The Highland Licensing Committee

Meeting - 11 August 2015

| Agenda | 6 |
|--------|------------|
| Item | |
| Report | HLC/066/15 |
| No | |

Review of Taxi Tariff 2015

Report by the Legal Manager

Summary

This report provides the Committee with details of the responses received following public advertisement of the proposed revised scale of the maximum fares that can be charged by taxis and private hire cars fitted with taxi meters.

1.0 Background

- **1.1** At the meeting of the Highland Licensing Committee held on 12 May 2015, Members undertook a review of the current scale of maximum fares and charges for taxis and private hire cars fitted with taxi meters. The Committee agreed to propose the following draft changes to the tariff:
 - Increase the cost of the initial yardages for Tariff 1 by 20p. The effect of this would be a 20p increase on all Tariff 1 fares regardless of the distance travelled.
 - Increase the cost of the initial yardages for Tariffs 2 and 3 by 30p. The effect of this would be a 30p increase on all Tariff 2 and Tariff 3 fares regardless of the distance travelled.
 - The charge applied to compensate for the cost of the outward journey for hires which commence 5 miles (previously 3 miles) or more away from the taxi or taxi base (whichever is the nearer) and where the customer wishes to travel further to be increased from a maximum of £6.50 to a maximum of £8.00.
- **1.2** A copy of the current tariff is attached as Appendix 1 of the report.
- **1.3** A copy of the proposed tariff as agreed by the Committee on 12 May 2015 is attached in Appendix 2.
- **1.4** In accordance with the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, the proposed scale was advertised and responses requested to be submitted to the Council by 19 June 2015.

2.0 Representations received

- **2.1** The following representations have been received which are contained in Appendix 3:
 - Letter from Charles Cumming,
 Letter from Robert MacTaggart,
 Letter from Calum MacAulay,
 Letter from Khalid Al-Samarraie,
 Letter from Martin Burns,
 Letter from Chris Barclay,
 Letter from John Clark,
 E-mail from John MacKelliach
 - E-mail from Robbie Rowantree
 - E-mail from Joseph Lafferty
 - E-mail from Ana Young
 - E-mail from Fraser Cardow
- **2.2** A number of letters of representation in support of a higher increase to the one proposed by the Committee have also been received including 43 identical letters from those involved in the taxi trade. Attached in Appendix 4 is a copy of the letter together with a list of those who submitted identical ones.

3.0 Further Information

- **3.1** Appendix 5 attached provides details of the average motoring costs for the period 2011 to 2014 and percentage increases or decreases. These are drawn from motoring cost information published by the Automobile Association.
- **3.2** Appendix 6 details the cost of fares for other Scottish Local Authorities and provides a comparison with Highland.
- **3.3** Appendix 7 details the effect of the tariff proposed by the 43 letters submitted and detailed in Appendix 7.
- **3.4** Appendix 8 summarises the feedback received from the taxi/PHC trade at the meetings held in March 2015, which was considered by the Licensing Committee at its meeting held on 12 May 2015.
- **3.5** Appendix 9 illustrates, for the existing Tariff 1, year on year adjustments (since July 2011) for inflation using the Consumer Price Index.
- **3.6** Members will be aware that the taxi tariff only sets a maximum fare structure. Operators are entitled to charge any fare, provided it does not exceed the maximum provided for in the tariff.
- **3.7** The Council when fixing the tariff is exercising a balancing function between the legitimate expectations of taxi operators to earn sufficient income to make a living and the public expectation to be able to hire a taxi of reasonable quality at a reasonable cost.

4.0 Implementation

- **4.1** The next step in this process will be for the Committee to consider the representations received and all other information before it and thereafter agree a final tariff. In accordance with the Act, a letter will be sent to the Taxi Operators advising them of the outcome and of their right of Appeal to the Traffic Commissioners within 14 days of the date of the meeting. If no appeal is lodged an advert will be inserted in a local paper informing the public of the new tariff and its commencement date.
- **4.2** Should an appeal be submitted to the Traffic Commissioner this will have the effect of suspending the decision of the Council and the tariff will effectively be on hold, with the original tariff remaining in operation meantime.

5.0 Implementation Date

5.1 It is suggested that the implementation date be 28th September 2015. This is to ensure that the advert which requires to be placed in the press (at least 7 days prior to the tariff coming into effect) can be done following confirmation of no Appeal (if this is the case). It will also afford the taxi operators time in which to arrange for their meters to be recalibrated, if required.

6.0 Recommendation

6.1 The Committee are invited to:

- (i) consider the representations received following advertisement of the proposed tariff and thereafter agree a final tariff
- (ii) agree that any revised tariff will take effect from 28 September 2015, subject of any appeal being lodged as per 4.1 of the report.

Designation: Legal Manager (Regulatory Services)

Date: 29 July 2015

Author/Reference: Michael Elsey: 12/2/5

Appendix 1: Copy of current tariff.

- Appendix 2: Copy of proposed tariff as agreed by HLC on 12 May 2015
- Appendix 3: Copy of representations received.
- Appendix 4: Copy of representations received.

Appendix 5: Details of average cost of fuel in Highland

- Appendix 6: Details of fares for other Scottish Local Authorities
- Appendix 7: Note of proposed effect on existing tariff
- Appendix 8: Summary of responses
- Appendix 9: Year on year adjustments for inflation using Consumer Price Index

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

TAXI FARES

With effect from midnight 21st January 2013, the maximum fares will be as follows:-

<u>Tariff 1;</u>

| • For the first 785 yards or part | £2.50 |
|---|-------|
| For each additional 130 yards or part | .10p |

General effect – the price of a hire $\pounds 3.30$ for the first mile plus $\pounds 1.40p$ per mile thereafter plus extras*

Tariff 2: applies on Good Friday, Easter Monday and May Day and between 9.00pm and 7.00am on any day, all day on Saturday and Sunday and <u>when 5 or more</u> passengers are being carried at any time of any day or night, for example, by a "London" style taxi or by a "people carrier" or by a minibus, except where Tariff 3 applies.

| • For the first 560 yards or part | £3.00 |
|--|-------|
| For each additional 92 yards or part | .10p |

General effect - the price of a hire: £4.40 for the first mile plus £1.90 per mile thereafter plus extras*

Tariff 3: applies on Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Years Day and 2nd January. It also applies when 5 or more passengers are being carried between **9.00pm and 7.00am**, all day on Saturday and Sunday and on Good Friday, Easter Monday and May Day for example, by a "London" style taxi or by a "people carrier" or by a minibus.

| • For the first 444 yards or part | £3.60 |
|--|-------|
| • For each additional 74 yards or part | .10p |

General effect – the price of a hire: £5.40 for the first mile plus £2.40 per mile thereafter plus extras*

*Extra Charges

| Waiting time for first 2 minutes | 10p |
|---|-----|
| • For each additional period of 20 seconds or part thereafter | 10p |
| Booking ahead e.g. by telephone | 50p |
| A way building tollow of former above and any smaller blo | |

• Any bridge tolls or ferry charges, where applicable.

In addition, provision has been made for a supplementary booking charge of up to a maximum of $\pounds 6.50$ to compensate for the cost of the outward journey for hires which commence 3 miles or more away from the taxi or taxi base (whichever is the nearer) and the customer wishes to travel further away. This charge may only be demanded if the customer is informed of the amount of the charge at the time of booking.

When a taxi (or a private hire car fitted with a taxi meter) is called but not used, a charge shall be allowed as if it had been occupied from the time it left the stance or garage.

<u>Soiling Charge</u> – maximum of $\pounds 60.00$, payable by an offending passenger, where a vehicle requires to be removed from service for cleaning in order for it to be restored to a usable state and condition.

The fare demanded for the hire of a taxi (or a private hire car fitted with a taximeter) for a journey within the Council area <u>must</u> be no more than an amount according to the Council tariff which applies when the journey begins <u>and</u> should include any extra charges incurred.

IF YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS OR COMPLAINTS ABOUT THIS TAXI OR THE DRIVER PLEASE CALL THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL ON

 $0845\ 600\ 4\ 222\ \text{calls will be charged at a local-call rate}$

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

REVIEW OF TAXI FARES

In accordance with the requirements of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, the Highland Council is reviewing the **maximum level** of charges for the hire of Taxis or Private Hire Cars fitted with Taxi Meters.

It is proposed that with effect from September 2015, the maximum fares will be as follows:-

Tariff 1;

| ٠ | For the first 785 yards or part | £ 2.70 |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------|
| • | For each additional 130 yards or part | .10p |

General effect – the price of a hire \pounds 3.50 for the first mile plus \pounds 1.40p per mile thereafter plus extras*

Tariff 2; applies on Good Friday, Easter Monday and May Day and between **9.00 pm and 7.00 am on any day**, all day on Saturday and Sunday **and when 5 or more** passengers are being carried **at any time** of any day or night, for example, by a "London" style taxi or by a "people carrier" or by a minibus, except where Tariff 3 applies.

| • | For the first 560 yards or part | £3 | 3.30 |
|---|--------------------------------------|----|------|
| • | For each additional 92 yards or part | £ | .10p |

General effect – the price of a hire £4.70 for the first mile plus £1.90 per mile thereafter plus extras*

Tariff 3; applies on Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Years Day and 2nd January. It also applies when 5 or more passengers are being carried between **9.00 pm and 7.00 am**, all day on Saturday and Sunday and on Good Friday, Easter Monday and May Day for example, by a "London" style taxi or by a "people carrier" or by a minibus.

| • | For the | e firs | st 444 g | yards oi | ⁻ part | £ 3.90 |
|---|---------|--------|----------|----------|-------------------|--------|
| | _ | | | | | |

For each additional 74 yards or part .10p

General effect – the price of a hire ± 5.70 for the first mile plus ± 2.40 per mile thereafter plus extras*

.50p

*Extra Charges

- Waiting time for first 2 minutes .10p
- For each additional period of 20 seconds or part thereafter .10p
- Booking ahead e.g. by telephone
- Any bridge tolls or ferry charges, where applicable.

In addition, provision has been made for a supplementary booking charge of up to a maximum of £8.00 to compensate for the cost of the outward journey for hires which commence 5 miles or more away from the taxi or taxi base (whichever is the nearer) and the customer wishes to travel further away. This charge may only be demanded if the customer is informed of the amount of the charge at the time of booking.

When a taxi (or a private hire car fitted with a taxi meter) is called but not used, a charge shall be allowed as if it had been occupied from the time it left the stance or garage.

Soiling Charge – maximum of £60.00 payable by an offending passenger, where a vehicle requires to be removed from service for cleaning in order for it to be restored to a usable state and condition.

General effect of proposed changes

A 20p increase to the cost of the initial yardage for Tariff 1. The effect of this would be a 20p increase on all fares regardless of the distance travelled.

A 30p increase to the cost of the initial yardages for Tariffs 2 and 3. The effect of this would be a 30p increase on all fares regardless of the distance travelled.

The charge applied to compensate for the cost of the outward journey for hires which commence 5 miles (this was previously 3 miles) or more away from the taxi or taxi base (whichever is the nearer) and where the customer wishes to travel further to be increased from a maximum of £6.50 to a maximum of £8.00.

APPENDIX 3.

RECEIVED

2 1 MAY 2015

Charles Cumming



Date 15th April 2015

My Ref. 2015 05 15 Tariff Review Complaint

Highland Licensing Committee C/O Alaisdair Mackenzie (Regulatory Services) The Highland Council Tigh na Sgire Park Lane PORTREE IV51 9GP

THOUTHS ON SUGGESTED TARIFF

Dear Sirs,

My first thought was to address this complaint to your committee at Craig Dunain Hospital for the mentally challenged. But since the facility is closed it would appear you now reside at the above address.

Having read recently in the local press about the proposed increase to the taxi fares. I am left wondering is somebody having a laugh at the taxi trades expense?

£0.20 on tariff one. Has anyone worked out that a daytime driver would have to complete over 400 jobs just to recover the cost involved to have their taximeter adjusted by the meter agent and checked and sealed by trading standards. Worst case would involve 1600 people in and out of the taxi at 4 passengers per trip. All this just to recover the cost involved in having the taximeter changed by the pittance suggested.

On the other hand it takes less than 10 minutes for trading standards to check and seal a taximeter. The cost to the operator is £62, which in it's self is extortionate. And when you multiply this amount by the number of meters across the Highland Council area. It gives the Council approximately £45,000.00 in revenue.

The question has to be asked. Who will be the main beneficiary to this change? The taxi trade or The Highland Council?

Charles Cumming.

2 9 MAY 2015

Name . Robert mcTagget



Date 19th May 2015

My Ref. 2015 05 15 Tariff Support

Highland Licensing Committee C/O Alaisdair Mackenzie (Regulatory Services) The Highland Council Tigh na Sgire Park Lane PORTREE IV51 9GP

TARIFF INCREASE SUPPORT

Dear Sirs,

I am a regular taxi user. Although it is never a good time to increase prices I would like to support the trade in seeking the first actual fare increase in the last four years.

Tonight I pre-booked my taxi by telephone/ I found my taxi on the taxi rank. The fare

I would like to see the tariff card remain the same apart from the following points.

Advance booking fee

Increased to £1.00

<u>Sur-charge on hires starting 3 miles from stance/base and outward going</u>

Increased to a flexible amount to cover a taxi fare from stance/base to pick up point. This would only apply if the customer agreed in advance.

<u>Tariff 1</u>

Flag fall £3.00 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

| For the first 707 yards or part | £3.00 |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| For each additional 123 yards or part | £0.10 |

<u>Tariff 2</u>

Flag fall £3.50 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

| For the first 504 yards or part | £3.50 |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| For each additional 83 yards or part | £0.10 |

<u>Tariff 3</u>

Flag fall £4.00 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

| For the first 400 yards or part | £4.00 |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| For each additional 66 yards or part | £0.10 |



Name CALLM MACAVLAT



| REC | E | VED |
|-------|-----|------|
| - 8 . | JUN | 2015 |

Date 19th May 2015

My Ref. 2015 05 15 Tariff Support

Highland Licensing Committee C/O Alaisdair Mackenzie (Regulatory Services) The Highland Council Tigh na Sgire Park Lane PORTREE IV51 9GP

TARIFF INCREASE SUPPORT

Dear Sirs,

I am a regular taxi user. Although it is never a good time to increase prices I would like to support the trade in seeking the first actual fare increase in the last four years.

Tonight I pre-booked my taxi by telephone/ I found my taxi on the taxi rank. The fare

I was charged was \pounds . λ . d. The fare I would be charged under the following

proposal would be £.1.3.:.4.0. I do not think after four years of no increase this increase would be excessive.

I would like to see the tariff card remain the same apart from the following points.

Advance booking fee

Increased to £1.00

Sur-charge on hires starting 3 miles from stance/base and outward going

Increased to a flexible amount to cover a taxi fare from stance/base to pick up point. This would only apply if the customer agreed in advance.

Tariff 1

Flag fall £3.00 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

| For the first 707 yards or part | £3.00 |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| For each additional 123 yards or part | £0.10 |

<u>Tariff 2</u>

Flag fall £3.50 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

| For the first 504 yards or part | £3.50 |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| For each additional 83 yards or part | £0.10 |

Tariff 3

Flag fall £4.00 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

| For the first 400 yards or part | £4.00 |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| For each additional 66 yards or part | £0.10 |

management of the second se

Thank you



Name KHALID AL-SAMARRAIE

CEIVED

8 JUN 2015

Date 19th May 2015

My Ref. 2015 05 15 Tariff Support

Highland Licensing Committee C/O Alaisdair Mackenzie (Regulatory Services) The Highland Council Tigh na Sgire Park Lane PORTREE IV51 9GP

TARIFF INCREASE SUPPORT

Dear Sirs,

I am a regular taxi user. Although it is never a good time to increase prices I would like to support the trade in seeking the first actual fare increase in the last four years.

Tonight I pre-booked my taxi by telephone/ I found my taxi on the taxi rank. The fare

I was charged was \pounds . 33.99. The fare I would be charged under the following

proposal would be £. $36^{4}40$. I do not think after four years of no increase this increase would be excessive.

I would like to see the tariff card remain the same apart from the following points.

Advance booking fee

Increased to £1.00

Sur-charge on hires starting 3 miles from stance/base and outward going

Increased to a flexible amount to cover a taxi fare from stance/base to pick up point. This would only apply if the customer agreed in advance.

Tariff 1

Flag fall £3.00 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

| For the first 707 yards or part | £3.00 |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| For each additional 123 yards or part | £0.10 |

<u>Tariff 2</u>

Flag fall £3.50 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

| For the first 504 yards or part | £3.50 |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| For each additional 83 yards or part | £0.10 |

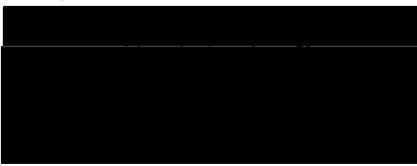
<u>Tariff 3</u>

Flag fall £4.00 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

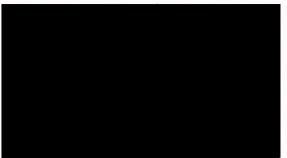
| For the first 400 yards or part | £4.00 |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| For each additional 66 yards or part | £0.10 |

والمراجع والمراجع والمراجع والمراجع والمراجع والمراجع والمتنبع وستعر والمتعادي فيتعاون والمتعاور والمتعاد والمراجع

Thank you



Name Martin Burns



Date 19th May 2015

My Ref. 2015 05 15 Tariff Support

Highland Licensing Committee C/O Alaisdair Mackenzie (Regulatory Services) The Highland Council Tigh na Sgire Park Lane PORTREE IV51 9GP

TARIFF INCREASE SUPPORT

Dear Sirs,

I am a regular taxi user. Although it is never a good time to increase prices I would like to support the trade in seeking the first actual fare increase in the last four years.

RECEIVED

- 8 JUN 2015

Tonight I pre-booked my taxi by telephone/ I found my taxi on the taxi rank. The fare

I was charged was £. I.Q.: SQ. The fare I would be charged under the following

I would like to see the tariff card remain the same apart from the following points.

Advance booking fee

Increased to £1.00

<u>Sur-charge on hires starting 3 miles from stance/base and outward going</u>

Increased to a flexible amount to cover a taxi fare from stance/base to pick up point. This would only apply if the customer agreed in advance.

<u>Tariff 1</u>

Flag fall £3.00 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

| For the first 707 yards or part | £3.00 |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| For each additional 123 yards or part | £0.10 |

<u>Tariff 2</u>

Flag fall £3.50 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

| For the first 504 yards or part | £3.50 |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| For each additional 83 yards or part | £0.10 |

Tariff 3

Flag fall £4.00 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

| For the first 400 yards or part | £4.00 |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| For each additional 66 yards or part | £0.10 |

Thank you

Name CHRIS Bracent





Date 19th May 2015

My Ref. 2015 05 15 Tariff Support

Highland Licensing Committee C/O Alaisdair Mackenzie (Regulatory Services) The Highland Council Tigh na Sgire Park Lane PORTREE IV51 9GP

TARIFF INCREASE SUPPORT

Dear Sirs,

I am a regular taxi user. Although it is never a good time to increase prices I would like to support the trade in seeking the first actual fare increase in the last four years.

Tonight I pre-booked my taxi by telephone/ I found my taxi on the taxi rank. The fare

proposal would be £. 2. I do not think after four years of no increase this increase would be excessive.

I would like to see the tariff card remain the same apart from the following points.

Advance booking fee

Increased to £1.00

<u>Sur-charge on hires starting 3 miles from stance/base and outward going</u>

Increased to a flexible amount to cover a taxi fare from stance/base to pick up point. This would only apply if the customer agreed in advance.

<u>Tariff 1</u>

Flag fall £3.00 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

| For the first 707 yards or part | £3.00 |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| For each additional 123 yards or part | £0.10 |

Tariff 2

Flag fall £3.50 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

| For the first 504 yards or part | £3.50 |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| For each additional 83 yards or part | £0.10 |

<u>Tariff 3</u>

Flag fall £4.00 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

| For the first 400 yards or part | £4.00 |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| For each additional 66 yards or part | £0.10 |

Thank you

John York Name ..



RECEIVED - 8 JUN 2015

Date 19th May 2015

My Ref. 2015 05 15 Tariff Support

Highland Licensing Committee C/O Alaisdair Mackenzie (Regulatory Services) The Highland Council Tigh na Sgire Park Lane PORTREE IV51 9GP

TARIFF INCREASE SUPPORT

Dear Sirs,

I am a regular taxi user. Although it is never a good time to increase prices I would like to support the trade in seeking the first actual fare increase in the last four years.

Tonight I pre-booked my taxi by telephone/ I found my taxi on the taxi rank. The fare

proposal would be \pounds . 1 do not think after four years of no increase this increase would be excessive.

I would like to see the tariff card remain the same apart from the following points.

Advance booking fee

Increased to £1.00

<u>Sur-charge on hires starting 3 miles from stance/base and outward going</u>

Increased to a flexible amount to cover a taxi fare from stance/base to pick up point. This would only apply if the customer agreed in advance.

<u>Tariff 1</u>

Flag fall £3.00 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

| For the first 707 yards or part | £3.00 |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| For each additional 123 yards or part | £0.10 |

<u>Tariff 2</u>

Flag fall £3.50 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

| For the first 504 yards or part | £3.50 |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| For each additional 83 yards or part | £0.10 |

<u>Tariff 3</u>

Flag fall £4.00 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

| For the first 400 yards or part | £4.00 |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| For each additional 66 yards or part | £0.10 |

Thank you

| From: | John MacKellaich |
|----------|---------------------|
| Sent: | 02 June 2015 19:22 |
| То: | Licensing |
| Subject: | Taxi Fare Increases |

Hi Alaisdair Mackenzie;

I would like to make comment on the proposals for fare increases.

Taxi's in Inverness are some of the most expensive in the UK if not the most expensive and with tariff two now starting at 10 p.m. it makes taking a taxi in the city vary expensive. The last increase used the cost of fuel as the driver to increase fares, as fuel has fallen by around 15% I expected a reduction in Taxi Fares, although I imagine this is not a proposal. All business that have a fuel factor have seen costs fall in the last 6 months or so but like the bus companies no reduction in fares appears to result.

Taxi drivers complain about the over provision of taxis in Inverness although with another new company offering a 20% introductory offer it would appear that the taxi business is lucrative in Inverness and at the current charges I can see why. If fares were lower maybe the efficient operators would survive and the likes of the Saturday night Taxis, like the one I got recently (who was from Tain although a Highland licenced Taxi who when I asked why they had used a longer route to my house than I would use told me it was the Sat Nav that guided him as he did not know Inverness) would stop operating leaving other to prosper?

Regards

John MacKellaich

From: Sent: To: Subject: Robbie Rowantree 07 June 2015 15:22 Licensing Taxi Fares

Hi

The link below is to a range of taxis that are operating in several European cities.

http://www.autocar.co.uk/car-news/green-cars/first-all-electric-taxi-fleet-launched-london

Give license holders an incentive to go electric by giving their electric vehicles priority. They would by right go in front of all petrol / diesel vehicles in the ranks. The other owners would soon respond to the market pressure

This would be an opportunity for the council to increase it climate change commitment in the highland capital, it would lead to level / reduced fares, as the fuel costs are much lower. The customers would prioritise them if they were cheaper. The battery could be charged in the ranks.

It would raise the profile of electrical vehicles in the city and make more highland motorists realise that an electric vehicle is capable of meeting most of their travel needs, which are usually short distances.

.

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject:

08 June 2015 22:03 Licensing louise lafferty; sophie sutherland Taxi fare increases

Dear Sir,

I travel and live all over the world and sincerely believe that the people of Inverness pay more for taxis than any other town I know. Not only that but the cars are shabby and the drivers unkempt. Compare the prices in Glasgow please. Don't suppose this will make any difference. Dr Joseph Lafferty

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE device

•

From: Sent: To: Subject:

25 May 2015 22:01 Licensing Taxi services

As regards to your proposal for taxi fares, I would like to say I'm shocked. Living in Laggan at 17 I have no means of getting around. There are no public services running to the village at all. A taxi would be the only way for me to get out of the village if I needed to go anywhere however it is around £30 to go 8 miles down the road to Newtonmore.

The taxi rates should be going down not up. In small highland communities there are very poor transport links, perhaps more money should be spent on this. However as I don't see it improving anytime it is a great shame that the already extortionate taxi fares are going up even more.

Anastasia Young.

From: Sent: To: Subject:

19 May 2015 12:01 Licensing Taxi review comment

Hi Alaisdair Mackenzie,

I've been living in the Highlands for 3 years and am amazed at the cost of the taxis. Every taxi is quick to point out that the council set their rates, and I'm amazed that you are planning to increase them.

I live in Boat of Garten. If I want to go for a meal to Aviemore, I will typically have to pay bus fares or taxi fares to get there (£10-15) and £15-20 to get home. Do you think that's ok?

In the Cairngorms, it is common practise for all taxi firms driving between towns and villages to charge for both legs of the journey, eg you have to pay for them to get back to their base. I have <u>never heard mention</u> of the supplementary booking charge.

Surely a reduction in charges would increase tourism and business, encouraging people to go out for a meal/ socialise etc? The towns and villages here would benefit hugely from a boost to their high streets.

Surely less car use would be a good thing? Surely less drink driving would be a good thing?

Lower prices would reduce loneliness and isolation, which must cost the council thousands in care costs, occupational therapists, false 999 calls etc?

I cannot imagine why you think an above inflation increase is correct here. Fuel poverty is common, transport is rare, unreliable and hugely expensive. Communities need to be brought together.

Thanks, Fraser



Name MICHDOC MACKGISUE Address 92 WWWS Druve NAINW

.....

Post Code TUR 457P

Date 19th April 2015

My Ref. 2015 05 15 Tariff Support

Highland Licensing Committee C/O Alaisdair Mackenzie (Regulatory Services) The Highland Council Tigh na Sgire Park Lane PORTREE IV51 9GP

TARIFF INCREASE SUPPORT

Dear Sirs,

I am involved within the taxi trade. I was very disappointed to see on The Highland Council web cast the apparent lack of understanding of the taxi trade shown by all the councillors that made comment. How can people with little or no understanding of the trade make judgement on the tariff charged?

I would like to see the tariff card remain the same apart from the following points.

Advance booking fee

Increased to £1.00

<u>Sur-charge on hires starting 3 miles from stance/base and outward going</u>

Increased to a flexible amount to cover a taxi fare from stance/base to pick up point. This would only apply if the customer agreed in advance.

Tariff 1

Flag fall £3.00 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

For the first 707 yards or part£3.00For each additional 123 yards or part£0.10

<u>Tariff 2</u>

12

ş

Flag fall £3.50 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

| For the first 504 yards or part | £3.50 |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| For each additional 83 yards or part | £0.10 |

<u>Tariff 3</u>

Flag fall £4.00 and the equivalent of a 10% increase to journey.

| For the first 400 yards or part | £4.00 |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| For each additional 66 yards or part | £0.10 |

Thank you

Appendix 5

AA MOTORING COSTS – 2011/2014 COMPARISON

PETROL CARS

| 2011 Purchase price of car when new | 2011 Total standing and running costs ^{1.} as pence per mile <u>at</u> <u>20,000 miles</u> per year | 2014 Purchase price of car when new | 2014 Total standing and running costs ^{2.} as pence per mile <u>at</u> <u>20,000 miles</u> per year | Percentage increase or decrease | | |
|--|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| Up to £12,000 | 34.35 | Up to £13,000 | 28.72 | -16.4% | | |
| £12,000 to £16,000 | 40.16 | £13,000 to £18,000 | 37.28 | -7.2% | | |
| £16,000 to £20,000 | 47.91 | £18,000 to £25,000 | 42.52 | -11.2% | | |
| £20,000 to £32,000 | 55.29 | £25,000 to £32,000 | 52.49 | -5.1% | | |
| Over £32,000 | 92.26 | Over £32,000 | 78.91 | -14.5% | | |

| 2011 Purchase price of car when new | 2011 Total standing and running costs ^{1.} as pence per mile <u>at</u> <u>30,000 miles</u> per year | 2014 Purchase price of car when new | 2014 Total standing and running costs ^{2.} as pence per mile <u>at</u> <u>30,000 miles</u> per year | Percentage increase or decrease | | |
|--|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| Up to £12,000 | 30.33 | Up to £13,000 | 25.45 | -16.1% | | |
| £12,000 to £16,000 | 34.72 | £13,000 to £18,000 | 32.12 | -7.5% | | |
| £16,000 to £20,000 | 40.90 | £18,000 to £25,000 | 36.22 | -11.4% | | |
| £20,000 to £32,000 | 46.36 | £25,000 to £32,000 | 43.80 | -5.5% | | |
| Over £32,000 | 74.92 | Over £32,000 | 62.99 | -15.9% | | |

^{1.} 2011 costs include petrol at 133.3 pence per litre ^{2.} 2014 costs include petrol at 129.0 pence per litre

AA MOTORING COSTS – 2011/2014 COMPARISON

DIESEL CARS

| 2011 Purchase price of car when new | 2011 Total standing and running costs ^{1.} as pence per mile <u>at</u> <u>20,000 miles</u> per year | 2014 Purchase price of car when new | 2014 Total standing and running costs ^{2,} as pence per mile <u>at</u> <u>20,000 miles</u> per year | Percentage increase or decrease |
|--|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| Up to £12,000 | 30.31 | Up to £16,000 | 30.39 | +0.3% |
| £12,000 to £17,000 | 37.77 | £16,000 to £22,000 | 36.52 | -3.3% |
| £17,000 to £20,000 | 42.36 | £22,000 to £26,000 | 41.79 | -1.3% |
| £20,000 to £32,000 | 52.99 | £26,000 to £36,000 | 47.55 | -10.3% |
| Over £32,000 | 79.87 | Over £36,000 | 66.47 | -16.8% |

| 2011 Purchase price of car when new | 2011 Total standing and running costs ^{1.} as pence per mile <u>at</u> <u>30,000 miles</u> per year) | 2014 Purchase price of car when new | 2014 Total standing and running costs ^{2,} as pence per mile <u>at</u> <u>30,000 miles</u> per year | Percentage increase or decrease |
|--|--|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| Up to £12,000 | 26.46 | Up to £16,000 | 26.18 | -1.1% |
| £12,000 to £17,000 | 31.84 | £16,000 to £22,000 | 30.67 | -3.7% |
| £17,000 to £20,000 | 35.65 | £22,000 to £26,000 | 35.30 | -1.0% |
| £20,000 to £32,000 | 43.80 | £26,000 to £36,000 | 39.42 | -10.0% |
| Over £32,000 | 64.15 | Over £36,000 | 54.11 | -15.6% |

^{1.} 2011 costs include diesel at 130.7 pence per litre ^{2.} 2014 costs include diesel at 137.0 pence per litre

Appendix 6

| | | | TARIFF | ONE | | | | TARIFF | TWO | |
|---------------------|-------|--------|---------|--------|----------|------------|--------|--------|--------|----------|
| COUNCIL | FLAG | 1 MILE | 2 MILES | | 10 MILES | \$ FLAG | 1 MILE | | | 10 MILES |
| EAST LOTHIAN | £3.00 | £4.40 | £6.80 | £13.60 | £25.00 | £3.00 | £4.40 | £6.80 | £13.60 | £25.00 |
| ARGYLL & BUTE | £3.00 | £4.20 | £6.20 | £12.20 | £22.20 | £3.60 | £4.80 | £7.20 | £14.20 | £26.00 |
| SHETLAND ISLANDS | £3.80 | £4.25 | £6.05 | £11.45 | £20.45 | £4.00 | £4.55 | £6.75 | £13.35 | £24.35 |
| ABERDEENSHIRE | £2.60 | £3.80 | £6.00 | £12.60 | £23.60 | £3.60 | £4.80 | £7.00 | £13.60 | £24.60 |
| FIFE | £3.20 | £4.00 | £6.00 | £12.20 | £22.60 | £3.95 | £4.95 | £7.45 | £15.20 | £28.20 |
| GLASGOW | £2.80 | £3.80 | £5.80 | £11.40 | £20.80 | £3.80 | £4.80 | £6.80 | £12.40 | £21.80 |
| MIDLOTHIAN | £2.20 | £3.80 | £5.80 | £11.40 | £21.00 | £2.70 | £4.30 | £6.30 | £11.90 | £21.50 |
| SOUTH AYRSHIRE | £2.80 | £3.60 | £5.80 | £12.40 | £23.40 | £3.80 | £4.60 | £6.80 | £13.40 | £24.40 |
| SCOTTISH BORDERS | £2.25 | £3.95 | £5.75 | £10.95 | £19.75 | £2.80 | £4.90 | £7.10 | £13.70 | £24.60 |
| EAST KILBRIDE | £2.80 | £4.00 | £5.70 | £9.70 | £16.30 | £3.40 | £4.60 | £6.30 | £10.30 | £16.90 |
| EDINBURGH | £2.10 | £3.60 | £5.60 | £11.35 | £20.85 | £3.10 | £4.60 | £6.60 | £12.35 | £21.85 |
| RENFREWSHIRE | £3.20 | £4.00 | £5.60 | £10.00 | £17.20 | £4.20 | £5.00 | £6.60 | £11.00 | £18.20 |
| DUNDEE | £3.02 | £3.98 | £5.58 | £10.38 | £18.38 | £3.62 | £4.76 | £6.66 | £12.36 | £21.86 |
| DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY | £4.50 | £4.50 | £5.50 | £11.50 | £21.50 | £5.50 | £5.50 | £6.50 | £12.50 | £22.50 |
| MORAY | £3.30 | £3.30 | £5.50 | £12.10 | £23.10 | £4.80 | £4.80 | £7.00 | £13.60 | £24.60 |
| ABERDEEN | £2.40 | £3.40 | £5.40 | £11.20 | £21.00 | £3.40 | £4.40 | £6.40 | £12.20 | £22.00 |
| ANGUS | £3.30 | £3.30 | £5.40 | £11.30 | £21.10 | £3.50 | £4.20 | £6.40 | £13.00 | £24.00 |
| CLACKMANNAN | £2.00 | £3.36 | £5.40 | £11.52 | £21.72 | £2.66 | £4.50 | £7.26 | £15.54 | £29.11 |
| PERTH & KINROSS | £3.00 | £3.80 | £5.40 | £10.20 | £18.20 | £3.80 | £4.80 | £6.80 | £12.80 | £22.80 |
| WEST LOTHIAN | £2.60 | £4.00 | £5.40 | £9.80 | £17.20 | £3.00 | £4.40 | £5.80 | £10.20 | £17.60 |
| DUMBARTON | £2.40 | £3.40 | £5.30 | £11.00 | £20.50 | £2.90 | £4.00 | £6.10 | £12.40 | £22.90 |
| ORKNEY ISLANDS | £3.50 | £3.50 | £5.20 | £10.30 | £18.80 | £4.50 | £4.50 | £6.50 | £12.50 | £22.50 |
| STIRLING | £2.50 | £3.40 | £5.20 | £10.60 | £19.60 | £3.00 | £4.20 | £6.40 | £13.20 | £24.40 |
| SOUTH LANARKSHIRE | £3.00 | £3.00 | £5.00 | £11.00 | £21.00 | £4.00 | £4.00 | £6.70 | £14.70 | £28.00 |
| CLYDEBANK | £2.20 | £3.20 | £4.90 | £10.00 | £18.50 | £2.70 | £3.70 | £5.50 | £10.90 | £19.90 |
| HAMILTON | £2.40 | £3.20 | £4.80 | £9.60 | £17.60 | £3.00 | £3.80 | £5.40 | £10.20 | £18.20 |
| INVERCLYDE | £2.50 | £3.20 | £4.80 | £9.60 | £17.60 | £2.60 | £3.40 | £5.00 | £10.00 | £18.20 |
| NORTH AYRSHIRE | £2.60 | £3.10 | £4.80 | £9.90 | £18.40 | £3.00 | £3.50 | £5.30 | £10.70 | £19.70 |

| | 00 74 | 00 5 4 | 05.00 | | 040.00 | 00.44 | 04.04 | 00.04 | 040.04 | |
|---------------------|-------|--------|-------|--------|----------|-----------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| | 1 | | 1 | | <u> </u> | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| WESTERN ISLES | £2.60 | £2.92 | £4.20 | £8.04 | £14.44 | £3.25 | £3.65 | £5.25 | £10.05 | £18.05 |
| EAST RENFREW | £3.10 | £3.10 | £4.60 | £9.10 | £16.60 | £3.65 | £3.65 | £5.15 | £9.65 | £17.15 |
| EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE | £2.20 | £3.00 | £4.60 | £9.40 | £17.40 | £3.70 | £4.50 | £6.10 | £10.90 | £18.90 |
| HIGHLAND | £2.50 | £3.30 | £4.70 | £8.70 | £15.50 | £3.00 | £4.40 | £6.30 | £12.00 | £21.60 |
| FALKIRK | £2.00 | £2.90 | £4.70 | £10.00 | £18.90 | £2.50 | £3.70 | £5.90 | £12.50 | £23.70 |
| EAST AYRSHIRE | £2.75 | £2.75 | £4.70 | £10.40 | £19.85 | £3.75 | £3.75 | £5.70 | £11.40 | £20.85 |
| RUTHERGLEN | £2.40 | £3.20 | £4.80 | £9.60 | £17.60 | £3.00 | £3.80 | £5.40 | £10.20 | £18.20 |
| NORTH LANARKSHIRE | £2.20 | £3.10 | £4.80 | £9.90 | £18.50 | £3.20 | £4.10 | £5.80 | £10.90 | £19.50 |

| SCOTTISH AVERAGE | £2.74 | £3.54 | £5.33 | £10.68 | £19.62 | £3.44 | £4.34 | £6.31 | £12.21 | £22.05 |
|------------------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| HIGHLAND | £2.50 | £3.30 | £4.70 | £8.70 | £15.50 | £3.00 | £4.40 | £6.30 | £12.00 | £21.60 |

Appendix 7

| | Proposed Tariff | | Proposed Tariff | | Proposed | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|------------|------------------------|------------|----------|------------|
| PROPOSED TARIFF | 1 | % Increase | 2 | % Increase | Tariff 3 | % Increase |
| 1st Drop (Yds) | 707 | 9.9% | 504 | 10.0% | 400 | 9.9% |
| 2nd Drop (Yds) | 123 | 5.4% | 83 | 9.8% | 66 | 10.8% |
| 1st Drop Cost | £ 3.00 | 16.7% | £ 3.50 | 16.7% | £ 4.00 | 11.1% |
| 2nd Drop Cost | £ 0.10 | 0.0% | £ 0.10 | 0.0% | £ 0.10 | 0.0% |
| | | | | | | |
| Calculated Cost per additional Mile | £ 1.43 | 5.7% | £ 2.12 | 10.8% | £ 2.67 | 12.1% |
| Actual Cost for 1st Mile | £ 3.90 | 18.2% | £ 5.10 | 15.9% | £ 6.10 | 13.0% |
| Actual Cost for 2 Miles | £ 5.30 | 12.8% | £ 7.20 | 14.3% | £ 8.80 | 12.8% |
| Actual Cost for 3 Miles | £ 6.80 | 13.3% | £ 9.30 | 13.4% | £ 11.40 | 11.8% |
| Actual Cost for 4 Miles | £ 8.20 | 10.8% | £ 11.40 | 12.9% | £ 14.10 | 11.9% |
| Actual Cost for 5 Miles | £ 9.60 | 10.3% | £ 13.50 | 12.5% | £ 16.80 | 12.8% |
| Actual Cost for 10 Miles | £ 16.80 | 8.4% | £ 24.10 | 11.6% | £ 30.10 | 12.3% |
| Actual Cost for 15 Miles | £ 23.90 | 7.2% | £ 34.80 | 11.9% | £ 43.40 | 12.1% |
| Actual Cost for 20 Miles | £ 31.10 | 7.2% | £ 45.40 | 11.5% | £ 56.80 | 12.3% |
| Actual Cost for 30 Miles | £ 45.40 | 6.6% | £ 66.60 | 11.4% | £ 83.40 | 12.1% |
| Actual Cost for 40 Miles | £ 59.70 | 6.4% | £ 87.80 | 11.1% | £ 110.10 | 12.1% |
| Actual Cost for 50 Miles | £ 74.00 | 6.3% | £ 109.00 | 11.1% | £ 136.80 | 12.1% |
| Actual Cost for 100 Miles | £ 145.60 | 6.0% | £ 215.00 | 11.0% | £ 270.10 | 12.1% |
| Average Increase over 1 - 100 Miles | | 9.5% | | 12.4% | | 12.3% |

Tariff Changes to Yardages and Amounts

Lochaber & Caithness Operators & One Inverness Operator

No change to tariff distances or amounts.

Inverness Alliance

Tariff 1 - An increase in flag fall to £3.00 for the first 785 yards (20% increase) with each additional 115 yards charged at 10p (increase of 12%)

Tariff 2 - An increase in flag fall to £3.30 for first 560 yards (10% increase) with each additional 82 yards charged at 10p (increase of 12%)

Tariff 3 - An increase in flag fall to £3.90 for first 444 yards (8% increase) with each additional 74 yards charged at 10p (no increase)

Dingwall Operators

- Increase tariff by annual inflation since the last increase.
- Increase tariff by more than 10% (if the Council wish to improve the standard of vehicles).
- Increase tariff by at least 5%.

Charles Cumming – Taxi Operator

Tariff 1 - an increase in the flag fall to £3.00 for the first 707 yards with each additional 123 yards charged at 10p.

Tariff 2 - an increase in the flag fall to \pounds 3.50 for the first 504 yards with each additional 83 yards charged at 10p.

Tariff 3 - an increase in the flag fall to £4.00 for the first 400 yards with each additional 66 yards charged at 10p.

Tariff Times

- Consider whether Tariff 2 should apply from 12 midnight to 7.00am daily.
- Consider whether Tariff 2 be applied from 7.00am to 7.00pm.

Pre-Booking Surcharge

- Consider removing the 50p surcharge for booking ahead by telephone etc. and adding this onto the tariff.
- Consider increasing the advance booking fee from 50p to £1.00

Supplementary Booking Charge

• Consider replacing the £6.50 supplementary booking charge with the ability to start the meter at the start location of the hire (i.e. charge for `dead miles').

• Review the Surcharge on hires starting 3 miles from stance/base and outward going by increasing to a flexible amount to cover a taxi fare from stance/base to pick up point. This would only apply if the customer agreed in advance.

Other Requests

• Consider whether operators could have their meters calibrated to a tariff under the maximum tariff set by the Council.

Tariff 1 - Year on Year Adjustments for Inflation using Consumer Price Index

| | Base Position | | July 11 to July 12 | | July 12 | to July 13 | July 13 | to July 14 | July 14 to Jun 15 (11 months) | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Prices as at July 11 | CPI Indices at July 11 | Prices as Jul-12 | CPI Indices at July 12 | Prices as Jul-13 | CPI Indices at July 13 | Prices as Jul-14 | CPI Indices at Jul 14 | Prices as Jun-15 | CPI Indices at Jun 15 |
| Flag drop | £2.50 | 119.4 | £2.56 | 122.5 | £2.63 | 125.8 | £2.68 | 127.8 | £2.68 | 128.2 |
| Additional 130 yards | £0.10 | 119.4 | £0.10 | 122.5 | £0.11 | 125.8 | £0.11 | 127.8 | £0.11 | 128.2 |

Table used for CPI is Table 6a from the ONS Web Site - CPI All Items 1998-2015