ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

PLANNING, PROTECTIVE SERVICES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

LEGAL AND REGULATORY SUPPORT

23 OCTOBER 2024

CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982 TAXI FARE SCALE REVIEW

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In terms of Section 17 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, the Local Authority requires to fix maximum fares and other charges in connection with the hire of taxis operating in their area and to review the scales for taxi fares and other charges on a regular basis. The fares were last reviewed by members on 21st June 2023 and took effect on 22nd October 2023.

A letter will be issued to all taxi operators on week commencing 28th October 2024 inviting their comments by 2nd December 2024. A further report will be placed before the Committee at their meeting on 18th December 2024 detailing the comments received from the taxi operators.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee are asked to:

- a) Agree to commence the review of fares in order that this can be completed within the 18 months required in terms of the Act.
- b) Agree that the consultation required in terms of the Act will be in writing.

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1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 In terms of Section 17 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, the Local Authority requires to fix maximum fares and other charges in connection with the hire of taxis operating in their area and to review the scales for taxi fares and other charges on a regular basis. The fares were last reviewed by members on 21st June 2023 and took effect on 22nd October 2023
- 1.2 A letter will be issued to all taxi operators week commencing on 28th October 2024 inviting their comments by 2nd December 2024. A further report will be placed before the Committee at their meeting on 18th December 2024 detailing the comments received from the trade.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- **2.1** The Committee are asked to
 - a) Agree to commence the review of fares in order that this can be completed within the 18 months required in terms of the Act.
 - b) Agree that the consultation required in terms of the Act will be in writing.

3. DETAIL

3.1 Section 17 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 states that "the licensing authority must fix scales for the fares and other charges within 18 months beginning with the date on which the scales came into effect". In terms of the last review the fares came into force on 22nd

October 2023. The next fares scale will need to come into force in April 2025. Therefore the review process would require to commence in October 2024.

- 3.2 At the meeting on 21st June 2023 the committee agreed that there be no change to the existing scales and that this will take effect from 22 October 2023:
- 3.3 In terms of Section 17 of the Act in carrying out a review of taxi fares, the licensing authority must
 - a) Consult with persons or organisations appearing to it to be, or to be representative of, the operators of taxis operating within its area.
 - b) Following the consultation -
 - (i) Review the existing scales
 - (ii) Propose new scales (whether at altered rates or the same rates.
- **3.4** The Act does not stipulate how the consultation should be effected.

4. CONCLUSION

- **4.1** Members are invited to agree that;
- A) The next taxi fare review should commence in order that it can be completed within 18 months as required by the 1982 Act.

and

B) Agree that the consultation required in terms of the Act will be in writing.

5. IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Policy- None
- 5.2 Financial -none
- 5.3 Legal The Council require to review taxi fares in terms of the Civic

Government (Scotland) Act 1982

- 5.4 HR -none
- 5.5 Fairer Scotland Duty:-none

- 5.5.1 Equalities protected characteristics-none
- 5.5.2 Socio-economic Duty-none
- 5.5.3 Islands -none
- 5.6 Climate Change-none
- 5.7 Risk-none
- 5.8 Customer Service-none

Douglas Hendry

Executive Director with responsibility for Legal and Regulatory Support

Policy Lead: Cllr Kieron Green

For further information contact: Sheila MacFadyen, Senior Solicitor

Tel: 01546 604265 Email Sheila.macfadyen@argyll-bute.gov.uk