

## ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

---

<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Licensing Committee
<b>DATE</b>	10 November 2020
<b>EXEMPT</b>	No
<b>CONFIDENTIAL</b>	No
<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	Taxi Fare Review
<b>REPORT NUMBER</b>	COM/20/187
<b>DIRECTOR</b>	N/A
<b>CHIEF OFFICER</b>	Fraser Bell
<b>REPORT AUTHOR</b>	Karen Gatherum
<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE</b>	17.3

---

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. To present the outcome of the representations to the proposed taxi tariff scales as advertised in accordance with statutory requirements.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee:

- 2.1. notes the content of the report and that there were no representations made by members of the taxi trade or the public to the consultation;
- 2.2. Agrees to the current basic tariff and to increase surcharge 8 tariff by £1.00 to a charge of £3.00;
- 2.4 approves the Tariff Card attached at Appendix 1 and instructs the Chief Officer – Governance to provide written notice to all taxi licence holders of the new tariff and their right of appeal; and
- 2.5. agrees that the tariff will take effect from 30 November 2020, provided no appeal is lodged with the Traffic Commissioner.

### 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 As required by the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, an advert was published in a newspaper circulating locally, namely the Evening Express. Members of the public and trade were invited to submit representations in writing by Wednesday 07 October 2020. The date for lodging representations has now passed and no response was received in respect of the proposals.
- 3.2. If the Committee agrees, the proposed fares and surcharge will take effect on 30 November 2020. This will allow officers to complete the statutory procedures.

- 3.3. The Council as the licensing authority for taxis is required to review and fix scales for fares and any other charges.
- 3.4. At its meeting on 29 October 2019, the Licensing Committee proposed Agrees to the current basic tariff and to increase surcharge 8 tariff by £1.00 to a charge of £3.00.

#### 4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. The approval of the recommendations will require:
- 4.1.2. After fixing the new scales, the licensing authority must give notice to all taxi licence holders and the persons and organisations consulted during the review, setting out and explaining the effect to the scales fixed, the date they are to come into effect and their rights of appeal to the Traffic Commissioner.
- 4.1.3. Copies of the new Taxi Tariff Card are required to be produced and issued to all taxi and private hire licence holders to be displayed in their vehicles, approximately 1,230 and this will be funded from the Taxi licensing budget.
- 4.1.4. Staff costs of implementing the fare review.
- 4.1.5. There will, therefore, be a financial cost to the Licensing Team, Governance in producing and issuing the above documentation. These costs will be approximately £500. The expenditure in the Taxi Licensing budget is met from the income raised through Taxi Licensing.

#### 5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. In terms of Section 17 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 the Council, as the licensing authority for taxis is obliged to review and fix the maximum scale of fares and surcharges so that they take effect within 18 months beginning with the date on which the previous scales came into effect.
- 5.2. Operators of taxis or any person or organisation appearing to the Traffic Commissioner to be a representative of such taxi operators can appeal against any decision the Local Authority makes in respect of fixing fares and surcharges. Any appeal is made to the Traffic Commissioner for the Scottish Traffic Area within 14 days of notice being given by the Licensing Authority.

#### 6. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

Category	Risk	Low (L) Medium (M) High (H)	Mitigation
<b>Strategic Risk</b>	There is no strategic risk attached to the recommendations of this report	L	

<b>Compliance</b>	There is a legal risk if Aberdeen City Council does not comply with legislation	L	To ensure that the Committee approve the fare review within the statutory time scales.
<b>Operational</b>	There is no operational risk arising from the recommendations of this report	L	
<b>Financial</b>	There is no financial risk to Aberdeen City Council arising from the recommendations of this report		
<b>Reputational</b>	As a licensing authority there would be a reputational risk to the Council if it failed to undertake its legal obligation and not carry out the review.	M	As this report is fixing the fares within the statutory time period any risk is mitigated.
<b>Environment / Climate</b>	There are no environmental or climate risks arising from the recommendations of this report	L	

## 7. OUTCOMES

<b><u>COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN</u></b>	
	<b>Impact of Report</b>
<b>Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement</b>	<b><i>The proposals in this report have no impact on the Council Delivery Plan.</i></b>
<b>Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan</b>	
<b>Prosperous Economy Stretch Outcomes</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the Council Delivery Plan.
<b>Prosperous People Stretch Outcomes</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the Council Delivery Plan.
<b>Prosperous Place Stretch Outcomes</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the Council Delivery Plan.

<b>Regional and City Strategies</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the Council Delivery Plan.
<b>UK and Scottish Legislative and Policy Programmes</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the Council Delivery Plan.

## 8. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Impact Assessment	Full impact assessment not required
Data Protection Impact Assessment	not required

## 9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

N/A

## 10. APPENDICES

Appendix 1- the current taxi fare tariff  
Appendix 2- the proposed taxi fare tariff

## 11. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

<b>Name</b>	Karen Gatherum
<b>Title</b>	Trainee Solicitor
<b>Email Address</b>	kgatherum@aberdeencity.gov.uk
<b>Tel</b>	01224522462