

---

<b>Report To:</b>	<b>GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>13 NOVEMBER 2019</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>HEAD OF LEGAL AND PROPERTY SERVICES</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>LP/135/19</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>LINDSAY CARRICK</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>01475 712114</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>TAXI FARES REVIEW 2019</b>		

---

## **1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to ask the Board to determine the taxi fare scale and charges following its annual review.

## **2.0 SUMMARY**

- 2.1 At the meeting on 11 September 2019, the Board following consideration of the papers before it, decided to adopt the scale of taxi fare and other charges set out in the note of tariff which forms Appendix 1 to this report.
- 2.2 Members are asked to note that the costings for the additional scales in each tariff are detailed as approximate and should not be seen as an essential part of the fare scales.
- 2.3 It should be noted, further, that the tariffs set out by the local authority are the maximum fares that may be charged by the operators of taxis within Inverclyde.
- 2.4 The proposed taxi fare scales were duly advertised and objections and representations were to be invited within the statutory period of one month following the date of advertising. No objections or representations have been received.

## **3.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 That the Board determine the taxi fare scale and charges following the annual review and that it be remitted to the Head of Legal & Property Services to make the necessary arrangements to implement the new taxi fare scales.

**Gerard Malone**  
**Head of Legal and Property Services**

## **4.0 BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 The Council as Licensing Authority is obliged to fix scales for the fares and other charges in its area in connection with the fare of a taxi. Fares require to be fixed within 18 months beginning with the date on which the scales came into effect.
- 4.2 The last Taxi Fares Review was carried out during 2018 with a revised Taxi Fare Scale being fixed, which came into effect on 18 November 2018.
- 4.3 The taxi trade were invited to submit their views on the taxi fares scales. The Board at its meeting on 11 September 2019 agreed to standardise the initial flag fall to 880 yards on Tariffs 1, 2 and 3; increase the initial flag fall by 5p on all tariffs; increase each additional yardage after initial flag fall by 31p; and to triple the fare increments as well as tripling the yardage.
- 4.4 The proposed scaled were advertised in the local press in order that representations may be made by 17 October 2019. No objections or representations were received.

## **5.0 IMPLICATIONS**

### **5.1 Finance**

After fixing the scales, copies of the new tariff card to be produced and issued to all taxi and private hire licence holders to be displayed in their vehicles, this will be funded from the licensing budget.

Staff costs of the fare review and meter calibration will be contained within Environmental and Public Protection existing approved budgets.

There will be a financial cost to the Licensing Team producing and issuing the above documentation. These costs will be met within existing licensing budgets.

### **5.2 Legal**

In terms of Section 17 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, the Council, as licensing authority, is obliged to review and fix the maximum sales of fares and surcharges so that they take effect within 18 months beginning with the date on which the previous scale came into effect.

Operators of taxis or any person or organisation to be a representative of such taxi operators can appeal to the Traffic Commissioner against any decision the Local Authority makes in respect of fixing fares and surcharges. Any appeal must be made to the Traffic Commissioner for the Scottish Traffic Area within 14 days of notice being given by the Licensing Authority.

### **5.3 Human Resources**

There are no Human Resources Implications.

## 5.4 Equalities

### Equalities

(a) Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES
X	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required

(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
X	NO

(c) Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
X	NO

## 5.5 Repopulation

There are no repopulation implications.

## 6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 The tariffs were advertised in the local press in order that representations may be made on the agreed proposal by a specified date at least one month from the date of the newspaper advertisement.

## 7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None

**INVERCLYDE COUNCIL****ITEM 2  
APPENDIX 1****Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982****NOTE OF TARIFF**

TARIFF 1	Hirings from ranks or "flag" hirings begun between 6am and 11pm	
	Initial charge (880 yards or part thereof)	£2.55
	Subsequent charge (each additional 294 yards or part thereof)	£0.31
	Approximate cost for first mile	£3.48
	Approximate cost for each additional mile	£1.86
TARIFF 2	Hirings from ranks or "flag" hirings begun between 11pm and 6am and all pre-booked hirings begun between 6am and 10pm	
	Initial charge (880 yards or part thereof)	£2.65
	Subsequent charge (each additional 285 yards or part thereof)	£0.31
	Approximate cost for first mile	£3.89
	Approximate cost for each additional mile	£2.17
TARIFF 3	Pre-booked hirings begun between 10pm and 6am and hirings from ranks or "flag" hirings on 13 April (Easter Monday), 4 May (May Day), 4 July (Fair Saturday) and 7 September (Autumn Holiday)	
	Initial charge (880 yards or part thereof)	£2.85
	Subsequent charge (each additional 249 yards or part thereof)	£0.31
	Approximate cost for first mile	£4.09
	Approximate cost for each additional mile	£2.48
TARIFF 4	Pre-booked hirings and hirings from ranks or "flag" hirings on 25 & 26 December and 1 & 2 January	
	Initial charge (first mile or part thereof)	£5.15
	Subsequent charge (each additional 249 yards or part thereof)	£0.31
	Approximate cost for first mile	£5.15
	Approximate cost for each additional mile	£2.48
EXTRAS	£1 per passenger after first four passengers	
WAITING TIME	For each period of 31 seconds or part thereof	£0.20
SOILING CHARGE	Charge dependent on severity up to a maximum of	£50.00
VAT	The foregoing charges are inclusive of VALUE Added Tax	

For the avoidance of doubt, a vehicle licensed for private hire which uses a taxi meter to charge for journeys is not permitted thereby to pick up hirings from a rank or any public place.