

Regulatory Committee

9.30am, Tuesday, 26 June 2018

Demand for Taxis: Six Monthly Update

Item number	7.4
Report number	
Executive/routine	
Wards	Citywide
Council Commitments	n/a

Executive Summary

This report provides an interim update on analysis of demand for taxis in the City. The report provides the Committee with the most recent analysis of demand, carried out by Vector Transport Consultancy in February 2018.

Demand for Taxis: Six Monthly Update

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 The Regulatory Committee is asked to:
 - 1.1.1 Note the attached report from Vector Transport Consultancy (Appendix 2);
 - 1.1.2 Further note that on 21 August 2017 the Regulatory Committee agreed to maintain the limitation policy and to fix the number of available licences at 1,316;
 - 1.1.3 agree that there is currently no evidence of significant unmet taxi demand and therefore maintains the limit of 1,316 on the number of taxis licensed in the city; and
 - 1.1.4 agree to use this survey as the basis for determining demand in any future applications for a taxi licence until the next taxi stance survey is completed.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Council has a policy of limiting the number of taxi licences issued within the city, utilising the powers available to it under Section 10 (3) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982. This power can only be used if the Council is satisfied that there is no 'significant unmet demand' for taxis. The Council is required to keep this position under regular review.
- 2.2 A full demand survey is carried out every three years. In order to ensure that there are not significant changes in demand the Regulatory Committee had previously agreed to commission consultants to review taxi demand at more frequent intervals. These interim surveys are carried out every six to eight months and provide the Committee with data and analysis concerning 'any significant unmet demand' for taxis.
- 2.3 The research findings are generally reported to the Committee at six monthly intervals. The most recent research took place in February 2018 and forms the basis of this report. Appendix 1 shows a summary analysis of the Vector

3. Main report

- 3.1 The Council acts as a Licensing Authority for the purpose of licensing taxis within the city. The Council has adopted a policy of limiting the number of taxi licences

issued where there is no evidence of significant unmet demand. All applications for taxi licences are currently referred to the Licensing Sub-Committee for a hearing and decision.

- 3.2 The policy of restricting the number of taxi licences within the city attracts considerable debate. One view, generally held by taxi licence holders, is strongly in favour of retaining the restriction on licence numbers, on the grounds that too many taxis would harm the taxi trade in general by reducing the business available to each taxi. Some individuals have argued that the policy is a restraint on trade, and seek the removal of the restriction. These applicants typically include people who do not currently have a taxi licence but wish to obtain one, or licensed taxi drivers who wish to operate their own taxi as opposed to driving shifts in taxis licensed to others.
- 3.3 The restriction policy has not been successfully legally challenged since 2011. The Council's policy was challenged in the form of appeals to the Sheriff against decisions of the Licensing Sub-Committee to refuse certain applications for taxi licences. Importantly, the Sheriffs' decisions made it clear that, in order to maintain a restriction, the Council must regularly inform itself on provision, and specifically on whether there is any unmet demand. A historic appeal against a previous decision has been reactivated and is currently in the courts.
- 3.4 The Scottish Government has issued guidance for licensing authorities which operate a limitation policy. The guidance clearly indicates that the level of unmet demand must be kept under regular review. The guidance also makes clear that authorities should consider any evidence of 'peak demand' and consider the impact of this when considering if there is 'significant unmet demand'. Examples of 'peak demand' may be after pubs and clubs close at weekends. The guidance also makes clear that peak demand should not be considered in isolation, but balanced against the full range of data. This review was last conducted in 2017, the result of which was reported to the Regulatory Committee on 21 August 2017.
- 3.5 The Vector Transport Consultancy research provides Committee with an up to date review of the level of demand for taxis in the city. If accepted by Committee, this will form the basis on which individual licences would be considered. Research to update the position with respect to unmet demand will continue to be carried out approximately every six months.
- 3.6 Interim survey results were last reported to the Committee in August 2017.
- 3.7 The survey on which this report is based was carried out in February 2018 by Vector Transport Consultancy.
- 3.8 The survey includes the monitoring of periods of peak demand, e.g. after midnight and, in particular, late nights on Fridays and Saturdays. The report shows that overall there is no evidence of significant unmet demand.
- 3.9 The Council has received no complaints about the availability of taxis within the city since the Committee last considered this issue. No complaints about the number of taxis have been raised with the Council by the hospitality or business communities.

- 3.10 Members are asked to note that at this time 1,316 licences have been issued, and thus if the Committee agrees to maintain the limit at 1,316 there are no licences available.

4. Measures of success

- 4.1 That the City has sufficient taxis to meet the customer demand placed upon the fleet.

5. Financial impact

- 5.1 The cost of the Vector Transport Consultancy research is contained within the income from the taxi licence fees.

6. Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

- 6.1 This regular monitoring is necessary to allow the Committee the option to maintain its policy of limiting the number of taxis.
- 6.2 There is a risk that unsuccessful individual applications for taxi licences may be appealed to the sheriff. The research described in this report reduces the risk to the Council from any challenge to the current limitation policy.

7. Equalities impact

- 7.1 Matters described in this report have no relationship to the public sector general equality duty, thus there is no direct equalities impact arising from this report.

8. Sustainability impact

- 8.1 Any increase in the taxi fleet by increasing the number of licences issued would have an impact on the Environment within the City, potentially including levels of pollution.

9. Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 Interim surveys are carried out on the Council's behalf by Vector Transport Consultancy approximately every six months.

10. Background reading/external references

- 10.1 [Restriction of Taxi Numbers In Edinburgh: report to full Council 23 August 2007.](#)

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11. Appendices

11.1 Appendix 1: Summary

11.2 Appendix 2: Vector Transport Consultancy report

TAXI MONITORING REPORT ANALYSIS

Assessment of Current Demand for Taxi Services in Edinburgh – February 2018

This report has been prepared on behalf of the Director of Place to assist members of the Licensing Sub-Committee in relation to applications for new taxi licences which may be considered at any meeting on or after 26 June 2018.

Stance observations indicate that there is no significant unmet demand for taxi services at this time.

Background

1. In January 2017, CH2M was commissioned to carry out surveys on the demand for taxi services in the city. CH2M reported on taxi rank observations, interviews and surveys conducted with passengers between April and May 2017. CH2M concluded there was no unmet demand at that time.
2. The conclusions of the CH2M report were presented to the Council's Regulatory Committee on 21 August 2017. Large scale surveys by consultants such as CH2M are obtained approximately every three years.
3. To provide information on taxi demand between the large-scale surveys, interim taxi rank observation surveys are carried out by Vector Transport Consultancy.

Stance Observation Survey

4. Vector Transport Consultancy provided the results of taxi rank surveys which were carried out at least twice at each location in February 2018. A selection of representative ranks was observed on different days and at different times. The 18 ranks selected for observation for both periods reflect locations both within the city centre and outwith it.
5. An additional 13 ranks were also observed in order to obtain a rough indication of the level of use at these ranks.

In total, 1,542 passengers were observed.
6. There are currently 82 taxi stances located throughout the city with a combined capacity for 293 waiting taxis. The stances observed make up 35% of the overall stances within the city.
 - The latest stance observations indicate that, at individual stances at the 18 'core' ranks, most passengers at ranks were able to obtain a taxi immediately. The average wait time per passenger was 13 seconds.

- At the additional 11 ranks surveyed, levels of activity were generally low. Passenger volumes observed were low and no passenger waiting was observed.

Additional Information

7. Between the last interim demand survey being reported in August 2017 and this latest observation period, no complaints concerning a lack of taxis in the city were received by the Council.

Conclusions

8. The stance observations indicate that most passengers at ranks were able to obtain a taxi immediately. The overall average time that a passenger had to wait at the 'core' ranks observed was 13 seconds.
9. Evidence of 'peak demand' in the form of waiting times longer than three minutes was recorded at certain times in the city centre. The Committee should note that the times given include instances where potential passengers 'gave up' waiting and left the queue.
 - Lothian Road (Saturday 3 Feb 2018)
Between 3:00 and 5:00 am the average passenger wait time was 3 minutes 46 seconds
 - Waverley Bridge (Monday 5 Feb 2018)
Between 2.00 and 4.00 am the average passenger wait time was 7 minutes 54 seconds
10. Councils are permitted to take a broad view of the demand for taxis over the week. The information in paragraphs seven to nine needs to be balanced against the information in paragraph nine with respect to 'peak demand'.
11. Therefore, taking into account the data provided by Vector Transport Consultancy, it has been concluded that there is no evidence of significant unmet demand for taxi services at this time.



Edinburgh interim survey of taxi stances February 2018

Survey Report

March 2018



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1 BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

1.1 Introduction

This survey has been conducted by Vector Transport Consultancy on behalf of the City of Edinburgh Council.

The survey was undertaken to collect usage statistics from taxi stances around Edinburgh. The survey maintains the approach taken by previous, similar surveys, when surveys were conducted at frequencies of approximately six months. During interim surveys in previous years, 18 taxi stances were surveyed over a series of days and time periods.

The 18 taxi stances regularly surveyed are:

- Castle Street
- Cluny Avenue
- Dundas Street
- Frederick Street
- Grassmarket
- Grosvenor Street
- Hanover Street
- High Street
- Holyrood Road
- Little France Crescent
- Lothian Road
- Morningside Road
- Morrison Street
- Nicolson Street
- Queensferry Street
- Rutland Street
- Waverley Bridge
- Wester Hailes

The City of Edinburgh Council maintains a list of current taxi stances. This list is available online at the following web address:

http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/3566/licensed_taxi_stances_in_edinburgh.pdf

The list indicates 82 taxi stances, of which 18 are regularly surveyed. In order to provide some additional indication of the level of use experienced at the stances which are not regularly surveyed, twelve of the stances which are not regularly surveyed during the interim rank surveys, were chosen for a one-off survey during each of the interim rank surveys. It is anticipated that a different twelve ranks will be chosen for each of the future interim surveys.

For the interim surveys undertaken during February 2018, twelve stances from the list were surveyed, plus a temporary rank established on the North side of St Andrews Square. The thirteen stances surveyed were:



- Cannongate
- Commercial Street
- George IV Bridge
- Granton Square
- Great Junction Street
- Leith Walk - Baxters Place
- Leith Walk – Omni
- London Road, East
- North Bridge, East
- North Bridge, West
- North St. Andrews Square (temporary)
- South St. Andrews Square
- Portobello High Street



2 REGULAR INTERIM RANK SURVEYS

2.1 Comments on the surveys

Of the 18 taxi stances normally surveyed, the stance at Little France Crescent (Royal Infirmary) had been suspended during the survey period. At the time, construction work was under way at the hospital and the road on which the taxi stance is normally located, was closed and was due to be closed for several months. As an interim measure, taxis were told to wait in one of the car parks. When passengers wanted a taxi, they were told to go to the Accident and Emergency entrance and to speak to a member of the security staff there, who would call by radio to a colleague in the car park, who would send a taxi to the Accident and Emergency entrance to pick up the waiting passenger. As this measure was not normal, nor comparable with previous surveys at the hospital rank, it was agreed that for this particular survey round, the hospital stance would be excluded from the survey. This was the same instance in the last interim survey.

2.2 Summary of rank survey results

The results of the regular interim rank surveys are summarised in the following tables.



2.3 Summary of interim taxi stance survey results

Table 1 - Summary of interim stance survey results part 1

Site no.	Street	Period	Edinburgh Council Rank No.	Day	Date	Survey Hours	Total no. taxis at rank	Average taxi wait time	Total passengers	Number of passengers who had to wait for a taxi to arrive.	Average passenger wait time for all passengers (mm:ss)	Average passenger wait time for passengers who had to wait for a taxi to arrive at the rank (mm:ss)
1	Castle Street	1	5	Thursday	01/02/2018	12:00-14:00	23	00:15:21	20	0	00:00	00:00
	Castle Street	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	18	00:05:38	13	0	00:00	00:00
2	Cluny Avenue	1	8	Thursday	01/02/2018	16:00-18:00	1	00:10:10	0	0	00:00	00:00
	Cluny Avenue	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	0	00:00:00	0	0	00:00	00:00
3	Dundas Street	1	13	Thursday	01/02/2018	12:00-14:00	28	00:11:36	19	2	00:05	00:52
	Dundas Street	2		Friday	02/02/2018	16:00-18:00	28	00:03:23	30	11	00:42	01:53
	Dundas Street	3		Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	13	00:03:34	11	8	01:31	02:04
	Dundas Street	4		Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	14	00:16:13	6	0	00:00	00:00
4	Frederick Street	1	19	Friday	02/02/2018	12:00-14:00	30	00:16:40	24	0	00:00	00:00
	Frederick Street	2		Friday	02/02/2018	21:00-23:00	37	00:07:33	43	0	00:00	00:00
5	Grassmarket	1	28 & 29	Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	9	00:04:46	15	0	00:00	00:00
	Grassmarket	2		Tuesday	06/02/2018	00:00-02:00	1	00:03:53	4	0	00:00	00:00
6	Grosvenor Street	1	31	Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	2	00:04:22	0	0	00:00	00:00
	Grosvenor Street	2		Wednesday	07/02/2018	00:00-02:00	1	00:00:00	0	0	00:00	00:00
7	Hanover Street	1	33	Friday	02/02/2018	16:00-18:00	45	00:07:53	49	2	00:06	02:35
	Hanover Street	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	34	00:06:28	50	5	00:08	01:32
8	High Street	1	34	Tuesday	06/02/2018	02:00-04:00	7	00:09:52	101	11	00:08	01:16
	High Street	2		Wednesday	07/02/2018	16:00-18:00	44	00:10:23	36	5	00:11	01:19
	High Street	3		Friday	09/02/2018	12:00-14:00	38	00:15:07	32	0	00:00	00:00
	High Street	4		Friday	09/02/2018	16:00-18:00	35	00:17:08	22	0	00:00	00:00
	High Street	5		Saturday	10/02/2018	12:00-14:00	33	00:17:37	40	0	00:00	00:00
	High Street	6		Saturday	10/02/2018	16:00-18:00	61	00:06:45	87	0	00:00	00:00
9	Holyrood Road	1	35	Wednesday	07/02/2018	12:00-14:00	15	00:11:40	4	0	00:00	00:00
	Holyrood Road	2		Saturday	10/02/2018	16:00-18:00	6	00:06:12	8	0	00:00	00:00



Table 2 - Summary of interim stance survey results part 2

Site no.	Street	Period	Edinburgh Council Rank No.	Day	Date	Survey Hours	Total no. taxis at rank	Average taxi wait time	Total passengers	Number of passengers who had to wait for a taxi to arrive.	Average passenger wait time for all passengers (mm:ss)	Average passenger wait time for passengers who had to wait for a taxi to arrive at the rank (mm:ss)
11	Lothian Road	1	54 & 55	Friday	02/02/2018	03:00-05:00	1	00:00:38	1	0	00:00	00:00
	Lothian Road	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	03:00-05:00	33	00:02:24	52	40	03:46	04:53
	Lothian Road	3		Tuesday	06/02/2018	12:00-14:00	35	00:23:25	32	0	00:00	00:00
	Lothian Road	4		Wednesday	07/02/2018	16:00-18:00	50	00:15:31	43	0	00:00	00:00
	Lothian Road	5		Friday	09/02/2018	02:00-04:00	18	00:07:53	19	0	00:00	00:00
	Lothian Road	6		Saturday	10/02/2018	12:00-14:00	28	00:11:21	16	0	00:00	00:00
12	Morningside Road	1	58	Wednesday	07/02/2018	16:00-18:00	5	00:02:52	7	0	00:00	00:00
	Morningside Road	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	10	00:11:03	11	0	00:00	00:00
13	Morrison Street	1	59 & 60	Friday	02/02/2018	16:00-18:00	21	00:07:55	12	0	00:00	00:00
	Morrison Street	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	1	00:00:28	2	0	00:00	00:00
14	Nicolson Square	1	62	Thursday	01/02/2018	00:00-02:00	2	00:15:43	0	0	00:00	00:00
	Nicolson Square	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	12	00:16:06	6	0	00:00	00:00
15	Queensberry Street	1	69	Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	30	00:05:02	34	0	00:00	00:00
	Queensberry Street	2		Monday	05/02/2018	21:00-23:00	4	00:02:02	6	0	00:00	00:00
16	Rutland Street	1	72	Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	52	00:04:47	84	18	00:13	01:02
	Rutland Street	2		Monday	05/02/2018	02:00-04:00	2	00:34:14	2	0	00:00	00:00
	Rutland Street	3		Tuesday	06/02/2018	12:00-14:00	21	00:23:02	25	0	00:00	00:00
	Rutland Street	4		Saturday	10/02/2018	16:00-18:00	37	00:11:11	46	0	00:00	00:00
17	Waverley Bridge	1	79	Friday	02/02/2018	21:00-23:00	59	00:15:51	70	0	00:00	00:00
	Waverley Bridge	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	93	00:05:58	170	0	00:00	00:00
	Waverley Bridge	3		Monday	05/02/2018	02:00-04:00	7	00:26:53	4	4	07:54	07:54
	Waverley Bridge	4		Saturday	10/02/2018	16:00-18:00	120	00:04:02	223	12	00:02	00:44
18	Wester Hailes	1	80 & 81	Tuesday	30/01/2018	12:00-14:00	27	00:17:53	21	0	00:00	00:00
	Wester Hailes	2		Thursday	01/02/2018	16:00-18:00	8	00:03:02	11	4	00:31	01:24
	Wester Hailes	3		Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	22	00:08:28	28	0	00:00	00:00
	Wester Hailes	4		Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	9	00:13:31	2	0	00:00	00:00
Total across all ranks surveyed							1294	00:09:45	1542	122	00:13	02:44



2.4 Weather conditions during the surveys

The following table presents the maximum and minimum temperatures experienced each day in Edinburgh, during the survey period.

Table 3 - Maximum and minimum temperatures

Date	Maximum temperature (°C)	Minimum temperature (°C)
30/01/18	7	4
01/02/18	7	1
02/02/18	7	1
03/02/18	4	1
04/02/18	7	0
05/02/18	3	0
06/02/18	4	-4
07/02/18	5	-5
09/02/18	5	1
10/02/18	9	1

General weather conditions during each of the survey periods were as follows:



Table 4 - Weather conditions

Date	Time start	Time finish	Weather conditions
30/01/2018	12:00	14:00	Dry with sunny spells
01/02/2018	00:00	02:00	Dry
01/02/2018	12:00	14:00	Bright and sunny
01/02/2018	16:00	18:00	Bright and sunny
02/02/2018	03:00	05:00	Dry
02/02/2018	12:00	14:00	Bright and sunny
02/02/2018	16:00	18:00	Dry with sunny spells
02/02/2018	21:00	23:00	Dry
03/02/2018	03:00	05:00	Rain showers
03/02/2018	12:00	14:00	Rain showers with sunny spells
03/02/2018	16:00	18:00	Rain showers with sunny spells
03/02/2018	21:00	23:00	Rain showers
05/02/2018	02:00	04:00	Dry
05/02/2018	12:00	14:00	Sunny spells and snow showers
05/02/2018	21:00	23:00	Dry
06/02/2018	00:00	02:00	Snow showers
06/02/2018	02:00	04:00	Snow showers
06/02/2018	12:00	14:00	Bright and sunny
07/02/2018	00:00	02:00	Dry
07/02/2018	12:00	14:00	Bright and sunny
07/02/2018	16:00	18:00	Sunny spells and snow showers
08/02/2018	12:00	14:00	Sunny with rain showers
08/02/2018	16:00	18:00	Bright and sunny
08/02/2018	21:00	23:00	Dry
09/02/2018	02:00	04:00	Dry
09/02/2018	12:00	14:00	Bright and sunny
09/02/2018	16:00	18:00	Dry with sunny spells
09/02/2018	21:00	23:00	Dry
10/02/2018	12:00	14:00	Bright and sunny
10/02/2018	16:00	18:00	Sunny with rain showers
10/02/2018	21:00	23:00	Rain showers

During the rank observation periods, the weather was varied but normal for the time of year. There is no clear evidence that the observations of activity at the taxi ranks were affected by weather.

2.5 Commentary on Results

The highest passenger volume observed over any of the survey periods was 223 passengers observed at Waverley Bridge between 16:00 and 18:00 on Saturday afternoon. The most significant passenger waiting occurred on Lothian Road during the early hours of Saturday morning (03:00 to 05:00), when 40 passengers had to wait for taxis to arrive at the taxi stance. These passengers had to wait for an average of 4 minutes 53 seconds. The passengers waiting at Lothian Road on Saturday morning accounted for thirty-three percent of all



passengers which were observed to have to wait for a taxi to arrive at the ranks. When taking all of the ranks into account. 122 passenger in total had to wait for taxis to arrive at the ranks. These 122 passengers waited an average of 2 minutes and 44 seconds.

In total, 1,542 passengers were observed. Most passengers arrived at the ranks to find taxis waiting to be hired. Hence, the majority of passengers did not have to wait for taxis.

2.6 Maximum taxi waiting times

The maximum time that a taxi was observed waiting at each rank, during each survey period, is presented in the following table.



Table 5 - Maximum taxi vehicle waiting times

Site no.	Street	Period	Edinburgh Council Rank No.	Day	Date	Survey Hours	Maximum wait time
1	Castle Street	1	5	Thursday	01/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:36:06
	Castle Street	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:18:28
2	Cluny Avenue	1	8	Thursday	01/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:10:10
	Cluny Avenue	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
3	Dundas Street	1	13	Thursday	01/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:48:24
	Dundas Street	2		Friday	02/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:12:06
	Dundas Street	3		Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:20:38
	Dundas Street	4		Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:33:38
4	Frederick Street	1	19	Friday	02/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:47:50
	Frederick Street	2		Friday	02/02/2018	21:00-23:00	00:21:34
5	Grassmarket	1	28 & 29	Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:12:50
	Grassmarket	2		Tuesday	06/02/2018	00:00-02:00	00:03:53
6	Grosvenor Street	1	31	Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:06:06
	Grosvenor Street	2		Wednesday	07/02/2018	00:00-02:00	00:00:00
7	Hanover Street	1	33	Friday	02/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:23:58
	Hanover Street	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:17:10
8	High Street	1	34	Tuesday	06/02/2018	02:00-04:00	00:38:37
	High Street	2		Wednesday	07/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:41:38
	High Street	3		Friday	09/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:33:53
	High Street	4		Friday	09/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:50:08
	High Street	5		Saturday	10/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:42:14
	High Street	6		Saturday	10/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:19:50
9	Holyrood Road	1	35	Wednesday	07/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:37:00
	Holyrood Road	2		Saturday	10/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:18:00
11	Lothian Road	1	54 & 55	Friday	02/02/2018	03:00-05:00	00:00:38
	Lothian Road	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	03:00-05:00	00:32:56
	Lothian Road	3		Tuesday	06/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:44:44
	Lothian Road	4		Wednesday	07/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:37:30
	Lothian Road	5		Friday	09/02/2018	02:00-04:00	00:27:08
	Lothian Road	6		Saturday	10/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:32:41
12	Morningside Road	1	58	Wednesday	07/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:07:08
	Morningside Road	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:39:02
13	Morrison Street	1	59 & 60	Friday	02/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:23:31
	Morrison Street	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:00:28
14	Nicolson Square	1	62	Thursday	01/02/2018	00:00-02:00	00:15:43
	Nicolson Square	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:37:04
15	Queensferry Street	1	69	Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:16:32
	Queensferry Street	2		Monday	05/02/2018	21:00-23:00	00:06:20
16	Rutland Street	1	72	Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:20:29
	Rutland Street	2		Monday	05/02/2018	02:00-04:00	01:01:23
	Rutland Street	3		Tuesday	06/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:54:34
	Rutland Street	4		Saturday	10/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:25:10
17	Waverley Bridge	1	79	Friday	02/02/2018	21:00-23:00	00:29:24
	Waverley Bridge	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:14:46
	Waverley Bridge	3		Monday	05/02/2018	02:00-04:00	00:56:27
	Waverley Bridge	4		Saturday	10/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:14:41
18	Wester Hailes	1	80 & 81	Tuesday	30/01/2018	12:00-14:00	00:48:56
	Wester Hailes	2		Thursday	01/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:13:04
	Wester Hailes	3		Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:22:07
	Wester Hailes	4		Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:33:19



2.7 Maximum passenger waiting times

The maximum time that a passenger was observed waiting at each rank, during each survey period, is presented in the following table.



Table 6 - Maximum passenger waiting times

Site no.	Street	Period	Edinburgh Council Rank No.	Day	Date	Survey Hours	Maximum wait time
1	Castle Street	1	5	Thursday	01/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
	Castle Street	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
2	Cluny Avenue	1	8	Thursday	01/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
	Cluny Avenue	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
3	Dundas Street	1	13	Thursday	01/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:01:44
	Dundas Street	2		Friday	02/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:08:14
	Dundas Street	3		Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:07:42
	Dundas Street	4		Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
4	Frederick Street	1	19	Friday	02/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
	Frederick Street	2		Friday	02/02/2018	21:00-23:00	00:00:00
5	Grassmarket	1	28 & 29	Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
	Grassmarket	2		Tuesday	06/02/2018	00:00-02:00	00:00:00
6	Grosvenor Street	1	31	Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
	Grosvenor Street	2		Wednesday	07/02/2018	00:00-02:00	00:00:00
7	Hanover Street	1	33	Friday	02/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:03:02
	Hanover Street	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:04:46
8	High Street	1	34	Tuesday	06/02/2018	02:00-04:00	00:03:18
	High Street	2		Wednesday	07/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:03:18
	High Street	3		Friday	09/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
	High Street	4		Friday	09/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
	High Street	5		Saturday	10/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
	High Street	6		Saturday	10/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
9	Holyrood Road	1	35	Wednesday	07/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
	Holyrood Road	2		Saturday	10/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
11	Lothian Road	1	54 & 55	Friday	02/02/2018	03:00-05:00	00:00:00
	Lothian Road	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	03:00-05:00	00:26:36
	Lothian Road	3		Tuesday	06/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
	Lothian Road	4		Wednesday	07/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
	Lothian Road	5		Friday	09/02/2018	02:00-04:00	00:00:00
	Lothian Road	6		Saturday	10/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
12	Morningside Road	1	58	Wednesday	07/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
	Morningside Road	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
13	Morrison Street	1	59 & 60	Friday	02/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
	Morrison Street	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
14	Nicolson Square	1	62	Thursday	01/02/2018	00:00-02:00	00:00:00
	Nicolson Square	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
15	Queensferry Street	1	69	Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
	Queensferry Street	2		Monday	05/02/2018	21:00-23:00	00:00:00
16	Rutland Street	1	72	Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:05:12
	Rutland Street	2		Monday	05/02/2018	02:00-04:00	00:00:00
	Rutland Street	3		Tuesday	06/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
	Rutland Street	4		Saturday	10/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
17	Waverley Bridge	1	79	Friday	02/02/2018	21:00-23:00	00:00:00
	Waverley Bridge	2		Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
	Waverley Bridge	3		Monday	05/02/2018	02:00-04:00	00:14:50
	Waverley Bridge	4		Saturday	10/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:01:26
18	Wester Hailes	1	80 & 81	Tuesday	30/01/2018	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
	Wester Hailes	2		Thursday	01/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:03:48
	Wester Hailes	3		Saturday	03/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
	Wester Hailes	4		Saturday	03/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:00:00

Full details of passenger wait times are presented in Appendix E.



2.8 Conclusions

Stance observations indicate that most passengers at ranks were able to obtain a taxi immediately. When we aggregate all passenger waiting time and divide by the total number of passengers (including both those who didn't have to wait and those who did have to wait) the average wait time per passenger was 13 seconds.



3 ADDITIONAL RANK SURVEYS

3.1 Comments on the surveys

A selection of 13 of the ranks in Edinburgh, not included in the regular interim surveys, was made. Each of these locations was recorded on video camera from either 7am Thursday 1st February 2018 – 7am Sunday 4th February 2018 or 7am Thursday 8th February 2018 – 7am Sunday 11th February 2018.. For each of the three 24 hour periods, there was an analysis of how busy the hourly intervals were. These were categorised by: no = no taxis in the hour, low = fewer than 3 taxis per hour, and active = 3 or more taxis per hour. This analysis is presented in Appendix C

3.2 Summary of rank survey results

At active stances, several periods, in common with the periods analysed for the main interim rank surveys, were chosen for detailed analysis of Taxi arrival and departure times and passenger volume and waiting analysis. These detailed results are presented in the following table.



Table 7 - Summary of additional rank survey results

Street	Period	Edinburgh Council Rank No.	Day	Date	Survey Hours	Total no. taxis at rank	Average taxi wait time	Total passengers	Number of passengers who had to wait for a taxi to arrive.	Average passenger wait time for all passengers (mm:ss)	Average passenger wait time for passengers who had to wait for a taxi to arrive at the rank (mm:ss)
Cannongate	1	4	Thursday	08/02/2018	12:00-14:00	19	00:14:25	13	0	00:00	00:00
Cannongate	2		Friday	09/02/2018	16:00-18:00	22	00:08:12	15	0	00:00	00:00
Commercial Street	1	9	Thursday	08/02/2018	16:00-18:00	13	00:05:41	2	0	00:00	00:00
Commercial Street	2		Friday	09/02/2018	21:00-23:00	39	00:04:28	54	8	00:03	00:22
George IV Bridge	1	20	Thursday	08/02/2018	21:00-23:00	16	00:05:44	18	0	00:00	00:00
George IV Bridge	2		Friday	09/02/2018	21:00-23:00	8	00:10:17	5	0	00:00	00:00
Leith Walk - Omni	1	49	Thursday	01/02/2018	12:00-14:00	28	00:13:06	28	0	00:00	00:00
Leith Walk - Omni	3		Saturday	03/02/2018	21:00-23:00	148	00:01:30	277	133	00:38	01:15
North Bridge, East	2		Friday	09/02/2018	21:00-23:00	12	00:06:57	12	0	00:00	00:00
North Bridge, East	3		Saturday	10/02/2018	21:00-23:00	9	00:01:30	7	0	00:00	00:00
North St. Andrews Square (temporary)	1		Thursday	08/02/2018	12:00-14:00	13	00:23:20	13	0	00:00	00:00
North St. Andrews Square (temporary)	2		Friday	09/02/2018	16:00-18:00	7	00:15:37	12	0	00:00	00:00
South St. Andrews Square	1	74	Thursday	01/02/2018	12:00-14:00	16	00:12:01	13	0	00:00	00:00
South St. Andrews Square	2		Friday	02/02/2018	16:00-18:00	17	00:03:29	23	0	00:00	00:00
Portobello High Street	1	68	Thursday	08/02/2018	12:00-14:00	6	00:22:21	0	0	00:00	00:00
Total across all ranks surveyed						350	00:06:48	467	141	00:22	01:12



3.3 Maximum taxi waiting times

The maximum time that a taxi was observed waiting at each rank, during each survey period, is presented in the following table. The table includes only the ranks where taxis were observed to wait during the processed periods.

Table 8 - Maximum taxi waiting times

Street	Day	Date	Survey Hours	Maximum wait time
Cannongate	Thursday	08/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:33:27
Cannongate	Friday	09/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:33:12
Commercial Street	Thursday	08/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:11:20
Commercial Street	Friday	09/02/2018	21:00-23:00	00:17:52
George IV Bridge	Thursday	08/02/2018	21:00-23:00	00:19:28
George IV Bridge	Friday	09/02/2018	21:00-23:00	00:26:12
Leith Walk - Omni	Thursday	01/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:39:34
Leith Walk - Omni	Saturday	03/02/2018	21:00-23:00	00:10:46
North Bridge, East	Friday	09/02/2018	21:00-23:00	00:19:20
North Bridge, East	Saturday	10/02/2018	21:00-23:00	00:03:42
North St. Andrews Square (temporary)	Thursday	08/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:52:18
North St. Andrews Square (temporary)	Friday	09/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:55:16
South St. Andrews Square	Thursday	01/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:25:32
South St. Andrews Square	Friday	02/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:11:50
Portobello High Street	Thursday	08/02/2018	12:00-14:00	00:22:27

3.4 Passenger waiting

The maximum time that a taxi was observed waiting at each rank, during each survey period, is presented in the following table. The table includes only the ranks where taxis were observed to wait during the processed periods.

Table 9 – Maximum passenger waiting times

Street	Day	Date	Survey Hours	Maximum wait time
Commercial Street	Friday	09/02/2018	21:00-23:00	00:01:42
Leith Walk - Omni	Saturday	03/02/2018	21:00-23:00	00:08:44
North Bridge, East	Saturday	10/02/2018	21:00-23:00	00:03:00
South St. Andrews Square	Friday	02/02/2018	16:00-18:00	00:01:44

3.5 Weather conditions during the surveys

The following table presents the maximum and minimum temperatures experienced each day in Edinburgh, during the survey period.



Table 10 - Temperatures during the additional rank surveys

Date	Maximum temperature (°C)	Minimum temperature (°C)
01/02/18	7	1
02/02/18	7	1
03/02/18	4	1
08/02/18	8	2
09/02/18	5	1
10/02/18	9	1

Table 11 - Weather conditions during the surveys

Date	Time start	Time finish	Weather conditions
01/02/2018	12:00	14:00	Bright and sunny
02/02/2018	16:00	18:00	Dry with sunny spells
03/02/2018	21:00	23:00	Rain showers
08/02/2018	12:00	14:00	Sunny with rain showers
08/02/2018	16:00	18:00	Bright and sunny
08/02/2018	21:00	23:00	Dry
09/02/2018	16:00	18:00	Dry with sunny spells
09/02/2018	21:00	23:00	Dry
10/02/2018	21:00	23:00	Rain showers

During the rank observation periods, the weather was varied but normal for the time of year. There is no clear evidence that the observations of activity at the taxi ranks were affected by weather.

3.6 Conclusions

Levels of activity at the additional ranks surveyed were generally low, with the exception of the Leith Walk - Omni rank and the rank on Commercial Street.