

Our Ref: JRB/FMS/BAM/lic/2/G/2/N
Your Ref:

Ask for: Ms Fiona M. Stewart
Direct Dial: 01261 813320
E-Mail: fiona.stewart@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

FIRST CLASS

6th March 2009

Dear Sir/Madam

Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982
Sections 17 & 18 - Review of Taxi Fares – Consultation with the trade
Guidance Booklet
Driver Testing

I refer to the above and would invite you to attend a meeting which will be held **WEDNESDAY 15th APRIL 2009, WITHIN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, GORDON HOUSE, BLACKHALL ROAD, INVERURIE, at 10.00A.M.**

The purpose of the meeting is to consult with operators of taxis operating in Aberdeenshire on the following matters:-

1. to consult with a view to agreeing a revised fare scale to recommend to the Council for adoption.
2. to discuss the implementation of driver-testing within Aberdeenshire.
3. to further the introduction of a guidance booklet for taxi and private hire car operators

There will be a 20-minute presentation on driver-testing by Aberdeen Taxi Centre at the start of the meeting. Private Hire Operators have also been invited to attend this part of the meeting. Thereafter, there will be a brief discussion on the proposed Guidance Booklet, followed by a meeting with Tax Operators only on the fare scale review.

For your information, the current scale is attached as Appendix 1 to this letter.

A proposed fare scale is attached as Appendix 2 to this letter. This proposal is a starting point for discussion only.

An Excel Spreadsheet showing the effect of the above proposals can be downloaded from the Licensing section of Aberdeenshire Council's website at:

www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Click on "Legal Services" down the left-hand side of the home page, then on "Licensing" and then on "taxi fares". The documents will be attached there.

A copy of the outline draft guidance booklet is also available at this stage on the website. Paper copies of the draft booklet will be circulated to the trade after the meeting on 15th April 2009 as part of the formal consultation exercise that will then take place.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, but wish your views to be considered, please let me have these in writing to the above address or by e-mail to fiona.stewart@aberdeenshire.gov.uk


If you have an alternative proposal to be circulated at the meeting please provide me with a copy, if possible, so that I can have copies made available for all attending the meeting.

Finally, should you have any queries regarding the meeting or the proposed new scale, then please contact Fiona M. Stewart on 01261 813320.


Yours faithfully

Senior Solicitor (Licensing)

APPENDIX 1

 Aberdeenshire COUNCIL			
Fare Scale (From 1st November 2007)			
	6am to 10pm	10pm to 6am	Xmas/New Year
The FIRST 880 YARDS or part thereof	£2.40	£3.20	£4.80
Each additional 1/9th part of a mile or part thereof	£0.20	£0.20	£0.30
Waiting: 10 pence per	15 seconds	10 seconds	10 seconds
1. The late-night scale applies to public holidays also. Public Holidays are defined as "3 January, Good Friday and May Day. 2. The Festive Season Tarriff applies to each hiring between 1800 Hrs 24 December and 0600 Hrs 27 December and between 1800 Hrs 31 December and 0600 Hrs 3 January. 3. In vehicles so licensed carrying more than four passengers, a surcharge of 50% of the above fares may be charged.			
NOTE Passengers are carried on the understanding that the Driver may charge a passenger creating an unacceptable mess in the Taxi a maximum of £50			

APPENDIX 2

 Aberdeenshire COUNCIL			
Proposed Fare Scale			
	6am to 10pm	10pm to 6am	Xmas/New Year
The FIRST 900 YARDS or part thereof	£2.55	£3.35	£5.05
Each additional 2/19th parts of a mile or part thereof	£0.20	£0.20	£0.30
Waiting: per 15 seconds	£0.10	£0.10	£0.10
1. The late-night scale applies to public holidays also. Public Holidays are defined as "3 January, Good Friday, the May Day Bank Holiday each year", exclusive of 25 December, 26 December and 2 January, which are covered by the Festive Season Tarriff. 2. The Festive Season Tarriff applies to each hiring between 1800 Hrs 24 December and 0600 Hrs 27 December and between 1800 Hrs 31 December and 0600 Hrs 3 January. 3. In vehicles so licensed carrying more than four passengers, a surcharge of 50% of the above fares may be charged.			
NOTE Passengers are carried on the understanding that the Driver may charge a passenger creating an unacceptable mess in the Taxi a maximum of £50			