

# Report

Report to:	<b>Licensing Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>9 August 2022</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (As Amended) - Licensing of Taxis – Review of Taxi Fares</b>
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ further progress the fares review process in the Cambuslang and Rutherglen and Hamilton zones of South Lanarkshire

## 2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) agree the proposals for the Cambuslang and Rutherglen zone to increase the cost of the average two mile hire from £5.60 to £6.60 and waiting time from £12 per hour to £15 per hour as detailed at Appendix 2; and
- (2) agree the proposals for the Hamilton zone to increase the cost of the average two mile hire from £5.60 to £6.00 and various other increases as detailed at Appendix 4.

## 3. Background

- 3.1. In terms of Section 17 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (as amended) by Section 174 of the Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010 Licensing Authorities must review taxi fares in their area every 18 months.
- 3.2. At its meeting held on 27 June 2013, the Licensing Committee agreed to calculate all future increases based on an agreed formula.
- 3.3. As members will be aware, even if there is no increase in the fares tariff, the formal review procedures require to be commenced.

## 4. Present Position

- 4.1. At its meeting on 22 February 2022 this Committee agreed that, subject to any representations received, the fares review for the Cambuslang and Rutherglen and Hamilton zones would take place on the basis that there would be no increase in the current tariffs.
- 4.2. At its meeting held on 14 June 2022 this Committee agreed to further consultation with the taxi trade in the Cambuslang and Rutherglen and Hamilton zones after considering representations received from taxi operators in the Hamilton zone. All taxi operators in these zones were again written to seeking their views on any proposed increases in the fares tariff.

- 4.2. Proposals received in respect of the Cambuslang and Rutherglen zone are detailed in Appendix 1. These proposals are shown on the fares tariff card in Appendix 2.
- 4.3. Proposals received in respect of the Hamilton zone are detailed in Appendix 3. By way of a petition the majority of the taxi trade are requesting an increase of 40p on the flagfall to bring the cost of the average two mile hire from £5.20 to £5.60 and an increase from 60p to £1.20 on the surcharge between 10.00pm and 5.00am. Various other suggested increases have been shown on Appendix 4.
- 4.4. The proposed Cambuslang and Rutherglen, Clydesdale, East Kilbride and Hamilton fares reviews have been advertised in the press and on the Council's website in accordance with the legislation and no responses from members of the public were received. Representations were received from taxi operators in the Hamilton zone.
- 5. Employee Implications**
  - 5.1. None.
- 6. Financial Implications**
  - 6.1. The cost of Appeal to the Traffic Commissioner if the decision of the Council is appealed.
- 7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**
  - 7.1. No assessment of the impact on the environment has been made as the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (as amended) does not allow us to take this into account when determining applications and therefore we would not propose to take this into account in dealing with the statutory review of taxi fares.
- 8. Other Implications**
  - 8.1. The risk to the Council is that it fails to fulfil its duty to protect the public.
- 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 was initially carried out with the taxi trade to ascertain views on whether or not they are seeking an increase in taxi fares this year. Adverts were then placed in the press and on the Council's website outlining the proposals for each of the zones giving a period of one month to enable anyone to comment on or object to the proposed changes to the fares tariffs.

**Paul Manning**  
**Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)**

21 July 2022

#### **Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities/Outcomes**

- ◆ Focused on people and their needs

#### **Previous References**

- ◆ Licensing Committee, 22 February 2022
- ◆ Licensing Committee, 14 June 2022

## **List of Background Papers**

◆ None

## **Contact for Further Information**

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

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**Responses received in relation to the Cambuslang and Rutherglen Fares Review**

Licence number	Comments
320	Increase and would like to propose a £1.00p increase on the present flagfall of £2.90p which has been the same for three years since our last fare increase. I would also propose that the waiting time which has been static for countless years be increased from £12.00 per hour to £16.00 per hour. As you will no doubt be aware fuel has risen in that time by over 80% along with licence and test fees, council tax, mortgage rates, insurance and car maintenance and repair costs, as well as astronomical rises in electricity and gas and everyday food costs. Considering all of the above points I feel my proposal is a very fair one
340	Minimum fare should start at £4.00 tariff 1, tariff 2 start £5.00 (after 10pm) Christmas fares generally could be worked out using Council guidelines at present

### Current Fares Tariff showing proposals (Cambuslang and Rutherglen Zone)

**HIRE of Taxi/Private Hire Car** (fitted with a taxi meter):-  
not exceeding 880 yards **£2.90 (Proposed: £3.90)**  
for the next NINE additional 293 yards or any part 30 pence  
thereafter each additional 264 yards or any part 20 pence  
(an average 2 mile hire of **£5.60 (Proposed: £6.60)**)

**BEYOND THE AREA OF CAMBUSLANG AND RUTHERGLEN ZONE** - subject to special agreement in advance with the hirer.

**FARES FOR WAITING TIME** – 20 pence for each period of 60 seconds or any part thereof (**£12 per hour**).  
(**Proposed: 25p per minute = £15 per hour**)

**FARES BY TIME** - subject to special agreement in advance with the hirer.

**NO FARE CHARGEABLE** - for vacant return journey of the taxi/private hire car from the destination of hirer.

**SOILAGE CHARGE** - the hirer will pay a soilage charge of £30 if the vehicle is soiled due to sickness caused by alcohol or drugs, any take-away spillage or any other fouling of the vehicle. It shall not be charged if the vehicle is soiled either due to a child being sick or due to genuine illness.

#### **SURCHARGES**

- (1) a surcharge of **60 pence** may be charged on all hires commenced **after 10 pm and before 5 am**.
- (2) a surcharge of **1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the normal metered fare** may be charged for each hire **from 6am on 24<sup>th</sup> December until 5am on 27<sup>th</sup> December and from 6am on 31<sup>st</sup> December until midnight on 2<sup>nd</sup> January**.
- (3) a surcharge, to be specially agreed in advance with the hirer, may be charged **for 5 or more passengers hiring a people carrier type car**.
- (4) a surcharge of **10 pence** may be charged **for each passenger beyond 2**.

## Responses received in relation to the Hamilton Fares Review

Licence Number(s)	Comments
101	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
102	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
106	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
107	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
108	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
109	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
110	I would like to increase the flag fall from £2.80 to £3.20 an increase of 40p and keep the running mile as it is. Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
111	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
112, 124, 126, 152, 195, 207, 211 and 216	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
113	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
114	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
115	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
118	Increase I would like the meter to start at least £3.50. Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
123	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
125	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
132	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
137	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
138	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
139	I would like to propose a 40p increase on our flag fall and a 10p increase on the running mile
140	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
141	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
142	<p>We have not had a price increase in 5 years and are faced with rapidly increasing costs in fuel maintenance and operating. I therefore propose that the flag fall increases from 2.80 to 3.40 with an additional 10p increase in the running mile from 1.60 to 1.70.</p> <p>Currently this would bring us closer to but still below the fares being charged by private hires in the local area.</p>

	Additionally I propose a review on the pricing structure being charged between the hours of 10pm and 5am both Friday and Saturday. As private hire companies are operating at a meter and a third during these hours
144	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
148	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
149	Increase the flag fall to go up 40p (£2.80 to £3.20) and after 10pm to £4 start and keep the running mile the same this would be the easiest way for an increase to be applied and would help very much with the rising fuel and running costs. Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
156	Increase at least £3:50 starting fare and a £1:60 running mile
157	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
159	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
165	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
168	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
169	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
172	Flag 40p night time 60p because of fuel increase. Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
174	Increase from £2.80 up to £3.20 then after 10pm £3.40 up to £4.00. Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
178	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
179	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
180	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
184	Increase in my view would be at present it is £2.80 during day time and £3.40 after 22hrs time. Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm. 05.00 am I would like to propose that the day time fare be increased to £3.40 and the night time fare increased from £3.40 to £4.00
185 and 234	See attached email dated 12 June 2022 and further comments as follows:-  South Lanarkshire's Public Hire Tariff remains one of the lowest out of all of the UK councils, the UK average currently stands at £7.35 for a two mile journey with other Scottish Councils all above South Lanarkshire in terms of tariff. E.g. East Ayrshire currently has their Tariff at £7.60 according to Private Hire and Taxi Magazine, that has increased by £1.60 this year.  Please find our proposed Public Hire Tariff on behalf of public hire operators based at Well-Man Cars:  Regular Tariff First mile (1760 yards) - £3.70 Every 117 yards after first mile - £0.10 Waiting Time (no standing waiting time) - £0.25 per minute Soilage Charge - £40 Example 2 miles = £5.20 (approx)

	<p>Weekend Premium Tariff (Thursday-Sunday, 11pm-5am)  First mile (1760 yards) - £4.80  Every 117 yards after first mile - £0.14  Waiting Time (no standing waiting time) - £0.25 per minute  Soilage Charge - £40  Example 2 miles = £6.85 (approx)</p> <p>(Please note on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and on New Year's Day regular tariff is doubled)</p> <p>Christmas/New Year Double Fare  First mile (1760 yards) - £7.00  Every 117 yards after first mile - £0.20  Waiting Time (no standing waiting time) - £0.25 per minute  Soilage Charge - £40  Example 2 miles = £10.00 (approx)</p> <p>These fare increases we feel would be in line with other councils across Scotland and the UK and is needed at this time.</p>
190	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
191	Would like 0.40p on the meter in the morning and 0.60p on the meter at night time. Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
193	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
199	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
200	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
202	Increase due to the rise in fuel prices. Please could we have 60 pence more on both day and night time flag falls. Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
206	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
209	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
210	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
212	<p>The UK average currently stands at £7.35 for a two mile journey with other Scottish councils all above South Lanarkshire in terms of tariff. E.G East Ayrshire currently has there tariff at £7.60 according to Private Hire and Taxi magazine, that has increased by £1.60 this year.  Please find our proposed Public hire tariff</p> <p>Regular Tariff  First Mile (1760yards) £3.50  Every 117 yards after first mile - £0.10  Waiting time (no standing waiting time) - £0.25 per minute  Soilage charge -£40  Example 2 miles = £5.00 (approx)</p> <p>Weekend Premium Tariff (Thursday-Sunday, 11pm-5am)  First mile (1760 yards)-£4.80  Every 117 yards after first mile- £0.14  Waiting time (no standing waiting time)-£0.25 per minute  Soilage charge -£40.00  Example 2 miles = £6.85 approx</p> <p>(Please note on Christmas day and boxing day and on New years day regular tariff is doubled)</p> <p>Christmas/New year's day</p>



	Double Fare First mile (1760yards)- £7.00 Every 117 yards after first mile £0.20 Waiting time (no standing waiting time)-£0.25 per minute Soilage charge £40 Example 2 miles = £10.00 approx These fare increase we feel would be in line with other councils across Scotland and the UK and is needed at this time
213	Increase £2.80 + 40p on flagfall then + extra 20p on running mile
214	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
215	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
220	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
221	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
223	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
224	Increase £3:50 during day and £4:00 after 10pm. Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
225	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
227	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
228	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
230	40 pence on the flag fall and 60 pence on the flag fall after 10pm
232	The flag fall up by 40p. Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
233	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm
236	Signed petition - Increase from £2.80 to £3.20 before 10am and from £3.40 to £4 after 10pm

**Current Fares Tariff showing proposals  
(Hamilton Zone)**

**HIRE of Taxi/Private Hire Car** (fitted with a taxi meter) –

Not exceeding 880 yards **£2.80 (Proposed: £3.20)**  
For each additional **220 yards or any part thereof 20 pence**  
(an average 2 mile hire of £5.20) **(Proposed: £5.60)**

**BEYOND THE AREA OF HAMILTON ZONE** - subject to special agreement in advance with the hirer.

**WAITING TIME** – 20p for each period of **60 seconds** or part thereof (**£12 per hour**). **(Proposed: 25p per minute = £15 per hour)**

**STOPPAGE(S) AT REQUEST OF HIRER** – 20p for each period of **60 seconds** or part thereof (**£12 per hour**).

**FARES BY TIME** - subject to special agreement in advance with the hirer.

**NO FARE CHARGEABLE** - for vacant return journey of taxi/private hire car from destination of hirer.

**SOILAGE CHARGE** - the hirer will pay a soilage charge of **£30 (Proposed: £40)** if the vehicle is soiled due to sickness caused by alcohol or drugs, any take-away spillage or any other fouling of the vehicle. It shall not be charged if the vehicle is soiled either due to a child being sick or due to genuine illness.

**SURCHARGES**

- (1) a surcharge of **60p (Proposed: £1.20)** may be charged for each hire begun between the hours of **10pm and 5 am**.
- (2) a surcharge of **1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the normal metered fare** may be charged for each hire **from 6am on 24<sup>th</sup> December until 5am on 27<sup>th</sup> December and from 6am on 31<sup>st</sup> December until midnight on 2<sup>nd</sup> January**.
- (3) a surcharge, to be specially agreed in advance with the hirer, may be charged **for 5 or more passengers hiring a people carrier type car**.