

CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982
TAXI FARE SCALE REVIEW

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1** In terms of Section 17 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, the Local Authority requires to fix maximum fares and other charges in connection with the hire of taxis operating in their area and to review the scales for taxi fares and other charges on a regular basis.
- 1.2** The Committee at their meeting on 19th January 2022 agreed to propose an increase of 15% on the 3 tariffs and other charges as detailed in Appendix 1.
- 1.3** An advert was placed in the local press week commencing 24th January 2022 detailing the proposed changes to the scales and inviting any person wishing to lodge representations in respect of these proposals to do so in writing by 28th February 2022.
- 1.4** One representation was received on 7th February 2022 as follows:-
We ask that the flag fall on all tariffs stays as it is at the moment but instead of 860 yards can you cut it to 764 yards and the 15 per cent increase still goes through and it will mean we don't need to use both 2p and 1p coins which the government might decide to stop using leaving a bit of a dilemma for the drivers and it would leave us an easier task when we negotiate a price for a hire it would also make it easier to get the taxi meters adjusted.

Members require to consider this representation before fixing the scales.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee are asked whether they wish to:

- 2.1** Proceed with the 15% increase as previously proposed at their meeting on 19th January 2022 as detailed in Appendix 1.
- 2.2** Amend the proposal as per the one representation received from the trade. If members agree to propose a further amendment to the scales members are asked to authorise the Head of Legal and Regulatory Support to advertise the proposed changes to tariffs and to invite any responses within one month of the advertisement and report back to members at their next available meeting.
- 2.3** Should no objections or representations be received in relation to the proposal delegate authority to the Executive Director with responsibility

for Legal and Regulatory Support in consultation with the Chair of PPSL to conclude the review without the requirement for the Committee to consider a further report on the review.

3. DETAIL

- 3.1** Following consideration of the representation on the proposal if Members agree to proceed with the 15 % increase on the fares and other charges as detailed in Appendix 1 as proposed by the Committee at their meeting on 19th January 2022 a letter will be issued to all operators detailing the committee's final decision on 24th March 2022.
- 3.2** There is a right of appeal to the Scottish Traffic Commissioner by any person or any persons or organisations appearing to the Traffic Commissioner to be representative of taxi operators. Any appeal has to be lodged within 14 day period of notification of the decision. It is anticipated that the period for appeal will end on Friday 8th April 2022. If no appeal is lodged the new scales will be advertised in the local press as required by the Act.
- 3.3** If Members agree to amend the proposal to amend the scales as proposed by the one representation there would be a requirement to re-advertise the proposal and report back to members on any representations received. This would delay the commencement date for the new fare tariff

4. CONCLUSION.

- 4.1** Members are further advised that an advert will be placed in the local press following their decision week commencing 11th April 2022 if it is agreed to fix the scales as originally proposed. This will still enable the fares to come into force by 22nd April 2022 as previously agreed.
- 4.2** If members agree to amend their proposal as requested by the one representation received then this proposal would need to be advertised week commencing 28th March 2022 with a 28 day period for representations. The date for the proposed scales coming into effect would require to change from 22nd April 2022 to 20th June 2022. A further report would require to be placed before members if any representations were received.

5. IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Policy- None
- 5.2 Financial -none
- 5.3 Legal – The Council require to review taxi fares in terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982
- 5.4 HR -none
- 5.5 Fairer Scotland Duty:-none

- 5.5.1 Equalities - protected characteristics-none
- 5.5.2 Socio-economic Duty-none
- 5.5.3 Islands -none
- 5.6 Climate Change-none
- 5.7 Risk-none
- 5.8 Customer Service-none

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**Executive Director with responsibility for Legal and Regulatory Support
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Appendix 1 – Tariffs and Charges

APPENDIX 1

Tariff 1	Hirings from ranks or "flag" Hiring between 7am and 10pm	£3.45 23 pence
	Initial charge (860 yards or part thereof) Subsequent charge (each 176 yards or part thereof) (general effect is an increase of 15% = 45p and 3p)	
Tariff 2	Hirings from ranks or "flag" Hiring between 10pm and 7am	£4.14 23 pence
	Initial charge (860 yards or part thereof) Subsequent charge (each 150 yards or part thereof)	
	Tariff 2 also applies to hirings from ranks or "flag" between 6pm and 10pm December 24 th , 6pm and 10pm December 31 st and between 7am 2 nd January and 7am 3 rd January (general effect is an increase of 15% = 54p and 3p)	
Tariff 3	Hiring from ranks or "flag" between 10pm 24 th December and 7am 27 th December and between 10pm 31 st December and 7am 2 nd January	£4.83 23 pence
	Initial Charge (860 yards or part thereof) Subsequent Charge (each 120 yards or part thereof) (general effect is an increase of 15% = 63p and 3p)	

Soiling Charge - £100 maximum (with permission to display warning signs indicating that there may be an additional charge for any potential loss of earnings suffered as a consequence)

Waiting Time – 40 pence per minute commencement of journey, charged on a pro rata basis per second
(general effect is an increase of 5p)

Taxi called by mean of telephone – 35 pence additional charge
(general effect is an increase of 5p)

Large Mini-bus type vehicle (carrying 5 or more passengers together at their own request)-

- Where Tariff 1 would apply – charge Tariff 2
- Where Tariff 2 would apply – charge Tariff 3
- Where Tariff 3 would apply – surcharge £1.15 **(general effect is an increase of 15p)**

Fee by negotiation – for all journeys commencing within but finishing outwith Argyll and Bute, in a place of the above charges, such fares may be charged as prior to the acceptance of the hire, were proposed to the hirer and accepted by him/her

Ferry Fares – The hirer shall be liable for the cost of a return ferry fare for any journey involving a ferry