

**John Curry**  
**Service Director Assets and Infrastructure**

<i>Please ask for:</i>	<i>Gordon Grant</i>
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<i>Our Ref:</i>	<i>PTU/Taxi Ops Consultation</i>
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<i>Date:</i>	<i>20-June-2024</i>

Dear Operator

**CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982 SECTION 17**  
**NOTICE OF TAXI TRADE CONSULTATION MEETINGS: REVIEW OF TAXI RATES 2023/2024**

This notification is given in accordance with the council's requirement to implement a review of the taxi fare scale operating in this area, at least every 18 months. The last review was concluded on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August 2019. A further review was due in March 2021 however this was paused due to ongoing operational pressures on the council associated with the response to the Covid – 19 pandemic.

The review was subsequently undertaken in March 2022 which indicated that a 4.6% increase should be applied to fares. However, the proposed increase was appealed to the Traffic Commissioner who remitted the case back to the council on the 11th of May 2023 asking for the process to be undertaken again.

The Council uses a formula which was agreed between the trade, the traffic commissioner, and the Council in 2009 to determine variations in taxi rates.

This formula tracks changes in various motoring cost indicators such as vehicle costs and local wage rates. The calculation for this year's review has resulted in an overall **14.9% (fourteen point nine percent)** variation in the indicators over the last twelve months.

As part of the review process, and before a report is submitted to the Council, I am required to invite all licensed taxi operators and member of the public to enter into a consultation where you can offer your views on the draft proposal to increase taxi fares by 14.9%, your responses to the consultation will considered and included in the report to Elected members.

**It is my intention to take a report to the Council following the required consultation to recommend that taxi fares (both flag and distance) increase by 14.9% at the earliest opportunity. Please note: waiting time and valeting charges will remain unchanged. Thereafter in accordance with Section 17(4A)( c) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, I will require to arrange that the proposal for the new farescales is published in local newspapers, invite representations and consider these before finalising the review process.**

An online consultation for operators and members of the public will be run on Citizen Space between 24<sup>th</sup> of June 2024 and 21<sup>st</sup> of July 2024. The consultation can be accessed by visiting this link below . I would also be happy to meet with taxi operators individually to discuss any queries they may have, if you would like to request a meeting, please contact me on the email address provided in this letter.

The link to access the review and the QR code are below:

<https://scotborders.citizenspace.com/assets-and-infrastructure/taxi-fare-review-2024>



If you would prefer to contact me in writing either by email or letter with any views you may have about this proposal, and I will include your views into my report. These contact details are also shown overleaf.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Gordon Grant

Principal Transport Officer

### **WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS**

Any operator who is unable to access the online consultation may submit a written response to this consultation no later than 17.00 on 15<sup>th</sup> of July 2024.

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Or by email to

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