

CIVIC LICENSING COMMITTEE – 6 AUGUST 2015

TAXI FARES REVIEW

REPORT BY THE HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

ABSTRACT

It is recommended that the Committee agree to commence the process of reviewing the taxi fares fixed for the Angus local authority area as required by Section 17 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee agree to commence the process of reviewing the taxi fares fixed for the Angus local authority area as required by Section 17 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

2. BACKGROUND

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 7 August 2014 when this Committee agreed not to increase the taxi fares at that time.

If the Committee is minded to agree the recommendation then all taxi operators licensed in Angus will be written to and asked their proposals for any changes. Operators will be given one calendar month to respond.

Thereafter, a further report will be submitted to this Committee advising of the proposals received and giving an indication of the approximate percentage increases of the proposals submitted using sample journey lengths.

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.

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.

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 will be sought to permit the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to implement the proposed amended fare structure. 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.

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

Committee is asked to note that any decision taken by the Committee will be intimated to taxi operators who will be afforded an opportunity to appeal any decision taken by Committee to the Traffic Commissioners for the Scottish Traffic Area.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

4. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no Human Rights issues arising directly from this report.

NOTE: No background papers as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing this report.

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