

Observations

Amount of taxi licences being issued when there are more than enough taxi's.
(passengers ask on a daily basis why there are so many to which I have no answer)

The bus station is an important place for taxi drivers to make a living but the amount of taxi's in Bromsgrove we do not have enough ranks to park up.

In my view the main problem within the bus station is congestion caused by the following:

1. Amount of Hackney carriage licences being issued.

2. Taxi's queuing for lengthy periods due to the amount of local transport that has been introduced for local people who once used taxi's and has now taken out a car.

3. The volume of traffic that proceeds through the bus station would still cause congestion irrespective of taxi's being present or not.

Below is a list of by no way comprehensive but in which I have observed myself over the past year.

There are four bust stops for nineteen numbered regular bus services plus the following local buses.

1. Charford hopper
2. Euro bus
3. I Go

Besides these regular bus services the station also accommodates the following:

1. Ha sons
2. Johnsons
3. Prospect
4. Lochs & Glens
5. Mystique Isle
6. Hardings
7. Smiths
8. MHS travel
9. Bakers & Dolphin
10. Swan St
11. Leon's coaches
12. Lakeside

As you can see this volume of traffic daily is causing congestion within the station.

In addition to this we have the lorry's delivering goods and then parking there to eat their lunch.

Also the implementation of subsidised travel "BURT" is yet another obstacle for taxi drivers as that is more work taken from us.

As you can see taxi drivers are in a "no win" situation.

It is deflating to here the "National press" state that the minimum wage is £7.40 ph when we earn nowhere near that.

The outgoing fees to be allowed to work as a Hackney carriage driver is phenomenal and every year becomes more of a struggle to meet these fees as we are not earning enough to cover them.

I have to conform to Bromsgrove council's "Rules & Regulations" and have no control of how this effects my work and income.

All I ask is to be allowed to earn the minimum wage.

I hope this brings to light the we need "pounds not points" as we have found ourselves in a situation we have no control over.

I would also like to point out that in previous meetings a Marshall for the rank was dismissed due to funding but funding will be needed to introduce the points system and police it. We feel a Marshall would be more viable.