Authority could provide a detailed breakdown of why this increase is essential and how the additional funds will be utilized.

Furthermore, I kindly request that the Authority consider the current economic pressures on businesses and individuals in our sector. An open dialogue about these issues would be greatly appreciated. We are not opposed to change but believe that it should be justifiable, transparent, and, most importantly, manageable within our economic constraints.

In closing, I earnestly urge you to reconsider this decision or at least provide a more detailed explanation to those it affects. We will engage in constructive discussions to find a more feasible solution.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to a prompt and considerate response.

Driver;

Driver;Vehicle;Operator;

No

I would like to see the increase in fees being used to allow PH operator drivers to use bus lanes - this would assist PHD's in promptly servicing our customer needs by reducing the time between pick up & drop off and also it would assist with congestion at major intersections etc (e.g Army & Navy roundabout in Chelmsford).

Driver;

In a time of cost of living, where money is being squeezed just to make ends meet. Other drivers will not be able to afford making ends meet. Electricity/gas has increased, food bill has increased and now if licence fee increases then it will have a detrimental effect on us. Unfortunately it appears that there has been a shortfall in Uttlesford budget somewhere and money was wasted in certain projects. As a result the recovery of these losses have been passed onto us and this is immoral, unethical and will have a huge backlash on Uttlesford as it will prevent others joining up and going elsewhere or other professions

Driver;

I work from the airport at stansted and I object to the proposed increase in fee on the following basis,

1. Even though i have raised the issue of unlicensed touts operating at the airport on a daily basis with your own enforcement dept, I have yet to see a member of your team at the airport other than to check our tyres. I have been forced to try and chase them away myself and it would seem that Uttlesford CC and Stansted Airport have no regard to the safe onward journey of people using the airport and I can only presume that it will take some tragic accident or serious criminal act before any action is taken

2. There are 100's of Uber drivers operating from the airport on a daily basis who are not licensed by your yourselves so why should I renew your license, I note that Chelmsford Council have banned TFL licensed drivers from operating in their area but as far as I can see Uttlesford CC are unwilling to protect the living of drivers who pay for a License so

Driver; If you can't protect the interests of drivers who already have to pay a fee what possible justification could you have for increasing it?

Driver; I am no longer a driver and cannot afford those fees

Driver; It is difficult to make money this days and taxi business is very quite and I am not working at the moment. First year drivers fee should be free as I paid lots of money for training and not using my badge at the moment. I might start driving when season starts.

Driver; I am looking forward to have vehicle and operator licence soon. Right now we are having difficulty with cost of living as well. there is £60 differences between new and existing fee. That is not a lot but when you look after your family we all thinking about our budget. Please keep existing fee at least for end of this year.

Driver; I work & have worked for the taxi concession at Stansted Airport for more than 20 years. In those years fees to the company running the taxi company, to the owners of the Airport & yourselves have gone up & up not to mention fees for green penny coarse , medical & police checks = all of which are a necessity in a professional, rightful way of running & policing this business = creating jobs ( including your own ) and making profit for local businesses etc = All this is under threat as our revenue is down hugely to the presence of UBER taxis coming in from other areas taking more than 50% of our work in an illegal operation working from row G in the orange short stay car park & ranking up in other areas around the Airport & off Airport areas . It is my understanding that these Uber drivers are generally not licensed with you , do not jump through the same hoops & legal , medical checks our / your driver's have to do & pay nothing at all to the Airport, local business & importantly yourselves = my question & objection if you like is why is this unfair playing field being allowed to carry on in your district under your watch ?? What awful happening is to occur with one of these unregulated, unchecked vehicles & drivers before we all stand as one together against what could be a potential disaster = this should be dealt with immediately & paid for by the revenue created by your fees taken from ALL drivers working out of the Uttlesford area

Driver;None;	I do strongly object to the the increase in fees, I work from the official and legitimate taxi service at Stansted Airport, however Uber drivers (TFL licensed) are allowed to operate from here and literally take business away from licensed Uttlesford drivers. Add the fact that touts are also a huge problem and presence at the Airport, yet nothing is done to stop either of these practices. It makes the increase in licensing fees unjust, when more should be done to protect your own Uttlesford drivers.
Driver;	I object to the fees being put up because I feel uttlesford do nothing about Uber drivers in this area and if you wanted to you could as Chelmsford have already sorted this problem in their area . This has a massive effect on our earnings especially being at airport , i would be happy to accept this increase if you was to help with this problem . As it stands with earnings I probably will not renew my licence as it simply isn't worth it . I hope you will take into consideration my comment on this .
Driver;Vehicle;	What's the justification for the fees to be increased? Also it leaves members with less funds available
Driver;	<p>I am licenced with Street Cars at Stansted Airport. How can you justify an increase in your fees when you Do nothing to prevent the numbers of Touts at the airport who are carrying Airport passengers illegally, every day, and it seems with impunity, because we see no signs of any action from yourselves.</p> <p>You allow operators such as Uber to operate at Stansted , and to rank up for free. drive off with their passengers having paid a minimum pick up fee from £7. We, on the other hand , will have to pay out at least £500 to get our 3 year licence, and the see a large proportion of our fares go to pay the Airport and the operator, leading to these ride aps being able to undercut our London fares massively, whilst often asking up double our fares to go to a local hotel. There are often a great many of their cars parking up at the mid stay car park or the motorway services waiting for a fare.</p> <p>How do I justify renewing my licence next year when it seems you do nothing to justify your licence fee</p>
Driver;	I object to the increase in fees, especially as Uber drivers are allowed to operate at Stansted Airport, also nothing is done about the touts, taking business from the official taxis.
Driver;	Hello....im happy with the increase of the licence fees...But i do have a couple of concerns...can you please explain why uber hasn't been banned from uttlesford but has been else where in Essex example chelmsford, southend. Also the touting problem at the airport is getting worse than better....many thanks
Driver;	Absolutely nothing is done to stop illegal and unlicensed taxi drivers to operate from Stansted Airport. Only council in Essex allowing Uber to illegally operate and bend the rules.
Driver;	I think it's unfair to keep increasing the fees when us working at the airport have Uber and touts affecting our earnings, we fill something needs to be done about uber and the touts who are there on a daily basis
Driver;	I'm objecting as I believe that Uttlesford District Council has done nothing to stop illegal taxis operating at Stansted Airport as well as Uber. Therefore I believe that our work has drastically reduced and causes huge losses.

Council hasn't done anything to stop the touts coming in at the airport and uber operating with TFL License which has effected our earnings massively.

Specially the amount of money uber is charging that is ridiculously lower than normal rates running around in the area.

They can run the business with them rates because they do one way from here and easily get a job in london or surrounding areas where as we can't.

My objection is to either stop them from coming up here or make them to increase their prices sensible.

Please try to understand we have invested money on license but since this uber been allowed in with their ridiculous prices it has badly effected our income which reflected us bearing the household expenses.

Driver;

I work at Stansted Airport and I'm sure you are aware that untold amounts of Uber drivers are parking up at local services and taking Uttlesford licensed drivers work away when they are licensed by TFL, some 30 miles away.

But nothing is being done to protect the livelihoods of Uttlesford licensed drivers from these people who are taking Uttlesford Licensing Authority for incompetent fools.

I don't take their view and I support Uttlesford Council.

But you wish to take more money from us. We are easy targets because we play by the rules.

Other Licensing authorities have banned Uber and protect their drivers.

Alternatively, it is not difficult to catch out and report Uber drivers as their whereabouts is obvious but nothing is being done to prevent their blatant disregard for the rules.

Driver;

Regards

I objection to the licensing fees because. 1there is not enough licensing officers on the ground to stop all of these touts that we have up at stansted airport. I have lost count how many time I have had arguments with these people it is a joke .and so you are not doing anything to stop the uber taxi come up for london and just parking up and sitting there waiting for a job to come though. What they are doing is legal. And it is not just yhe airport it in bishops s as well .all in is doing is putting all the local taxi companies out of work .many councils have just banned uber because of this reason they can see that they are trying to take over .and this is what will happen hear soon if you do not do something then you have many people unemployed because you could not be bothered to do anything about is problem

Driver;

Above average price hikes at a time when cost of living is already high.

Pure grifting from the council to get easy money from license holders who have no other option than to pay. Disgusting and a change of council and MP is required.

None;

Driver;

Seems a natural increase as every other bill is increasing !