

REPORT TO: Licensing Sub-Committee

MEETING DATE: 14 March 2019

BY: Depute Chief Executive (Resources and People Services)

SUBJECT: Taxi Fare Review

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To (1) advise the Licensing Sub Committee on the outcome of the newspaper advertisement of the scale of taxi fares and charges proposed by the East Lothian Taxi & Private Hire Operators and (2) to seek approval to advertise the approved scales in the local newspaper.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To consider the advertised scale of Taxi fares and charges and if approved to fix same.
- 2.2 To note that the scale of the taxi fares and charges, as may be fixed by the Licensing Authority is to be given to the East Lothian Taxi & Private Hire operators (by virtue of Section 17 (4D) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.)
- 2.3 To approve that the new rates become operative from 3 June 2019.
- 2.4 To approve advertising of the approved scales in the local newspaper.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Following the decision of the Licensing Sub-Committee on 10 January 2019, the Licensing Authority advertised the scale of taxi fares and charges (as proposed by the East Lothian Taxi & Private Hire operators). The advert was placed in the East Lothian Courier, dated 17 January 2019. Any representations were due by the 18 February 2019. No representations have been received.
- 3.2 The Licensing Sub Committee is now in a position to fix the scale of Taxi Fares and Charges, given that no representations have been received. The proposed scale of fares and charges, as advertised, is attached hereto as Appendix 1. Following the fixing of the new scale of taxi fares and charges, the Licensing authority are required to give notice to the

East Lothian Taxi & Private Hire operators (by virtue of Section 17 (4D) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

- 3.3 Section 18(1) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 provides that any person who operates a taxi for which scales have been fixed, may appeal these scales to the traffic commissioner within 14 days. If an appeal is lodged, the introduction of the new fee tariff is suspended until the traffic commissioner has issued his decision.
- 3.4 Given the requirement to notify, allow time for appeals, advertise in the local newspaper and to recalibrate the taxi meters to the new rates, it is suggested that the new rates become operative in June 2019.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None. In fixing a scale of fares and other charges, the 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 Report to Licensing Sub-Committee of 10 January 2019

AUTHOR'S NAME	Ian Forrest
DESIGNATION	Senior Solicitor
CONTACT INFO	x 7389
DATE	4 March 2019

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

Notice is hereby given that East Lothian Council intends to review the taxi fare scales applicable in East Lothian (which if implemented will be for a period of 18 months).

The East Lothian Taxi & Private Hire Operators have proposed the fare structure set out below. The proposals will be considered at a future meeting of the Council's Licensing Sub-Committee. Any person may lodge representations in writing with respect to the proposals to the Department noted below no later than Monday 18th February 2019.

The Current Taxi Fare Table can 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

17th January 2019

PROPOSED FARE STRUCTURE

For 1 to 8 Passengers	TARIFF 1 6am – 6pm	TARIFF 2 6pm- 6am	TARIFF 3
1. For the initial period of waiting and 2. For the initial hire not exceeding 713.70 yards	£3.00	£4.00	£5.00 1. 6pm on 24 th December until 6am on 27 th December 2. 6pm on 31 st December until 6am on 2 nd January
1. For each additional 40 seconds of waiting time 2. For every additional 146.5 yards 3. Or a combination of 1 and 2 above	20p	20p	

EXTRA PAYMENTS

- Car valeting charge for customer misuse - £100

NOTES

- The above fares are applicable only within East Lothian