

FC68. REVIEW OF TAXI FARE SCALES AND OTHER CHARGES

In terms of the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this item had been called into Council by Depute Provost Black and Councillors C Martin and Nimmo.

There was submitted (circulated) (a) Extract of Minute of Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 16 November 2010, and (b) Report by the Acting Director of Law and Administration Services submitted to the said meeting intimating that, following a proposal from the Taxi trade, via the Taxi forum, that the running mile charge be increased by 3%, said proposal had been agreed unanimously by the Environment and Community Safety Committee and thereafter advertised in the local press in response to which no objections had been received. As a consequence the proposal had been submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval.

Councillor Alexander, seconded by Councillor Hughes, moved that "Council agrees:-

- (1) to endorse the decision of the Environment and Community Safety Committee on 17 August 2010 to agree to the proposed new fares scales detailed in the report attached as an appendix to the item, and accordingly to fix the fares for the hire of taxis in the Authority's area and all other charges allowed by Section 17(1) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 in terms of the Schedule attached to the Report setting out these fares and charges;
- (2) to instruct the Acting Director of Law & Administration Services to give notice in terms of Section 17(4) of the Act to those persons and organisations consulted in terms of section 17(3)(a) and to inform them of the general effect of section 18(1)(appeals in respect of taxi fares), and
- (3) that, in future, all changes to the charges proposed for the taxi trade must be approved by the Environment and Community Safety Committee first to ensure proper scrutiny of their implications. This would include any proposed budget increases on such as the hackney test fee which was doubled at the budget meeting in February at the same time as taxi card entitlement was being cut in half, both measures implemented without proper scrutiny."

By way of an Amendment, Councillor C Martin, seconded by Councillor C MacDonald moved that "Council agrees to:-

- (1) to endorse the decision of the Environment and Community Safety Committee on 17 August 2010 to agree to the proposed new fares scales detailed in the report attached as an appendix to the item, and accordingly to fix the fares for the hire of taxis in the Authority's area and all other charges allowed by Section 17(1) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 in terms of the Schedule attached to the Report setting out these fares and charges, and

- (2) to instruct the Acting Director of Law & Administration Services to give notice in terms of Section 17(4) of the Act to those persons and organisations consulted in terms of section 17(3)(a) and to inform them of the general effect of section 18(1)(appeals in respect of taxi fares).

On a division, 10 Members voted for the Motion and 15 voted for the Amendment.

Accordingly **AGREED** the terms of the amendment.