

**COMMITTEE:** Licensing Sub-Committee  
**MEETING DATE:** 11 September 2025  
**BY:** Executive Director – Council Resources  
**REPORT TITLE:** Taxi Fare Review  
**REPORT STATUS:** Public

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2

## **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To allow the Licensing Sub-Committee to consider the review of the scale of the fares or other charges currently in operation in respect of the East Lothian taxi fleet.

## **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Members are recommended to:
- i. complete the review of taxi fares by considering the representation received from the trade following the advertisement of the proposed fares (approved LSC 8 May 2025) (as laid out in Appendix 2 below) and approving the alternate rates put forward by VPMU following consideration of said representation, as laid out in Appendix 3 below;
  - ii. agree the tariff will come into effect eight weeks after the date of advertising; and
  - iii. authorise officers to advertise and explain the effect of the proposals and invite representations from the public.

## **3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 There is a statutory requirement for the Council to review taxi fares at least once every 18 months. The last review took place August 2023 (Appendix 1 – existing tariff), with the fares being adopted on 27 January 2024 meaning a review was required no later than May 2025 in order to comply with the statutory timescales.
- 3.2 The consultation and review by the Sub-Committee was completed on 8 May 2025 when the proposals were approved (Appendix 1). The proposals

were advertised and a representation was received from the trade (Appendix 2).

- 3.3 Alternative calculations have now been proposed by ELC's Vehicle Plant and Maintenance Unit (VPMU) (Appendix 3), taking account of the representation noted at paragraph 3.2 above.
- 3.4 Before any new scale of fares and other charges can come into force, the Council must advertise any new proposed scale in the local press to give an opportunity for public representations. Said notice must also specify the date on which it is proposed that the tariff shall take effect, which must take account of the period for representations and for appeals to the Traffic Commissioners. It is therefore suggested that the proposed date of coming into effect should be eight weeks after the date of advertising. Following the coming into effect of the tariff, there would be a further notice published confirming that the new tariff is now in effect.

#### **4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 None. In fixing a scale of fares and other charges, the Council as Licensing Authority is complying with a statutory duty.

#### **5 RESOURCE AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Finance: None
- 5.2 Human Resources: None
- 5.3 Other (e.g. Legal/IT): None
- 5.4 Risk: None

#### **6 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 6.1 ***Select the statement that is appropriate to your report by placing in 'X' in the relevant box.***

An Integrated Impact Assessment screening process has been undertaken and the subject of this report does not affect the wellbeing of the community or have a significant impact on: equality and human rights; tackling socio-economic disadvantages and poverty; climate change, the environment and sustainability; the Council's role as a corporate parent; or the storage/collection of personal data.

X
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**or**

The subject of this report has been through the Integrated Impact Assessment process and impacts have been identified as follows:



Subject	Impacts identified (Yes, No or N/A)
Equality and human rights	
Socio-economic disadvantage/poverty	
Climate change, the environment and sustainability	
Corporate parenting and care-experienced young people	
Storage/collection of personal data	
Other	

*[Enter information on impacts that have been identified]*

The Integrated Impact Assessment relating to this report has been published and can be accessed via the Council's website:

[https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/info/210602/equality\\_and\\_diversity/12014/integrated\\_impact\\_assessments](https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/info/210602/equality_and_diversity/12014/integrated_impact_assessments)

## **7 APPENDICES**

- 7.1 Appendix 1 – Proposed tariff (approved 8 May 2025)
- 7.2 Appendix 2 – Representation (Torrance, 27 May 2025)
- 7.3 Appendix 3 – Alternative proposal

## **8 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 8.1 None

## 9 AUTHOR AND APPROVAL DETAILS

### Report Author(s)

<b>Name</b>	Ian Forrest
<b>Designation</b>	Senior Solicitor
<b>Tel/Email</b>	Ext. 7389 / <a href="mailto:iforrest@eastlothian.gov.uk">iforrest@eastlothian.gov.uk</a>
<b>Date</b>	29 August 2025

### Head of Service Approval

<b>Name</b>	Hayley Barnett
<b>Designation</b>	Head of Corporate Support
<b>Confirmation that IIA and other relevant checks (e.g. finance/legal) have been completed</b>	Confirmed
<b>Approval Date</b>	2 September 2025

EAST LoTHIAN COUNCIL  
CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982  
TAXI FARE SCALE

**FARE TABLE FOR TAXI CABS**  
**30 June 2025**

For 1 to 8 Passengers	TARIFF 1 6am – 6pm	TARIFF 2 6pm- 6am	TARIFF 3
1. For the initial period of waiting and 2. For the initial hire not exceeding 713.70 yards	£3.80	£5.06	£6.33  1. 6pm on 24 <sup>th</sup> December until 6am on 27 <sup>th</sup> December  2. 6pm on 31 <sup>st</sup> December until 6am on 2 <sup>nd</sup> January
1. For each additional 40 seconds of waiting time	27p	27p	53p
2. For every additional 146.5 yards	27p	27p	53p
3. Or a combination of 1 and 2 above	27p	27p	53p

EXTRA PAYMENTS

- Car valeting charge for customer misuse - £120 no change

NOTES

- The above fares are applicable only within East Lothian

**From:** [Ian Torrance](#)  
**To:** [Fitzpatrick, Sheila](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Taxi Fare Review 2025  
**Date:** 27 May 2025 14:20:39

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**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for your email regarding the proposed taxi fare increase. After some consideration, we were wondering if the yardage could be changed without any additional increase to the price. Specifically, could the increments be set to increase at 30p instead of the unusual 27p? Additionally, can the odd .06p on tariff 2 be deleted? Our customers and drivers find these odd figures frustrating when dealing with cash. For example our night shift when dealing with customers the worst of wear, neither party don't want to deal with coppers so we loose out.

Regards

Ian Torrance

For and on behalf of

Torrance Taxis  
1a Spott Road, Dunbar  
East Lothian  
EH42 1LE

Tel: 01368 862612

Web: <http://www.torrancetaxisandtravel.co.uk>.

The information contained in this e-mail and any accompanying documents may contain information that is confidential or otherwise protected from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, or if this message has been addressed to you in error, please immediately alert the sender by reply e-mail then delete.

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**From:** Fitzpatrick, Sheila <[sfitzpatrick1@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:sfitzpatrick1@eastlothian.gov.uk)>  
**Sent:** 09 May 2025 09:22  
**Subject:** Taxi Fare Review 2025

Please see the attached for your attention.

Regards,

EAST LoTHIAN COUNCIL  
CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982  
TAXI FARE SCALE

**FARE TABLE FOR TAXI CABS  
XXXX**

For 1 to 8 Passengers	TARIFF 1 6am – 6pm	TARIFF 2 6pm- 6am	TARIFF 3
1. For the initial period of waiting and 2. For the initial hire not exceeding 650 meters	£3.80	£5.00	£6.40  1. 6pm on 24 <sup>th</sup> December until 6am on 27 <sup>th</sup> December  2. 6pm on 31 <sup>st</sup> December until 6am on 2 <sup>nd</sup> January
1. For each additional 40 seconds of waiting time	30p	30p	60p
2. For every additional 155 meters	30p	30p	60p
3. Or a combination of 1 and 2 above	30p	30p	60p

EXTRA PAYMENTS

- Car valeting charge for customer misuse - £120 no change

NOTES

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