

Regulatory Committee

2.00pm, Monday, 3 February 2014

Taxi Stances – Revocations, Variations and Appointment – various locations along the Edinburgh Tram route. Outcome of Consultation with the Taxi trade and Public

Item number	7.2
Report number	
Wards	01 - Almond 03 - Drum Brae/Gyle 06 - Corstorphine & Murrayfield 11 - City Centre

Links

Coalition pledges	P18
Council outcomes	CO7 , CO8 , CO22
Single Outcome Agreement	SO1

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Executive summary

Taxi Stances – Revocations, Variations and Appointment – various locations along the Edinburgh Tram route. Outcome of Consultation with the Taxi trade and Public

Summary

This report details the outcome of consultation with the taxi trade and the general public with regard to the new and revised taxi stances along the tram route, as well as the introduction of additional temporary stances in the Haymarket area arising from changes to access arrangements introduced by Network Rail as part of the Haymarket Station redevelopment.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 1 notes the contents of this report;
- 2 notes the responses to the consultation and newspaper advertisement; and
- 3 appoints, varies or revokes the taxi stances as listed in Appendix 1

Measures of success

To have taxi ranks at the relevant locations in the city.

Financial impact

None.

Equalities impact

There is an ongoing full equalities impact assessment being undertaken in relation to the Edinburgh Tram project to ensure that as the implementation progresses the equality impact assessment is maintained.

Sustainability impact

As part of a broader sustainable transport strategy within the city, it is anticipated that the tram will make a positive overall contribution to the environment by encouraging modal shift from private vehicles to public transport and mitigating the impacts of population growth and commuter and visitor generated traffic.

Consultation and engagement

- Taxi Stance Working Group.
- Advertisement in the Edinburgh Evening News newspaper on 22 and 27 November 2013 and on-street notices, for the duration of the consultation period of 28 days.

Background reading/external references

- Tram Traffic Regulation Orders Drawings showing the location of sites under consideration.
- List of licensed taxi stances.
- Copy of street notice.
- Copy of Edinburgh Evening News advert.
- Copy of Taxi Stance report to the Regulatory Committee on 15 November 2013.

Taxi Stances – Revocations, Variations and Appointment – various locations along the Edinburgh Tram route. Outcome of Consultation with the Taxi trade and Public

1. Background

- 1.1 The introduction of the tram system to Edinburgh city centre has necessitated changes to the location of some of the taxi stances which are along or close to the route.
- 1.2 The Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 requires a Licensing Authority to consult with the taxi trade about changes to any rank on the public highway and advertise in a newspaper any new or increase in taxi rank provision.

2. Main report

- 2.1 At the Regulatory Committee meeting on 15 November 2013, authority was given to Council Officials to consult with the taxi trade (through the Taxi Stance Working Group) and the general public, on the changes (Appendix 1). It should be noted that the stance at Haymarket station (listed in Appendix 1) has been removed by Network Rail as part of the station redevelopment and replaced by a drop-off/pick-up zone. Therefore, this location is not to be considered further as a taxi stance. An additional 12 taxi stance spaces have been provided on a temporary basis in the vicinity of Haymarket Station. Consolidation of these spaces into permanent stances will be subject to a future report to the Regulatory Committee.
- 2.2 Consultation with the taxi trade has been carried out through the Taxi Stance Working Group (notes from this meeting are in Appendix 2). General consultation was carried out by the placing of an advert (see background papers) in the Edinburgh Evening News on 22 and 27 November 2013 and the placing of similar notices (see background papers) at each location. The general public were given 28 days to respond, from the date of the notice. There were no objections to the proposals.
- 2.3 The Council received three e-mails from members of the Taxi Stance Working Group supporting the current proposals (see Appendix 3).

- 2.4 One letter was received from the general public (see Appendix 3). This concerned the taxi stance in Rosebery Crescent. Since this letter was written, the Council has spoken to the author, regarding the concerns raised in their letter. A written reply has been sent out, which responds to their main concern regarding lack of suitable parking for blue badge holders. The presence of the taxi rank will prevent parking directly outside their premises, but there is suitable parking provision, within close proximity of their property. The locations of the proposed taxi stances are attached in Appendix 4.
- 2.5 Discussions and agreement have taken place between Council Officials and the Taxi Stance Working Group with regard to the provision (in the interim), of additional stances in Dalry Road and Clifton Terrace (location map see Appendix 4), following the removal of the stance outside Haymarket Station. These interim stances are in place under a temporary traffic regulation order. It should be noted that the removal of the former stances and installation of the new stances, in Appendix 1 of this report, has already been carried out.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Committee:
 - 3.1.1 notes the contents of this report;
 - 3.1.2 notes the responses to the consultation and newspaper advertisement; and
 - 3.1.3 appoints, varies or revokes the taxi stances as listed in Appendix 1

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Links

Coalition pledges	P18 – Complete the tram project in accordance with current plans
Council outcomes	CO7 – Edinburgh draws new investment in development and regeneration CO8 – Edinburgh’s economy creates and sustains job opportunities CO22 – Moving efficiently – Edinburgh has a transport system that improves connectivity and is green, healthy and accessible
Single Outcome Agreement	SO1 – Edinburgh’s economy delivers increased investment, jobs and opportunities for all
Appendices	Appendix 1 - List of sites under consideration Appendix 2 - Comments on the sites, noted at the meeting of the Taxi Stance Working Group on 11 December 2013 Appendix 3 - List of objections and comments to advert Appendix 4 – Location plans of proposed taxi stances

Taxi Ranks – new, revoked and re-determined by the tram project

<u>Location</u>	<u>number of spaces</u>		
	<u>new</u>	<u>revoked</u>	<u>re-determined</u>
Rosebery Crescent	3	0	0
Haymarket Station	3***	12	0
Canning Street	3	0	0
Frederick Street	5	5	0
Hanover Street	3	3	0
St Andrew Square (southside at westend)	6	0	0
North St Andrew Street (outside Harvey Nichols)	0	0	3*
South St Andrew Street (Westside-Meuse Lane to Square)	0	7	0
Edinburgh Park Station	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3**</u>
TOTAL	23	27	6

*net decrease by 1

**no change

***now removed by Network Rail station redevelopment