

New Carmiles Ltd

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Dear Sir,

RE: Proposed distribution of Operators Bands

After seeing the article in the Hastings Observer regarding the above I am writing to inform you about my objections to the way different bands are set regarding the new operator's Licence fees.

For the past three years I have been concerned about why there had been an increase of over 2000% and also why the different bands did not correspond to the size of bigger firms.

Five years ago, the decision was made, no consultation took place and I was only informed of the outcome.

It showed a steady rise of fees for different bands up to 80 cars and same fee for all fleets over 81.

At the time this decision was made, we were a fleet of 83 cars putting us in the sane band with a fleet of 200 cars. You can see a fleet, half of our size was set to pay half as much and so on all the way down to a single operator, yet a firm over three times as big was paying what we pay.

On this basis I raised my concerns, not getting any response, I wrote to the Mayor.

Eventually a review was triggered, however I feel we have yet again been discriminated against to the benefit of bigger firms.

Although there has been a decrease in these fees, the different bands are yet again in favour of bigger firms. To place a fleet of 71 cars in the same category as a fleet of over 200 cars is simply unjust.

In your argument you have mentioned the work carried out by your selves regarding the Operators.

May I remind you the work and the service you need to provide in regards to the Licensed vehicles and Drivers has already been paid for when you issued these licences. So in hindsight you are double charging for the same service. There is no additional work because of the existence of the Operator.

Once again, against all the existing concerns, you have placed a firm of 71 cars in the same group as 210 cars. How can you justify a fleet of 21 cars paying the same as 70 cars or a fleet of 71 paying the same as a fleet of over 210 cars?

Unfortunately I feel I am being discriminated against as a result of my ethnic origin/religion. I feel the system has been unjust and works in favour of a few.

My proposal to put an end to all discrepancies for the future are;

1: A set fee of £120+£5 per vehicle

You will find this is almost what you are proposing now.

In my case, at this moment with 64 vehicles, I will be paying an extra £42 a year. I am happy to do so as long as I know everyone is on the same level.

2: Break the bands into more categories up to 220 vehicles.

For Example,

1	£123
2 to 20	£188
21 to 35	£296
36 to 70	£403
71 to 120	£692
121 to 170	£981
171 to 220	£1271
221 and over	£1561

You will find in both proposals the revenue gained by the council will even be slightly greater and everyone will be on the same level.

I understand and am happy to contribute to the economy and the running of HBC, however this must be done in a fair and proper manor.

I request this objection be noted and passed on to the committee that makes the final decision on this matter.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of more assistance.

Yours sincerely,

**Iraj Torab
Managing Director,**



