

REPORT

To: GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE		Subject: TAXI LICENSING – TAXI FARES REVIEW 2004
From: DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION		
Date: 3 August 2004	Ref: WBK/KH	

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee that the time has arrived for the Council to carry out its statutory duty to periodically review taxi fares in its area.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. Section 17 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 obliges the Council, as licensing authority, to fix from time to time scales for the fares and other charges in respect of the hire of taxis in its area. Such review is required to be carried out at intervals of not greater than 18 months and the time has arrived for the Council to carry out the next taxi fares review.
- 2.2. Given that there have recently been meetings on a number of issues with taxi trade representatives, the Head of Legal Services has taken the opportunity to informally invite the representatives to canvass the views of their members with a view to bringing forward any proposals that they have in respect of a taxi fares review. Initial proposals have been received and will be reported to Committee after a period of assessment and consultation.

3. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1. The Committee requires to formally commence its statutory duty to carry out a taxi fares review and to give consideration to authorising the Head of Legal Services to enter full discussions with the trade on the issue. It is intended that, following those discussions, the matter will be further reported to the Committee with the details of precise proposals for change. Once the Committee has had the opportunity of considering any proposals, the Committee will be asked to authorise the formal advertisement of such proposals in order that the public may have the opportunity of making representations prior to the Committee reaching a final decision.

4. CORPORATE CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1. The issues raised in this report do not significantly impact on the Council's wider policies or positions.

5. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 5.1. The Committee is asked to authorise the Head of Legal Services to enter a full consultation with the taxi trade on the issue of taxi fares and to report to Committee thereafter.

Walter B. Kilgus

P. Director of Administration

(Members seeking further information on the contents of this report are asked to contact Kenny Hannaway, Senior Solicitor (Licensing) at Extension 2214.