

Report

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Report to:	Licensing Committee (Special)
Date of Meeting:	14 December 2011
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

Subject:	Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 Licensing of Taxis – Review of Taxi Fares
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- further progress the fares review in the East Kilbride zone of South Lanarkshire.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that consideration be given to the letter of objection dated 23 November 2011, received from East Kilbride Taxi Owners' Association, to the proposals agreed at the Licensing Committee held on 2 November 2011 to proceed with the fares review on the basis that no fares increase be approved for the East Kilbride zone of South Lanarkshire.

3. Background

3.1. In terms of Section 17 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, the Council must review taxi fares every 18 months. The previous review took effect from mid 2010.

4. Present Position

4.1. At its meeting held on 2 November 2011, the Committee agreed to progress the fares review in the East Kilbride zone of South Lanarkshire on the basis that there would be no increase to the fares tariff. In terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, once such a proposal has been made by the Committee, this has to be advertised in the press for a period of one month to enable representations to be lodged in writing with respect to the proposals.

5. Representations Received

5.1. Written representations dated 23 November 2011 have been received from the East Kilbride Taxi Owners' Association who represent the majority of taxi operators in East Kilbride. The Association argue that the fares review should allow for differences in each area rather than assuming that a solution which is best suited to one area should be mirrored in all areas. The Association also state that taxi operators should be entitled to charge fares which reflect the costs of running a taxi, including provision of vehicles, insurance and fuel prices.

5.2. Committee must consider any representations duly lodged with them and thereafter give notice in writing of their decision to the Association.

6. Employee Implications

6.1. None.

7. Financial Implications

7.1. None.

8 Other Implications

8.1. The risk to the Council is that it fails to fulfil its duty to protect the public. There are no apparent implications in terms of sustainable development.

8..2 The Association may appeal to the Traffic Commissioner.

9 Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

9.1. There is no requirement to carry out an impact assessment in terms of the proposals contained within this report.

9.2. Consultation with the trade has been further carried out on the basis that an advertisement has been placed in the press for a period of one month to enable representations to be received.

Paul Manning

Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

25 November 2011

Link(s) to Council Objectives and Values

◆ Improve Community Safety

Previous References

◆ None

List of Background Papers

◆ Letter from East Kilbride Taxi Owners Association dated 23 November 2011

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982

Licensing of Taxis

Fares Review 2011

Zone	Present Position	Proposed Increase
East Kilbride	£5.20 per 2 mile hire	30p, bringing the 2 mile hire to £5.50. In addition, East Kilbride seek an additional fee of 20p added onto the unsociable hours between 10.00pm and 5.00am on Friday into Saturday and Saturday into Sunday (currently a 60p surcharge is charged. If agreed, surcharge would be increased to 80p).