

REPORT TO: Licensing Sub-Committee

MEETING DATE: 9 February 2017

BY: Depute Chief Executive (Resources and People Services)

SUBJECT: Taxi Fare Review

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To allow the Licensing Sub-Committee to consider the revised scale of the fares or other charges proposed by the East Lothian Taxi and Private Hire Association.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To consider the revised scale of the fares or other charges proposed by the East Lothian Taxi and Private Hire Association (Appendix 1) and to approve or amend that proposal as the Licensing Sub-Committee considers appropriate.
- 2.2 To decide a date on which any changes will come into effect
- 2.3 To authorise officers to advertise and explain the effect of the proposals and invite representations from the public.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 There is a statutory requirement for the Council to review taxi fares at least once every 18 months. The last review took place in November 2015, (Appendix 2 – existing tariff), meaning that the next review has to be in place no later than May 2017 in order to comply with the statutory timescales.
- 3.2 Proposals were received from the Trade Association after consultation with them.
- 3.3 As part of the review of taxi fares, the Licensing Team has also consulted with other Licensing Authorities (Appendix 3), namely, West Lothian, Midlothian, City of Edinburgh and Scottish Borders about their current scale of fares and other charges.

3.4 Before any new scale of Fares and other Charges can come into force the Council must advertise any new proposed scale in the local press to give an opportunity for public representations.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None. In fixing a scale of fares and other charges, the Council as Licensing Authority is complying with a statutory duty.

5 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 The subject of this report does not affect the wellbeing of the community or have a significant impact on equality, the environment or economy.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial – None

6.2 Personnel - None

6.3 Other – None

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 Current schedule of taxi fares, November 2015

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DATE	30 January 2017

Appendix 1

**Revised scale of the fares or other charges proposed by the East Lothian
Taxi and Private Hire Association.**

Winter, Maree

From: GEORGE BROOKS [gdbrooks@btinternet.com]
Sent: 27 January 2017 12:50
To: Winter, Maree
Subject: Re: Urgent - Taxi Fare Review

Changes to be made to Tariff 2

1. 6pm on 24th December until 6am on 27th December
2. 6pm on 31st December until 6 am on 2nd January

No increase in Taxi Fares.

Thanks,

George Brooks.

On Friday, 27 January 2017, 10:51, "Winter, Maree" <mwinter@eastlothian.gov.uk> wrote:

Hi George,

Hope you had a good holiday, can you advise me if the trade wants to make alterations to the current Fare Table as a matter of urgency.

Regards
Maree.

Maree Winter
Licensing Officer
Democratic & Licensing Services
East Lothian Council
John Muir House
Haddington
EH41 3HA

mwinter@eastlothian.gov.uk

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East Lothian
Council

Appendix 2

Existing Fare Tariff



East Lothian Council

CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982, Section 18

EAST LOTHIAN COUNCIL CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982 TAXI FARE REVIEW

Notice is hereby given that East Lothian Council has reviewed the taxi fare scales (as undernoted) applicable in East Lothian for a period of 18 months.

The new taxi fare scales shall become effective on Friday 15th August 2014.

The Taxi Fare Table can also be viewed on East Lothian Council's Website
www.eastlothian.gov.uk

Service Manager
Licensing, Administration & Democratic Services
John Muir House
Haddington
Email: licensing@eastlothian.gov.uk

31.07.2014

FARE TABLE FOR TAXI CABS

For 1 to 8 Passengers	TARIFF 1 6am – 6am	TARIFF 2 1. 6pm on 24 th December until 2am on 27 th December 2. 6pm on 31 st December until 2am on 2 nd January
1. For the initial period of waiting and 2. For the initial hire not exceeding 713.70 yards	£3.00	£5.00
1. For each additional 40 seconds of waiting time 2. For every additional 153.90 yards 3. Or a combination of 1 and 2 above	20p	40p

EXTRA PAYMENTS

- Car valeting charge for customer misuse - £100

NOTES

- The above fares are applicable only within East Lothian

Appendix 3

Consultations with other Licensing Authorities namely, West Lothian, Midlothian, City of Edinburgh and Scottish Borders about their current scale of fares and other charges.

**FARE TABLE FOR TAXI AND METERED PRIVATE HIRE CARS
OPERATIVE FROM 5 APRIL 2016**

<p>Tariff 1 - Monday - Friday 6am - 6pm for up to 2 passengers</p> <p>For</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the initial hire not exceeding 190 yards; the initial period of waiting time of 43 seconds; or a combination of time and distance as above <p>£2.60</p> <p>For</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> each additional 225 yards or part thereof; each additional period of waiting time of 43 seconds or part thereof; or a combination of additional time and distance <p>20p</p>	<p>Tariff 2 - Monday - Thursday 6pm - 6am and at weekends from 6pm on Friday - Monday 6am for up to 2 passengers</p> <p>For</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the initial hire not exceeding 190 yards; the initial period of waiting time of 43 seconds; or a combination of time and distance as above <p>£3.00</p> <p>For</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> each additional 225 yards or part thereof; each additional period of waiting time of 43 seconds or part thereof; or a combination of additional time and distance <p>20p</p>
<p>Tariff 3 - Christmas and New Year for up to 2 passengers</p> <p>Hires commencing at 10pm on 24 December until 5am on 27 December and between 10pm on 31 December and 6am on 2 January in any year</p> <p>For</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the initial hire not exceeding 190 yards; the initial period of waiting time of 43 seconds; or a combination of time and distance as above <p>£3.90</p> <p>For</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> each additional 225 yards or part thereof; each additional period of waiting time of 43 seconds or part thereof; or a combination of additional time and distance <p>30p</p>	<p>Additional Charges</p> <p>Where more than 2 passengers</p> <p>Per extra adult passenger (over 12 years): 40p</p> <p>Per extra child passenger (over 5 years and under 12 years): 20p</p> <p>Per extra infant passenger (0 - 5 years): no extra charge</p> <p>Note: each passenger must be properly seated (including children and infants)</p> <p>Luggage: for every piece of luggage carried (subject to a maximum charge of 40p per hire): 20p</p> <p>Soiling Charge: £25.00</p> <p>Cancellation Fee i.e. taxi or metered private hire car booked but not used: £2.60</p> <p>Engagement Fee i.e. where taxi or metered private hire car booked by telephone or booked in advance: 60p per hire</p>

- The above fares are the maximum metered fares which can be charged for hires wholly within the West Lothian District.
- Any hire which starts or terminates outwith the West Lothian District — fares must be agreed before the journey commences. It can be agreed that this fare table will be used.

A copy of the conditions attached to a taxi or private hire car licence issued by West Lothian Council may be inspected at West Lothian Council, West Lothian Civic Centre, Howden South Road, Livingston or viewed on the taxi licensing pages of the council's website www.westlothian.gov.uk

Approved by West Lothian Council on 15 March 2016

MIDLOTHIAN

APPENDIX II

FARE TARIFF
(with effect from 14 December 2015)

CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982

Taxi and Private Hire Car Fares

For 1 or 2 passengers	Tariff 1	Tariff 2	Tariff 3	Tariff 4
For the initial hire not exceeding 339m For the initial period of waiting time of 60 seconds For a combination of time and distance	£2.20	£2.70	£3.80	£4.00
For each additional 168.3m For each additional 30 seconds of waiting time For a combination of additional time and distance	£0.20	£0.20	£0.35	£0.35

Monday to Friday	
Tariff 1 - Monday – Friday 6am – 6pm	Tariff 2 - 6pm to 6am and, at weekends, from 6am on Saturday to 6am Monday

Christmas and New Year – Between 6pm on 24 December and 6am on 27 December and 6pm on 31 December and 6am on 3 January	
Tariff 3 – Monday – Friday 6 am - 6pm	Tariff 4 - 6pm to 6am and, at weekends, from 6am on Saturday to 6am on Monday

Only 2 children under 12 years will be reckoned as one passenger. No extra fare will be charged for one child under 5 years. Each passenger must be properly seated.

Extra Payments	
When more than 2 passengers - £0.20 each Cleaning Fee -Travel Sickness - £20.00 Credit/Debit card payments - £1.00	Pre-bookings – Call Out Charge – £0.60 Cancellation Fee - £2.00

NOTES:

- 1 Fares applicable only in Midlothian.
- 2 Any hire which terminates outwith Midlothian – fare by agreement before journey commences.
- 3 Approved by General Purposes Committee, Midlothian Council on 13 November 2012.
- 4 Copies of the Conditions and Regulations available for inspection at the Taxi Examination Centre, 33 Murrayburn Road, Edinburgh, Lothian and Borders Police, Divisional Headquarters, Newbattle Road, Dalkeith and Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith.¹⁴

THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL
CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982

FARE TABLE FOR TAXIS

With effect from 13 November 2016

FOR UP TO 2 PASSENGERS

TARIFF 1 Monday - Friday 6am – 6pm	TARIFF 2 Monday - Friday 6pm – 6am the following day 6am Saturday – 6am Monday
TARIFF 3 Monday - Friday 6am – 6pm during Christmas and New Year	TARIFF 4 Monday - Friday 6pm – 6am the following day 6am on Saturday – 6am Monday during Christmas and New Year
CHRISTMAS	6pm on 24 December to 6am on 27 December
NEW YEAR	6pm on 31 December to midnight on 2 January

CHARGES	TARIFF 1	TARIFF 2	TARIFF 3	TARIFF 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Initial hire not exceeding 516m ▪ Initial 105 seconds of waiting time ▪ Combination of initial time and distance 	£2.10	£3.10	£3.10	£4.10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Each additional 184m up until 1988m and thereafter each additional 213m ▪ Each additional 39 seconds of waiting time ▪ Combination of additional time and distance 	£0.25	£0.25	£0.35	£0.45

EXTRA PAYMENTS

When more than 2 passengers	Each	£0.20
Note: Only 2 children under 12 years will be reckoned as one passenger. No extra fare will be charged for one child under 5 years of age.		
Each Passenger must be properly seated		
Hires ending at Edinburgh Airport Inner Drop-off Zone (See Note 4 below)	£1.00	
Call Out Charge Applicable when pre-booked	£0.80	Airport Pickup For hires commencing at Edinburgh airport
Cancellation Fee Applicable when taxi is pre-booked but not used	£2.20	Payment Of Fare By Credit/Debit Card Extra applicable when fare paid by the above means
Cleaning Fee Applicable when taxi is soiled (by travel sickness)	£50.00	

NOTES

- (1) The above Tariff is applicable only within the City of Edinburgh.
- (2) Any hire which terminates outside the City of Edinburgh area – FARE MUST BE NEGOTIATED AND AGREED WITH DRIVER BEFORE THE JOURNEY COMMENCES.
- (3) A copy of the Licensing Conditions can be inspected at the Council's Licensing Offices, 249 High Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1YJ and downloaded from www.edinburgh.gov.uk
- (4) The Airport Extra is only payable if passenger is dropped off in the covered inner drop-off zone at Edinburgh Airport and the driver has explained to the passenger before the start of the journey - (1) He will take the passenger to the drop off point just beside the airport terminal and that there is a £1 extra for this. (2) If the passenger states he is disabled, the £1 extra still has to be paid, but the driver understands that the passenger can reclaim this from the airport at the drop-off point. (3) If the passenger wishes to avoid the £1 extra, he can be taken to an outer drop-off point. However, this is further from the airport terminal, involves the use of a free shuttle bus and will require more time for the passenger to get to the airport terminal.

COMPLAINTS

Any hirer aggrieved at the level of the fare charged for any hire or for any other reason may discuss the matter with the Taxi Licensing Officer (0131 529 4250). Any complaint must be made in writing and addressed to the Complaints Officer, Licensing Section, The City of Edinburgh Council, 249 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1YJ, and should include the vehicle's licence number and time and date of the incident.

**CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982
TAXI FARE STRUCTURE
MAXIMUM FARE LEVELS**

Notice is hereby given that in terms of Section 18(9) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, the Taxi Fare levels with effect from 10 October 2016 are as follows:-

<u>SOCIAL HOURS</u>	<u>No. of PASSENGERS</u>	
	1 to 4	5 to 8
Initial Hire	£2.25	£3.40
Each 100.5 yards (approx. 93.60 metres) or part thereof	£0.10	£0.15
<u>Waiting Time</u>		
After 60 seconds each 35 seconds	£0.10	£0.15
<u>Valeting/Customer Misuse</u>		
Car valeting charge for customer misuse:	£70.00	
<u>UNSOCIAL HOURS</u>		
(a) In addition to social hours from 10.00pm to 6.00am	+25%	+25%
(b) Festive Season:-		
Between 6.00pm on 24 December until 6.00am on 27 December and between 6.00pm on 31 December until 6.00am on 3 January		
Initial Hire	£3.35	£4.95
Each 100.5 yards (approx. 93.60 metres) or part thereof	£0.15	£0.25
<u>Waiting Time</u>		
After 60 seconds each 35 seconds	£0.15	£0.25

B. FRATER
Service Director Regulatory Services

THIS NOTICE
IS IN YOUR VEHICLE
WHERE IT
IS BY THE F