

Appendix B - Sources Used for Taxi Fares Calculator

The following sources of data were used as part of the Council's procedure for setting taxi fares for distance and time and other charges in connection with the hire of a taxi. This involved comparing the current annual running costs and salary against what was present when a fares review was last undertaken. The West Suffolk Fares calculator was used for this, the results of which can be seen in Appendix C. Data from Central Government approved sources such as the Office for National Statistics have been used wherever possible.

UK Average Salary

The UK Average salary for 2022 and 2019 was taken from Average household income, UK: financial year (ending 2017 and 2021) Office for National Statistics.

[Average household income, UK - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/employment-and-labour/earnings-and-income/average-household-income)
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The median household income figure was used rather than the mean as;
"median household incomes provides a better measure of how people's well-being has changed over time...Median income provides a good indication of the standard of living of the "typical" individual in terms of income."

Annual Cost of Road Tax

Taken directly from RAC online road tax calculator. A diesel vehicle falling within the £26,000 to £36,000 bracket generally falls within Band J for vehicles with a CO2 emission of 186-200g/km for the purposes of road tax.

Average Annual Cost of Fuel Per Litre

This data set was taken from The AA's fuel price report which uses data sourced from Experian Catalist (www.catalist.com).

AA Fuel reports were averaged over a 12-month rolling window for the South-East, which was compared against 12 months' worth of reports for when fares were last reviewed in 2019.

[Compare latest petrol and diesel fuel prices | The AA](https://www.aa.com/compare-latest-petrol-and-diesel-fuel-prices)

Average MPG of Hackney Carriage

The majority of Hackney Carriages that are licensed by West Suffolk Council remain diesel vehicles. The average mile per gallon of a diesel taxi was estimated at 31.8 MPG. This figure was taken from an emissions data website

[Taxi MPG \(car-emissions.com\)](https://www.car-emissions.com/)

Annual Cost of Fuel

The annual cost of fuel was calculated by firstly converting the annual cost of fuel from litres to gallons, which was then multiplied by 25350 (annual average mileage), before being divided by 31.8 (average MPG of diesel Hackney Carriage).

Annual Cost of Hackney Carriage License

This is the fee that West Suffolk Council charged in 2019 (date of previous review) and what is currently charged for a Hackney Carriage vehicle license.

Annual Cost of Driver's License

West Suffolk Council's 3 yearly driver fee was divided by three to give the pro-rata cost for a year.

Annual Average Mileage

The average mileage of vehicles was reviewed from a recent survey that was undertaken as part of West Suffolk Council's review into wheelchair accessible vehicles, "the mean mileage per day across the whole district is around 97.5 miles."

(West Suffolk Council Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Conditions Policy Handbook - review of taxi zones and wheelchair accessible vehicles (WAVs), January 2022

This has been multiplied by 260 to give an estimate of the amount of miles covered during a year, assuming that the average driver undertakes a five working day week.

"In October to December 2020, 23% of drivers usually worked 7 days a week, back to the levels seen prior to the first national lockdown in 2020 where the proportion of drivers working 7 days a week dropped to 9%. The majority of drivers (40%) usually worked 5 days a week."

Department for Transport, Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Statistics, England: 2021 [Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Statistics: England 2021 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/924222/taxi-and-private-hire-vehicle-statistics-england-2021.pdf)

This figure was compared against a survey undertaken by InsureTaxi, which found that drivers in East Anglia averaged just under 30,000 miles a year. A figure of 30,000 was then used for the calculation.

[Taxi Driver Survey 2016 - InsureTaxi](#)

Consumer Price Index

Data for the CPI was taken directly from the Office for National Statistics. Twelve monthly percentage figures were sourced for the three years between the fare reviews and the average applied to the UK average salary.

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/inflationandpriceindices/bulletins/consumerpriceinflation/>