

ANGUS COUNCIL

CIVIC LICENSING COMMITTEE – 15 NOVEMBER 2012

TAXI FARES REVIEW

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

ABSTRACT

This report relates to the proposed review of the taxi fare structure for Angus.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee:-

- (i) consider the options proposed by the taxi operators contained in Appendix 1 to this report;
- (ii) determine whether or not to adopt one of the proposed options or adopt an amended option and instruct the Director of Corporate Services to advertise the adopted option;
- (iii) delegate authority to the Head of Law and Administration to implement the adopted option as soon as possible, and in consultation with Tayside Police, in the event that no representations are received within one month of the date of advertising of the adopted option; and
- (iv) note that any recommended increase represents a maximum fare chargeable by taxi drivers and is not a compulsory fare.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 the local authority requires to review fares for the hire of taxis and for all other charges in connection with the hire of taxis. The last review was implemented on 30 August 2010.
- 2.2 The current review was initiated on 12 September 2012. All taxi operators licensed in Angus were written to and their proposals for any changes were requested to be received no later than Thursday 11 October 2010. Four proposals were received. Three were received timeously and they are shown in **Appendix 1** attached. One proposal was received late (on 24 October 2012) and is not referred to in this report. Changes to the current fare charges are highlighted in bold and the current figures are quoted in brackets.
- 2.3 **Appendix 2** has been prepared to provide members with an indication of the approximate percentage increases in respect of the options submitted. Sample journey lengths of 1, 3, 5, 10 and 15 miles have been used to calculate the percentage increases.
- 2.4 If the Committee determines to amend the current fare structure, then the proposed amended fare structure will require to be published in a newspaper circulating in this area. In publishing the proposed amended fare structure, the Council must:-
 - (i) set out the proposed amended fare structure,
 - (ii) explain the effect of the proposed amended fare structure,
 - (iii) propose a date on which the proposed amended fare structure are to come into effect; and

(iv) state that any person may make representations in writing until the relevant date.

2.5 The relevant date is a date specified by the licensing authority falling at least one month after the first publication by the authority of the proposed scales.

2.6 In the event that, following publication of the proposed amended fare structure, no representations are received within the period for representations to be made, then authority is sought to permit the Head of Law and Administration to implement the proposed amended fare structure in consultation with Tayside Police. Committee is asked to note that there is a requirement to test the metering arrangements of taxis to ensure that the meters are correctly aligned to the amended fare structure. This work is undertaken by Tayside Police on behalf of the Council and is a resource intensive exercise.

2.7 In the event that representations are received then a further report will be submitted to this Committee to consider those representations.

3. RISKS

This report does not require any specific risk issues to be addressed.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The proposed fare review will have no financial implications for the Council.

5. HUMAN RIGHTS

There are no human rights implications in connection with this report.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

The issues dealt with in this report have been the subject of consideration from an equalities perspective (as required by legislation). An equalities impact assessment is not required.

7. CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, Head of Finance and Head of Law and Administration have been consulted in connection with this report.

8. CONCLUSION

3 options have been proposed by operators in Angus and members are requested to adopt one of these or an amended option. The chosen option will then require to be published in a newspaper circulating in the area to invite representations.

**COLIN MCMAHON
DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES**

L&A/SCH/DT

NOTE: BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Consultation Letter to Taxi Operators dated 12 September 2012
2. Correspondence received from Forfar Taxis received 11 October 2012
3. Correspondence received from Bryan Forbes dated 5 October 2012.
4. Correspondence received from Forfar and Kirriemuir Taxi Operators Association dated 8 October 2012

APPENDIX 1 TO REPORT NO 671/12

SUBMITTED BY FORFAR AND KIRRIEMUIR TAXI OPERATORS ASSOCIATION

A -GENERAL

TARIFF ONE

Hirings begun between 6am and 6pm Monday to Friday inclusive (except Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, Hogmanay, New Years Day, and 2nd January.

- (A) If the distance does not exceed 1660 yards - for the whole distance - **£3.50** (£3.00)
- (B) If the distance exceeds 1660 yards :
 - (1) For the first 1660 yards - **£3.50** (£3.00)
 - (2) For each additional 100 yards or uncompleted part thereof – 10p
- (C) Waiting time - for each period of 15 seconds - 10p

TARIFF TWO

Hirings begun between 6pm and 6am Monday to Friday and from 6pm Friday till 6am Monday except Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, Hogmanay, New Years Day and 2nd January. This tariff is also applicable for hirings commenced between 6am and 6pm on Christmas Eve and Hogmanay.

- (A) If the distance does not exceed 1270 yards - for the whole distance - **£3.80** (£3.30)
- (B) If the distance exceeds 1270 yards :
 - (1) For the first 1270 yards - **£3.80** (£3.30)
 - (2) For each additional **80** (90) yards or uncompleted part thereof - 10p
- (C) Waiting time- for each period of 15 seconds – 10p

TARIFF THREE

Hirings begun between 6pm on Christmas Eve through to 6am on 27th December and from 6pm on Hogmanay through to 6am on 3rd January.

- (A) If the distance does not exceed 1320 yards - for the whole distance - **£5.00** (£4.50)
- (B) If the distance exceeds 1320 yards :
 - (1) For the first 1320 yards - **£5.00** (£4.50)
 - (2) For each additional **75** (85) yards or uncompleted part thereof - 10p
- (C) Waiting time-for each period of 10 seconds - 10p

TARIFF FOUR

(Only for larger type vehicles carrying five or more passengers at their own request) for hirings begun between 6pm on Christmas Eve through to 6am on 27th December and from 6pm on Hogmanay through to 6am on 3rd January.

- (A) If the distance does not exceed 1320 yards - for the whole distance - **£5.80** (£5.00)
- (B) If the distance exceeds 1320 yards:
 - (1) For the first 1320 yards - **£5.80** (£5.00)
 - (2) For each additional **70** (80) yards or uncompleted part thereof - 20p
- (C) Waiting time – for each period of 13 seconds – 20p

B - LARGE MINI-BUS TYPE VEHICLES

(Carrying five or more passengers together at their own request)

- (a) Where Tariff 1 would apply - Charge Tariff 2
- (b) Where Tariff 2 would apply - Charge Tariff 3
- (c) Where Tariff 3 would apply - Charge Tariff 4

C - ADDITIONAL CHARGES

1. Extras to be added on all tariffs 10p per case or object carried.
2. £60.00 to be levied in respect of passenger soiling a vehicle which results in the vehicle being taken out of service for any period of time.
3. Where a taxi is called but not used - normal fare to be charged according to distance as if the taxi had been occupied from the time it left the stance or garage.
4. Extras to be charged on all tariffs for each passenger after the first passenger 20p.

SUBMITTED BY B FORBES, CARNOUSTIE

A - GENERAL

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- (A) If the distance does not exceed 1660 yards - for the whole distance - **£3.30** (£3.00)
- (B) If the distance exceeds 1660 yards:
 - (1) For the first 1660 yards - **£3.30** (£3.00)
 - (2) For each additional 100 yards or uncompleted part thereof – 10p
- (C) Waiting time - for each period of 15 seconds - 10p

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- (A) If the distance does not exceed **1260** (1270) yards - for the whole distance - **£3.60** (£3.30)
- (B) If the distance exceeds **1260** (1270) yards :
 - (1) For the first **1260** (1270) yards - **£3.60** (£3.30)
 - (2) For each additional 90 yards or uncompleted part thereof - 10p
- (C) Waiting time- for each period of 15 seconds – 10p

TARIFF THREE

Hirings begun between 6pm on Christmas Eve through to 6am on 27th December and from 6pm on Hogmanay through to 6am on 3rd January.

- (A) If the distance does not exceed 1320 yards - for the whole distance - £4.50
- (B) If the distance exceeds 1320 yards :
 - (1) For the first 1320 yards - £4.50
 - (2) For each additional 85 yards or uncompleted part thereof - 10p
- (C) Waiting time-for each period of 10 seconds - 10p

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- (A) If the distance does not exceed 1320 yards - for the whole distance - £5.00
- (B) If the distance exceeds 1320 yards :
 - (1) For the first 1320 yards - £5.00
 - (2) For each additional 80 yards or uncompleted part thereof - 20p
- (C) Waiting time – for each period of 13 seconds – 20p

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SUBMITTED BY W BOATH, FORFAR TAXIS

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APPENDIX 2 TO REPORT NO 671/12

Current Fare Structure

Journey	Tariff 1	Tariff 2	Tariff 3	Tariff 4
1 mile journey	3.10	3.90	5.00	6.10
3 mile journey	6.70	7.80	9.20	14.90
5 mile journey	10.20	11.70	13.30	23.70
10 mile journey	19.00	21.50	23.70	45.70
15 mile journey	27.80	31.30	34.00	67.70

Option 1

Journey	Tariff 1	%	Tariff 2	%	Tariff 3	%	Tariff 4	%	Average Increase
1 mile	3.60	16%	4.40	13%	5.60	12%	7.10	16%	14%
3 mile	7.20	7%	8.80	13%	10.30	12%	17.10	15%	12%
5 mile	10.70	5%	13.20	13%	15.00	13%	27.20	15%	11%
10 mile	19.50	3%	24.20	13%	26.80	13%	52.30	14%	11%
15 mile	28.30	2%	35.20	12%	38.50	13%	77.50	14%	10%
Average Increase		7%		13%		13%		15%	12%

Option 2

Journey	Tariff 1	%	Tariff 2	%	Tariff 3	%	Tariff 4	%	Average Increase
1 mile	3.40	10%	4.20	8%	5.00	0%	6.10	0%	4%
3 mile	7.00	4%	8.10	4%	9.20	0%	14.90	0%	2%
5 mile	10.50	3%	12.00	3%	13.30	0%	23.70	0%	1%
10 mile	19.30	2%	21.80	1%	23.70	0%	45.70	0%	1%
15 mile	28.00	1%	31.60	1%	34.00	0%	67.70	0%	0%
Average Increase		4%		3%		0%		0%	2%

Option 3

	Tariff 1	%	Tariff 2	%	Tariff 3	%	Tariff 4	%	Average Increase
1 mile	3.40	10%	4.10	5%	5.40	8%	7.10	16%	10%
3 mile	7.30	9%	8.50	9%	10.50	14%	17.10	15%	12%
5 mile	11.20	10%	12.90	10%	15.50	17%	27.20	15%	13%
10 mile	21.00	11%	23.90	11%	28.10	19%	52.30	14%	14%
15 mile	30.80	11%	34.90	12%	40.70	20%	77.50	14%	14%
Average Increase		10%		9%		15%		15%	12%