

ANGUS COUNCIL

CIVIC LICENSING COMMITTEE – 7 JANUARY 2016

TAXI FARE REVIEW

REPORT BY SHEONA C HUNTER HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

ABSTRACT

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

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee;-

- (i) considers the taxi fare review options contained in Appendix 1 to this report;
- (ii) determines whether or not to adopt one of the proposed options or adopt an amended option and instruct the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to advertise the adopted option;
- (iii) delegates authority to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to implement the adopted option as soon as possible, in consultation with Police Scotland in the event that no representations are received within one month of the date of advertising of the adoption option; and
- (iv) notes that any recommended increase represents the maximum fare chargeable by taxi drivers and is not a compulsory fare.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN/SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT/CORPORATE PLAN

This report aligns with the Local Outcome – Communities that are prosperous and fair.

We have a sustainable economy with good employment opportunities

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1. In terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, the local authority requires to complete a review of fares for the hire of taxis and for all other charges in connection with the hire of taxis, within 18 months of the last review. The last review was implemented on 8 September 2014.
- 3.2. The current review was initiated on 29 September 2015. All taxi operators licensed in Angus were written to and their proposals for any changes were requested no later than 9th November 2015. Two proposals were received and they are shown in the Appendices attached. The Committee will see that the proposals represent no change in the current fares charges or an increase of around 11% for tariff 1.
- 3.3. 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, 2, 3, 5, 10 and 15 miles have been used to calculate the percentage increases.

- 3.4. If the Committee determines to amend the current fare structure, then the proposed amended fare structure will be published in the "Courier". 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 is to come into effect; and
 - (iv) state that any person may make representations in writing until the relevant date.
- 3.5. 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.
- 3.6. 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 Legal and Democratic Services to implement the proposed amended fare structure in consultation with Police Scotland. The Committee is asked to note that there is a requirement to test the metering arrangements of taxis to ensure that the meters are correctly calibrated to the amended fare structure. This work is undertaken by Dundee City Council on behalf of the Council and is a resource intensive exercise.
- 3.7. In the event that representations to the proposed taxi fare review are received then a further report will be submitted to this Committee to consider those representations.

4. CONCLUSIONS

Committee is asked to note the responses obtained arising from the consultation exercise undertaken with taxi operators. Committee is also asked to determine whether or not to adopt one of the proposed options or adopt an amended option and instruct the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to advertise the adopted option.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There will be no financial implications arising from this report.

NOTE: Background papers

1. Consultation letter to Taxi Operators dated 15 April 2014.
2. Correspondence received from Taxi Operators as shown in Appendix 2.

REPORT AUTHOR: Nannette Page, Senior Solicitor

EMAIL DETAILS: LEGDEM@angus.gov.uk

CIVIC LICENSING COMMITTEE – 7 JANUARY 2016

OPTION 1 – NO CHANGE IN FARES AS SUBMITTED BY SCOTT McINTYRE, BRIAN'S TAXIS, DUNCAN MACKENZIE, PHILLIP POWILL, COLIN WATT, WILMA REID, THOMAS KEIRNAN, MICHAEL JOHNSTON & MARK SMITH

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 2 January).

- (A) If the distance does not exceed 1660 yards – for the whole distance - £3.30
- (B) If the distance exceeds 1660 yards:
 - (1) For the first 1660 yards - £3.30
 - (2) For each additional 90 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 2 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 1260 yards – for the whole distance - £3.50
- (B) If the distance exceeds 1260 yards:
 - (1) For the first 1260 yards -£3.50
 - (2) For each additional 80 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 27 December and from 6pm on Hogmanay through to 6am on 3 January.

- (A) If the distance does not exceed 1320 yards – for the whole distance –£4.80
- (B) If the distance exceeds 1320 yards:
 - (1) For the first 1320 yards - £4.80
 - (2) For each additional 70 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 27 December and from 6pm on Hogmanay through to 6am on 3 January.

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

TARIFF FIVE (only to be used for meter calibration purposes and must not be used for the charging of fares)

- (A) If the distance does not exceed 704 yards – £3.02
- (B) If the distance exceeds 704 yards:
 - (1) For the first 704 yards - £3.02
 - (2) For each additional 176 yards – 16p
 - (C) Waiting time – for each period of 42 seconds – 16p

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 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

OPTION 2 SUBMITTED BY MITCHELL MURRAY

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 2 January).

- (A) If the distance does not exceed **1560** (1660) yards – for the whole distance - **£3.60** (£3.30)
- (B) If the distance exceeds **1560** (1660) yards:
 - (1) For the first 1660 yards - **£3.60** (£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 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 2 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 **1160** (1260) yards – for the whole distance - **£3.80** (£3.50)
- (B) If the distance exceeds **1160** (1260) yards:
 - (1) For the first 1260 yards - **£3.80** (£3.50)
 - (2) For each additional 80 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 27 December and from 6pm on Hogmanay through to 6am on 3 January.

- (A) If the distance does not exceed 1320 yards – for the whole distance – **£5.00** (£4.80)
- (B) If the distance exceeds 1320 yards:
 - (1) For the first 1320 yards - **£5.00** (£4.80)
 - (2) For each additional 70 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 27 December and from 6pm on Hogmanay through to 6am on 3 January.

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

TARIFF FIVE (only to be used for meter calibration purposes and must not be used for the charging of fares)

- (A) If the distance does not exceed 704 yards – £3.02
- (B) If the distance exceeds 704 yards:
 - (1) For the first 704 yards - £3.02
 - (2) For each additional 176 yards – 16p
- (C) Waiting time – for each period of 42 seconds – 16p

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 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.

OPTION 1: PROPOSAL BY SCOTT McINTYRE, BRIAN'S TAXIS, DUNCAN MACKENZIE, PHILLIP POWILL, COLIN WATT, WILMA REID, THOMAS KEIRNAN, MICHAEL JOHNSTON & MARK SMITH TO RETAIN THE CURRENT FARE STRUCTURE

Journey distance (Miles)	Tariff 1	%	Tariff 2	%	Tariff 3	%	Tariff 4	%
1	£3.50	0	£4.20	0	£5.50	0%	£7.10	0
2	£5.40	0	£6.40	0	£8.00	0%	£12.10	0
3	£7.40	0	£8.60	0	£10.50	0%	£17.20	0
5	£11.30	0	£13.00	0	£15.50	0%	£27.20	0
10	£21.10	0	£24.00	0	£28.10	0%	£52.40	0
15	£30.80	0	£35.00	0	£40.70	0%	£77.50	0

OPTION 2: PROPOSAL BY MITCHELL MURRAY

Journey distance (Miles)	Tariff 1	%	Tariff 2	%	Tariff 3	%	Tariff 4	%
1	£3.90	11%	£4.60	10%	£5.70	4%	£7.10	0%
2	£6.10	13%	£6.80	6%	£8.20	2%	£12.10	0%
3	£8.30	12%	£9.00	5%	£10.70	3%	£17.20	0%
5	£12.70	12%	£13.40	3%	£15.70	1%	£27.20	0%
10	£23.70	12%	£24.40	2%	£28.30	1%	£52.40	0%
15	£34.70	13%	£35.40	1%	£40.90	0%	£77.50	0%