

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

Licensing Committee

12 July 2018

Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 – Taxi Fare Review

Report by Head of Legal and Governance Services (Report No. 18/238)

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The Council is required to review the scales of fares for taxis at intervals of not more than 18 months. This report outlines the findings of the most recent review and proposes that there be no increase in the fares or alteration to tariffs.

1. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1 In terms of Section 17 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, the Council is required to review its scale of fares and other charges for the hire of taxis at intervals not exceeding 18 months. The existing scale has been in force since April 2017.
- 1.2 As the Committee is aware, the Council operates 3 tariffs. These provide for increasing rates from tariff 1 to tariff 3.
 - Tariff 1 applies from 0630 hours until 2300 hours and for the first 880 yards of a journey with certain further provisos.
 - Tariff 2 applies between 2300 hours and 0630 hours, again with provisos.
 - Tariff 3 applies during the Christmas and New Year periods also with provisos.A copy of the current approved tariffs is shown as Appendix 1 of his report.
- 1.3 In accordance with the legislation a review was carried out in May 2018 and all individual taxi operators and organisations representing, or appearing to be, representative of the operators of taxis were invited to put forward their proposals. Letters were sent to 107 Taxi Operators, 81 Private Hire Vehicle Operators with meters fitted and organisations. 14 replies were received.
- 1.4 Two of those who responded wished the fares to remain unchanged, 10 wished the fares to be increased, 1 suggested a change to the tariff times and 1 wished the soiling charge to be increased.
- 1.5 Once agreed by Committee, the proposed scale of fares requires to be advertised in the local press and interested parties require to be invited to respond within one month of the advertisement.

2. PROPOSALS

- 2.1 It is proposed that the scale of fares be advertised in the local press and that interested parties are invited to respond within one month of the advertisement. These responses would then be considered at the Licensing Committee meeting on 23 August 2018.
- 2.2 It is proposed that if no representations are received, the scale of fares and existing Tariffs remain unchanged. This would have the effect of continuing fares where there is a meter in place at the present levels until a further review is carried out in Summer 2019.
- 2.3 In light of the extremely low response rate from the taxi trade to the consultation, it is proposed that the scale of fares and existing tariffs remain unchanged. This would have the effect of continuing fares where there is a meter in place at the present levels until a further review is carried out in Summer 2019.

3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the existing scale of fares and tariffs remain unchanged and a further review be carried out in Summer 2019.

Author(s)

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Approved

Name	Designation	Date
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1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Strategic Implications	Yes / None
Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement	Yes
Corporate Plan	Yes
Resource Implications	
Financial	None
Workforce	None
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	None
Assessments	
Equality Impact Assessment	None
Strategic Environmental Assessment	None
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	None
Legal and Governance	None
Risk	None
Consultation	
Internal	None
External	Yes
Communication	
Communications Plan	None

1. Strategic Implications

Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement

- 1.1 Maintaining the current fare structure for the hire of Taxis and Private Hire vehicles will promote a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy by allowing affordable travel for members of the community. Equally it will support people to lead independent, healthy and active lives.

Corporate Plan

- 1.2 Offering an affordable travel option will promote an inclusive economy and support people to lead independent lives. It will give access to commercial and leisure venues throughout the region to the benefit of all.

2. Resource Implications

Financial

- 2.1 Not applicable

Workforce

- 2.2 Not applicable

3. Assessments

Equality Impact Assessment

- 3.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between equality groups. Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments for plans and policies allows the Council to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties.

The proposals have been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) and are not considered to be relevant

Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 3.2 Not applicable

4. Consultation

Internal

- 4.1 Not applicable

External

- 4.2 All Operators of Taxis, Private Hire vehicles and organisations appearing to be, or to be representative of, the operators of taxis were consulted.

5. Communication

Not applicable

2. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Not applicable

3. APPENDIX

Scale of Taxi Fares - Tariff Card

APPENDIX 1 - Scale of Taxi Fares - Tariff Card