## **PETITION**

The Corby public have had a local Hackney trade since before the 1960's and has always tried to provide the best service possible.

Providing that much needed service of getting people to the local shops, doctors, schools, Bingo and from Pubs/Restaurants after a great night out. Always providing the door-to-door service which isn't available with other public transport services.

It has consistently been one of the cheapest taxi rates in the country and always prides itself on the service which visitors to the town often comment on as being "1st Class".

The Corby Hackney Owners Association (CHOA) have requested a small increase to cover the increase in costs. This will be the first increase since 2018. This would have seen the average fare increase by 70p (equivalent to a rise of less than 18p a year since 2018, on the average trip). A modest increase when the cost of fuel has risen by 50% in the last 4 months.

Unfortunately, North Northamptonshire Council have used this opportunity to try to merge the zones in North Northamptonshire and implement a huge increase which will have a drastic impact on those who need to use taxis the most.

- Those going to work could face up to 127% increase.
- Those going out could see an increase of 108%.
- Those using the service on a Sunday could see an increase of 94%.

This is NOT acceptable and NOT what we want.

It may seem strange that we're rejecting a big fare increase but the merger brings hidden issues which could massively effect our trade and also those who use it. No one in the trade has been consulted about this but it's getting pushed through by the Conservative led council.

What we want is North Northamptonshire Council to stick to the proposed separate zone increase for the next 12 months which would then allow for proper consultation to take place and would save OUR customers from another huge increase in costs at this time of National Cost of Living Crisis.

## **Neil Rielly**

**CHOA Secretary** 

For information - Full Council may -

- 1. Note the petition; or
- 2. Make recommendations to the Executive as a result of the petition