

**REPORT TO:** Licensing Sub-Committee

**MEETING DATE:** 9 June 2022

**BY:** Head of Corporate Support

**SUBJECT:** Taxi Fare Review

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## **1 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To allow the Licensing Sub-Committee to consider the review of the scale of the fares or other charges currently in operation in respect of the East Lothian taxi fleet.

## **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **2.1 That the Sub-Committee:**

- a) complete the review of taxi fares by resolving to keep fares at their current levels, given the lack of any proposals for an increase from the trade;
- b) decide a date on which the confirmed tariff will come into effect; and
- c) 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 March to May 2020, (Appendix 1 – existing tariff), with the fares being adopted on 8 February 2021 meaning that the next review has to be in place no later than August 2022 in order to comply with the statutory timescales.
- 3.2 To ensure compliance with this timescale, the review was initiated by way of consultation with the taxi trade in East Lothian regarding any proposals they may have with regard to the review of taxi fares. That consultation ran from 10 January to 21 February 2022. There were no responses or proposals received to alter the current fee structure. The Sub-Committee

are entitled to complete the review of fares with the decision being to make no changes to the current levels.

- 3.3 As part of the review of taxi fares, the Licensing Team has also consulted with other Licensing Authorities, namely, West Lothian, City of Edinburgh and Scottish Borders about their current scale of fares and other charges. A summary of their charges can be found at Appendix 2.
- 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. Said notice must also specify the date on which it is proposed that the tariff shall take effect, which must take account of the period for representations and for appeals to the Traffic Commissioners. It is therefore suggested that the proposed date of coming into effect should be 6 weeks after the date of advertising. Following the coming into effect of the tariff, there would be a further notice published confirming that the new tariff is now in effect.
- 3.5 In the absence of any proposals for change, it is proposed that the Sub-Committee complete the review of taxi fares by formally re-adopting the current tariff (Appendix 1) for the following 18 month period.

#### **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 INTEGRATED 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 Appendix 1 – Existing tariff
- 7.2 Appendix 2 – Consultations with other licensing authorities

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<b>DATE</b>	9.5.22



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.

After consultation it was agreed there would be no change to the Tariff.

The Taxi Fare Table can be viewed on East Lothian Council's Website  
[www.eastlothian.gov.uk](http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk)

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21<sup>st</sup> January 2021

**FARE TABLE FOR TAXI CABS**

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 <sup>th</sup> December until 6am on 27 <sup>th</sup> December  2. 6pm on 31 <sup>st</sup> December until 6am on 2 <sup>nd</sup> 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	40p

EXTRA PAYMENTS

- Car valeting charge for customer misuse - £100

NOTES

- The above fares are applicable only within East Lothian



<b>East Lothian Council</b>		<b>Tariff 1 0600 – 1800</b>	<b>Tariff 2 1800 – 0600</b>	<b>Tariff 3 1800, 24 Dec to 0600, 27 Dec and 1800, 31 Dec to 0600, 2 January</b>		<b>Additional charges</b>
Initial period of waiting and initial hire < 713.70 yards	1 – 8 passengers	£3.00	£4.00	£5.00		Car valeting charge for customer misuse - £100.00
1. Each additional 40 seconds of waiting time 2. Every additional 146.5 yards 3. Combination of 1 and 2		£0.20	£0.20	£0.40		
<b>West Lothian Council</b>		<b>Tariff 1 Mon – Fri, 0600 - 1800</b>	<b>Tariff 2 Mon – Thur and Fri – Mon, 1800 - 0600</b>	<b>Tariff 3 2200, 24 Dec to 0500, 27 Dec and 2200, 31 Dec to 0600, 2 January</b>		
Initial period of waiting (43 secs) and initial hire < 190 yards	Up to 2 passengers	£2.60	£3.00	£3.90		Soiling - £40.00 Each additional adult (>12yrs) - £0.40 Each additional child (5 – 12 yrs) - £0.20 Each piece of luggage - £0.20 (max £0.40 per hire) Item or luggage requiring assistance of driver - £5.00 Cancellation - £2.60 Engagement - £0.60

1. Each additional 43 seconds of waiting time 2. Every additional 225 yards 3. Combination of 1 and 2		£0.20	£0.20	£0.30		
<b>Scottish Borders Council</b>		<b>Tariff 1 Social hours</b>	<b>Tariff 2 Unsocial hours (2200 – 0600)</b>	<b>Tariff 3 1800, 24 Dec to 0600, 27 Dec and 1800, 31 Dec to 0600, 3 January</b>		
Initial period of waiting (60 secs) and each < 96.78 yards	1 – 4 passengers	£2.35 £0.10	£2.95 £0.10	£3.45 £0.15 (<77.43 yards)		Car valeting charge for customer misuse - £70.00 Waiting time – every 35 secs after initial period - £0.10. (Tariff 3 - £0.15)
Initial period of waiting (60 secs) and each < 77.43 yards	5 – 8 passengers	£3.50 £0.15	£4.40 £0.15	£5.10 £0.25 (<77.43 yards)		Waiting time – every 35 secs after initial period - £0.15. (Tariff 3 - £0.25)
<b>City of Edinburgh Council</b>		<b>Tariff 1 Mon – Fri, 0600 – 1800</b>	<b>Tariff 2 Mon – Fri, 1800 – 0600 and Sat – Mon, 0600 - 0600</b>	<b>Tariff 3 Mon – Fri, 0600 – 1800 During Xmas &amp; NY period (1800, 24/12 to 0600, 27/12 and 1800, 31/12 to 0000, 02/01)</b>	<b>Tariff 4 Mon – Fri 1800 – 0600 All day if Xmas &amp; NY are a Sat or Sun</b>	
Initial period of waiting (105 secs) and	Up to 3 passengers	£3.00	£4.00	£4.00	£5.00	Soiling - £50.00 >3 passengers - £0.40 Engagement - £0.80



Initial hire < 501m						Cancellation - £2.20
1. Each additional 163m up to 1805m, thereafter each additional 190m. 2. Each additional 35 secs of waiting time. 3. Combination of 1 & 2		£0.25	£0.25			
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WLC, Scot Borders and CEC all charge different rates depending on the number of passengers.

ELC – What is the initial period of waiting / when does additional payments for waiting time kick in?

Check with Alan Kelley/Bruce Moffat/Colin Squance re logistics of introducing more criteria to fares e.g. additional passengers etc. What is the initial waiting time set at currently?

