

19 OCTOBER 2011

**CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982
TAXI FARE SCALE REVIEW**

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1** In terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, Section 17 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 Planning, Protective Services and Licensing Committee at their meeting on 19th January 2011 decided to increase the fare structure as follows:-

Tariff 1 from £2.50 to £2.70
Tariff 2 from £3.00 to £3.20
Tariff 3 from £3.50 to £3.70

that the charges in respect of soiling, waiting and telephone bookings remain as £100 (maximum), 30p per minute and 30p respectively;

that there be no change to the yardage distances which are currently based on an initial charge per 860yds and a subsequent charge of 20p for each additional 200 yds;

that a further review of the fare structure should be undertaken in 12 months time rather than 18 months as required by the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

- 1.3** The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee regarding the commencement of these procedures for the review.

2. ARRANGEMENTS FOR TAXI FARE SCALE REVIEW

- 2.1** The procedure for reviewing taxi fares has changed. A licensing authority must before fixing fares consult with persons or organisations appearing to it to be, or to be representative of, the operators of taxis operating within its area. Following the consultation the licensing authority must review the existing scales and publish them, propose a date when the proposed scales shall come into effect and consider representations.

2.2 The proposed forthcoming review of fares will be advertised in the press in the next few weeks and an opportunity will be given for representations to be submitted.

2.3 Consultation requires to be carried out with the taxi associations in Argyll and Bute before the Committee takes a decision on the review.

3. ACTION

3.1 It is recommended that all Taxi Operators within the local authority area will be notified in writing of the review and they and their representatives will be invited to make written representations by 28 November 2011. Thereafter a report will be placed before the 18 January 2012 meeting of this Committee in order that the Committee can review and propose new scales and agree the proposed date for this to come into force.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 It is recommended that a report be submitted to this Committee early in the new year, for a decision on what the fare scale will be from February/March 2012.

5. IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Policy – None

5.2 Financial – None

5.3 Legal – The Council require to review taxi fares every 18 months in terms of the Act

5.4
HR – None

5.5
Equalities – None

5.6
Risk - None

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