

Regulatory Committee

1.30pm, Monday 7 January 2019

Demand for Taxis: Six Monthly Update

Item number	7.3
Report number	
Executive/routine	
Wards	Citywide
Council Commitments	N/A

Executive Summary

This report provides the 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 June/July 2018.

Report

Demand for Taxis: Six Monthly Update

1. Recommendations

The Regulatory Committee is asked to:

- 1.1 Note the attached report from Vector Transport Consultancy (Appendix 2);
- 1.2 Further note that on 12 March 2018 the Regulatory Committee agreed to maintain the limitation policy and to fix the number of available licences at 1316. This was last reviewed by the committee when it considered a report on an interim survey of demand on 26 June 2018;
- 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
- 1.4 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 June and July 2018 and forms the basis of this report. Appendix 1 shows a summary analysis of the Vector Transport Consultancy report and Appendix 2 shows the full report.

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 Sheriff's 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 was recently in court and the Council successfully defended its position. An appeal by the applicant to the Sheriff Appeal Court is possible.
- 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 full survey was last conducted in 2017, the result of which was reported to the Regulatory Committee on 21 August 2017.
- 3.5 Interim survey results were last reported to the Committee in June 2018, approximately six months ago.

- 3.6 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.
- 3.7 The survey on which this report is based was carried out in June and July 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, other than about waiting times at Edinburgh Airport. No complaints about the number of taxis have been raised with the Council by the hospitality or business communities. Members will be aware of feedback from the trade that the rising number of PHCs has further suppressed demand for taxis.
- 3.10 Members are asked to note that, at 27 December 2018, 1,313 licences have been issued and are in effect. If the Committee agrees to maintain the limit at 1,316 there will therefore be three licences available. These three licences resulted from a) the deaths of two separate licence holders; and b) a company which held the third of these licences being struck off from the Register of Companies.
- 3.11 Whilst there are up to three licences fewer than the 1,316 limitation number in effect, members will note that that an application for a new Taxi Licence is due to be considered at the Licensing Sub-Committee meeting of 8 January 2019. Additionally, there are a further two applications for new Taxi Licences which are likely to be considered at the Licensing Sub-Committee meeting in February 2019. These applications relate to a surviving family member or a person formerly involved in a company which was struck off. Therefore, if the pending applications were to be granted, it is likely that the overall number of licences in effect will be 1,316.
- 3.12 Any future applications for new taxi licences will continue to be referred to the committee for determination in the chronological order in which they were received, unless there are exceptional reasons to prioritise a particular application (such as the death of a licence holder).

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.](#)

Paul Lawrence

Executive Director of Place

Contact: Andrew Mitchell, Regulatory Services Manager

E-mail andrew.mitchell@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 469 5822

11. Appendices

11.1 Appendix 1: Summary

11.2 Appendix 2: Vector Transport Consultancy report

Appendix 1

TAXI MONITORING REPORT ANALYSIS

Assessment of Current Demand for Taxi Services in Edinburgh – June/July 2018

This report has been prepared on behalf of the Executive 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 7 January 2019.

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 June and July 2018. A selection of representative ranks was observed on different days and at different times. The 23 ranks selected for observation for both periods reflect locations both within the city centre and outwith it.
5. During interim surveys in previous years, 18 taxi stances were surveyed over a series of days and time periods. For this and subsequent surveys, a further five stances have been included in the interim surveys in order to obtain a rough indication of the level of use at these ranks.
6. There are currently 82 taxi stances located throughout the city with a combined capacity for 293 waiting taxis. The stances observed make up 37% of the overall stances within the city.

- The latest stance observations indicate that, at individual stances at the 23 'core' ranks, most passengers at ranks were able to obtain a taxi immediately. The average wait time per passenger was 20 seconds.
- At the additional seven 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 June 2018 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 20 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 30 Jun 2018)
Between 03:00 and 05:00 the average passenger wait time was 14 minutes 58 seconds
 - Little France Crescent (Wednesday 4 Jul 2018)
Between 16:00 and 18:00 the average passenger wait time was 14 minutes 30 seconds
 - Dundas Street (Saturday 7 Jul 2018)
Between 12.00 and 14.00 the average passenger wait time was 10 minutes 34 seconds
 - Waverley Bridge (Saturday 30 Jun 2018)
Between 16:00 and 18:00 the average passenger wait time was 9 minutes 40 seconds
 - Dundas Street (Friday 6 Jul 2018)
Between 16:00 and 18:00 the average passenger wait time was 8 minutes 24 seconds
 - Little France Crescent (Saturday 7 Jul 2018)
Between 12.00 and 14.00 the average passenger wait time was 6 minutes 22 seconds
 - High Street (Wednesday 4 Jul 2018)

- Between 16:00 and 18:00 the average passenger wait time was 6 minutes 2 seconds
- Edinburgh Airport (Friday 6 Jul 2018)
Between 16:00 and 18:00 the average passenger wait time was 5 minutes 6 seconds
 - High Street (Saturday 7 Jul 2018)
Between 16:00 and 18:00 the average passenger wait time was 4 minutes 46 seconds
 - High Street (Friday 6 Jul 2018)
Between 12.00 and 14.00 the average passenger wait time was 4 minutes 32 seconds
 - Haymarket Dalry Rd (Saturday 7 Jul 2018)
Between 12.00 and 14.00 the average passenger wait time was 4 minutes 29 seconds
 - Market Street (Friday 6 Jul 2018)
Between 16:00 and 18:00 the average passenger wait time was 4 minutes 6 seconds
 - Market Street (Monday 9 Jul 2018)
Between 12.00 and 14.00 the average passenger wait time was 3 minutes 58 seconds
 - Rutland Street (Tuesday 3 Jul 2018)
Between 12.00 and 14.00 the average passenger wait time was 3 minutes 48 seconds
 - Hanover Street (Friday 6 Jul 2018)
Between 16:00 and 18:00 the average passenger wait time was 3 minutes 40 seconds
 - Haymarket Dalry Rd (Friday 6 Jul 2018)
Between 16:00 and 18:00 the average passenger wait time was 3 minutes 34 seconds
 - High Street (Friday 6 Jul 2018)
Between 16:00 and 18:00 the average passenger wait time was 3 minutes 28 seconds
 - Rutland Street (Saturday 7 Jul 2018)
Between 16:00 and 18:00 the average passenger wait time was 3 minutes 2 seconds

10. Councils are permitted to take a broad view of the demand for taxis over the week. The information in paragraph 8 needs to be balanced against the information in paragraph 9 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.

Appendix 2



Edinburgh interim survey of taxi stances June/July 2018

Survey Report

September 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. For this and subsequent surveys, a further five stances have been included in the interim surveys. The five stances added to the list of regular surveys were: Edinburgh Airport, Casselbank Street, Haymarket Station [Haymarket Terrace], Haymarket Station [Dalry Road] and Market Street.

The two ranks at Haymarket Station were affected by roadworks and had been temporarily relocated. The rank on Haymarket Terrace had been relocated further east and catered for west bound trips. The rank on Dalry Road was effectively relocated from the rank outside the East Entrance to Haymarket Station, to Dalry Road. This temporary rank facilitated travel to the east from the rank. Once the roadworks on Haymarket Terrace are complete it is anticipated that the ranks will be relocated to their old locations.

The 23 taxi stances to be 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 Square
- Queensferry Street
- Rutland Street
- Waverley Bridge
- Wester Hailes
- Edinburgh Airport
- Casselbank Street
- Haymarket Terrace (Temp)
- Haymarket Dalry Road (Temp)
- Market Street



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 23 (previously 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, seven of the stances which are not regularly surveyed during the interim rank surveys, are chosen for a one-off survey during each of the interim rank surveys. A different selection of ranks will be chosen for each of the future interim surveys.

For the interim surveys undertaken during June/July 2018, seven stances from the list were surveyed. The seven stances surveyed were:

- Oxgangs Street
- Falcon Avenue
- Merchiston Place
- Warrender Park Road
- Sciennes Road
- Home Street (East side at Tollcross)
- Home Street (outside Cameo Cinema)



2 REGULAR INTERIM RANK SURVEYS

2.1 Comments on the surveys

The rank at Nicolson Square was unusable as there were road works at the rank area. The roadway was closed and the rank could not be surveyed at this time.

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	05-07-18	12:00-14:00	10	0:10:35	5	0	00:00	00:00
	Castle Street	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	21	0:07:15	28	0	00:00	00:00
2	Cluny Avenue	1	8	Thursday	05-07-18	16:00-18:00	0	0:00:00	0	0	00:00	00:00
	Cluny Avenue	2		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	0	0:00:00	0	0	00:00	00:00
3	Dundas Street	1	13	Thursday	05-07-18	12:00-14:00	12	0:07:15	3	0	00:00	00:00
	Dundas Street	2		Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	11	0:02:09	6	6	03:01	03:01
	Dundas Street	3		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	7	0:04:16	7	6	02:31	02:57
	Dundas Street	4		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	6	0:05:54	3	1	00:39	01:56
4	Frederick Street	1	19	Friday	06-07-18	12:00-14:00	27	0:04:06	37	2	00:02	00:37
	Frederick Street	2		Friday	07-07-18	21:00-23:00	23	0:06:05	24	0	00:00	00:00
5	Grassmarket	1	28 & 29	Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	17	0:05:44	18	0	00:00	00:00
	Grassmarket	2		Tuesday	10-07-18	00:00-02:00	4	0:01:55	1	0	00:00	00:00
6	Gosvenor Street	1	31	Wednesday	04-07-18	00:00-02:00	0	0:00:00	0	0	00:00	00:00
	Gosvenor Street	2		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	0	0:00:00	0	0	00:00	00:00
7	Hanover Street	1	33	Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	40	0:05:28	49	6	00:11	01:30
	Hanover Street	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	33	0:04:44	41	2	00:06	02:10
8	High Street	1	34	Tuesday	03-07-18	02:00-04:00	25	0:08:53	30	0	00:00	00:00
	High Street	2		Wednesday	04-07-18	16:00-18:00	18	0:03:25	27	5	00:23	02:02
	High Street	3		Friday	06-07-18	12:00-14:00	19	0:03:35	30	3	00:17	02:55
	High Street	4		Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	37	0:02:56	53	7	00:16	01:59
	High Street	5		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	34	0:04:17	66	0	00:00	00:00
	High Street	6		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	35	0:06:01	64	8	00:10	01:22
9	Holyrood Road	1	35	Wednesday	04-07-18	12:00-14:00	3	0:04:44	1	0	00:00	00:00
	Holyrood Road	2		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	2	0:04:37	0	0	00:00	00:00
10	Little France Crescent	1	51	Wednesday	04-07-18	16:00-18:00	28	0:06:24	16	0	00:00	00:00
	Little France Crescent	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	20	0:08:53	13	0	00:00	00:00
11	Lothian Road	1	54 & 55	Tuesday	03-07-18	12:00-14:00	33	0:15:12	19	0	00:00	00:00
	Lothian Road	2		Wednesday	04-07-18	16:00-18:00	35	0:07:24	38	0	00:00	00:00
	Lothian Road	3		Friday	06-07-18	02:00-04:00	4	0:03:04	3	0	00:00	00:00
	Lothian Road	4		Friday	13-07-18	03:00-05:00	4	0:02:12	2	0	00:00	00:00
	Lothian Road	5		Saturday	30-06-18	03:00-05:00	31	0:06:46	62	42	01:44	02:34
	Lothian Road	6		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	19	0:16:14	18	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)
12	Morningside Road	1	58	Wednesday	04-07-18	16:00-18:00	4	0:04:46	0	0	00:00	00:00
	Morningside Road	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	5	0:01:47	4	0	00:00	00:00
13	Morrison Street	1	59 & 60	Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	9	0:11:54	3	2	00:33	00:50
	Morrison Street	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	3	0:07:23	0	0	00:00	00:00
14	Nicolson Square	1	62	Thursday	05-07-18	00:00-02:00	0	0:00:00	0	0	00:00	00:00
	Nicolson Square	2		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	0	0:00:00	0	0	00:00	00:00
15	Queensferry Street	1	69	Saturday	30-06-18	16:00-18:00	11	0:03:01	8	0	00:00	00:00
	Queensferry Street	2		Monday	02-07-18	21:00-23:00	14	0:08:43	2	0	00:00	00:00
16	Rulland Street	1	72	Saturday	30-06-18	16:00-18:00	31	0:07:30	45	2	00:04	01:19
	Rulland Street	2		Monday	02-07-18	02:00-04:00	2	0:01:18	3	1	00:56	02:48
	Rulland Street	3		Tuesday	03-07-18	12:00-14:00	28	0:09:25	44	1	00:09	03:46
	Rulland Street	4		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	35	0:04:00	47	2	00:04	01:31
17	Waverley Bridge	1	79	Saturday	30-06-18	16:00-18:00	64	0:02:42	183	43	00:24	01:41
	Waverley Bridge	2		Monday	02-07-18	02:00-04:00	7	0:09:30	8	0	00:00	00:00
	Waverley Bridge	3		Friday	06-07-18	21:00-23:00	77	0:11:24	88	0	00:00	00:00
	Waverley Bridge	4		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	130	0:04:54	263	0	00:00	00:00
18	Wester Hailes	1	80 & 81	Tuesday	03-07-18	12:00-14:00	16	0:10:23	22	1	00:03	01:02
	Wester Hailes	2		Thursday	05-07-18	16:00-18:00	0	0:00:00	0	0	00:00	00:00
	Wester Hailes	3		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	6	0:12:34	12	0	00:00	00:00
	Wester Hailes	4		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	1	0:01:14	1	0	00:00	00:00
19	Airport	1		Friday	29-06-18	21:00-23:00	154	0:06:21	154	0	00:00	00:00
	Airport	2		Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	89	0:09:32	79	128	05:06	03:09
	Airport	3		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	81	0:16:17	71	0	00:00	00:00
20	Cassellbank Street	1		Tuesday	03-07-18	12:00-14:00	7	0:04:46	6	0	00:00	00:00
	Cassellbank Street	2		Friday	06-07-18	21:00-23:00	1	0:10:02	0	0	00:00	00:00
21	Haymarket Dairy Road	1		Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	31	0:03:35	27	6	00:18	01:21
	Haymarket Dairy Road	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	26	0:03:10	46	0	00:00	00:00
22	Haymarket Terrace	1		Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	38	0:04:55	57	2	00:02	00:55
	Haymarket Terrace	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	39	0:11:15	67	0	00:00	00:00
23	Market Street	1		Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	134	0:07:06	227	28	00:08	01:08
	Market Street	2		Monday	09-07-18	12:00-14:00	127	0:05:54	229	31	00:07	00:55
Total across all ranks surveyed								00:03:47	2347	335	00:20	02:17



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)
28/06/18	26	8
29/06/18	15	10
30/06/18	19	10
01/07/18	21	7
02/07/18	18	9
03/07/18	22	11
04/07/18	24	9
05/07/18	24	10
06/07/18	23	10
07/07/18	25	8
08/07/18	24	14
09/07/18	21	14
10/07/18	21	13

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

Table 4 - Weather conditions

Daytime	Daytime Weather	Night time weather
28/6/18	Dry and bright	Dry and clear
29/6/18	Dry, bright, sunny spells	Dry and clear
30/6/18	Dry and bright	Dry and clear
1/7/18	Dry and bright	Dry and clear
2/7/18	Dry and bright	Dry and clear
3/7/18	Dry and bright	Dry and clear
4/7/18	Dry, bright, sunny spells	Dry and clear
5/7/18	Dry and bright	Dry and clear
6/7/18	Dry and bright	Dry and clear
7/7/18	Dry and bright	Dry and clear
8/7/18	Dry and bright	Dry and clear
9/7/18	Dry, bright, sunny spells	Dry and clear
10/7/18	Dry, bright, sunny spells	Dry and clear

During the rank observation periods, the weather didn't vary a great amount and was consistently warmer and dryer than may be expected 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 263 passengers observed at Waverley Bridge between 16:00 and 18:00 on Saturday afternoon. The most significant passenger waiting occurred at Edinburgh Airport



during the afternoon of Friday (16:00 to 18:00), when 128 passengers had to wait for taxis to arrive at the taxi stance. These passengers had to wait for an average of 5 minutes 6 seconds. The passengers waiting at the Airport on Friday afternoon accounted for thirty-eight 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, 335 passenger in total had to wait for taxis to arrive at the ranks. These 335 passengers waited an average of 2 minutes and 17 seconds.

In total, 2,347 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	05-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:35:18
	Castle Street	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:30:34
2	Cluny Avenue	1	8	Thursday	05-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
	Cluny Avenue	2		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
3	Dundas Street	1	13	Thursday	05-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:18:34
	Dundas Street	2		Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:10:50
	Dundas Street	3		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:09:48
	Dundas Street	4		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:27:54
4	Frederick Street	1	19	Friday	06-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:13:11
	Frederick Street	2		Friday	07-07-18	21:00-23:00	00:22:07
5	Grassmarket	1	28 & 29	Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:14:54
	Grassmarket	2		Tuesday	10-07-18	00:00-02:00	00:04:08
6	Grosvenor Street	1	31	Wednesday	04-07-18	00:00-02:00	00:00:00
	Grosvenor Street	2		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
7	Hanover Street	1	33	Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:17:55
	Hanover Street	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:16:10
8	High Street	1	34	Tuesday	03-07-18	02:00-04:00	00:27:02
	High Street	2		Wednesday	04-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:13:12
	High Street	3		Friday	06-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:11:42
	High Street	4		Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:08:00
	High Street	5		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:11:48
	High Street	6		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:21:22
9	Holyrood Road	1	35	Wednesday	04-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:07:20
	Holyrood Road	2		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:05:56
10	Little France Crescent	1	51	Wednesday	04-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:56:23
	Little France Crescent	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:43:38
11	Lothian Road	1	54 & 55	Tuesday	03-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:36:24
	Lothian Road	2		Wednesday	04-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:29:04
	Lothian Road	3		Friday	06-07-18	02:00-04:00	00:17:35
	Lothian Road	4		Friday	13-07-18	03:00-05:00	00:03:52
	Lothian Road	5		Saturday	30-06-18	03:00-05:00	03:02:18
	Lothian Road	6		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:47:32
12	Morningside Road	1	58	Wednesday	04-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:05:58
	Morningside Road	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:16:31
13	Morrison Street	1	59 & 60	Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:26:48
	Morrison Street	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:13:26
14	Nicolson Square	1	62	Thursday	05-07-18	00:00-02:00	00:00:00
	Nicolson Square	2		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
15	Queensferry Street	1	69	Saturday	30-06-18	16:00-18:00	00:10:36
	Queensferry Street	2		Monday	02-07-18	21:00-23:00	00:24:26
16	Rutland Street	1	72	Saturday	30-06-18	16:00-18:00	00:18:26
	Rutland Street	2		Monday	02-07-18	02:00-04:00	00:02:08
	Rutland Street	3		Tuesday	03-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:20:54
	Rutland Street	4		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:13:16
17	Waverley Bridge	1	79	Saturday	30-06-18	16:00-18:00	00:08:20
	Waverley Bridge	2		Monday	02-07-18	02:00-04:00	00:23:29
	Waverley Bridge	3		Friday	06-07-18	21:00-23:00	00:23:06
	Waverley Bridge	4		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:10:36
18	Wester Hailes	1	80 & 81	Tuesday	03-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:31:19
	Wester Hailes	2		Thursday	05-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
	Wester Hailes	3		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:22:46
	Wester Hailes	4		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:01:14
19	Airport	1		Friday	29-06-18	21:00-23:00	00:21:25
	Airport	2		Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:28:57
	Airport	3		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:38:41
20	Casselbank Street	1		Tuesday	03-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:12:26
	Casselbank Street	2		Friday	06-07-18	21:00-23:00	00:10:02
21	Haymarket Dairy Road	1		Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:09:19
	Haymarket Dairy Road	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:14:24
22	Haymarket Terrace	1		Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:16:52
	Haymarket Terrace	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:27:09
23	Market Street	1		Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:24:34
	Market Street	2		Monday	09-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:22:36



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.

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



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	05-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
	Castle Street	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
2	Cluny Avenue	1	8	Thursday	05-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
	Cluny Avenue	2		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
3	Dundas Street	1	13	Thursday	05-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
	Dundas Street	2		Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:08:24
	Dundas Street	3		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:10:34
	Dundas Street	4		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:01:58
4	Frederick Street	1	19	Friday	06-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:01:15
	Frederick Street	2		Friday	07-07-18	21:00-23:00	00:00:00
5	Grassmarket	1	28 & 29	Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
	Grassmarket	2		Tuesday	10-07-18	00:00-02:00	00:00:00
6	Grosvenor Street	1	31	Wednesday	04-07-18	00:00-02:00	00:00:00
	Grosvenor Street	2		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
7	Hanover Street	1	33	Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:03:40
	Hanover Street	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:02:35
8	High Street	1	34	Tuesday	03-07-18	02:00-04:00	00:00:00
	High Street	2		Wednesday	04-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:06:02
	High Street	3		Friday	06-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:04:32
	High Street	4		Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:03:28
	High Street	5		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
	High Street	6		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:04:46
9	Holyrood Road	1	35	Wednesday	04-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
	Holyrood Road	2		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
10	Little France Crescent	1	51	Wednesday	04-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:14:30
	Little France Crescent	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:06:22
11	Lothian Road	1	54 & 55	Tuesday	03-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
	Lothian Road	2		Wednesday	04-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
	Lothian Road	3		Friday	06-07-18	02:00-04:00	00:00:00
	Lothian Road	4		Friday	13-07-18	03:00-05:00	00:00:00
	Lothian Road	5		Saturday	30-06-18	03:00-05:00	00:14:58
	Lothian Road	6		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
12	Morningside Road	1	58	Wednesday	04-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
	Morningside Road	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
13	Morrison Street	1	59 & 60	Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:01:40
	Morrison Street	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
14	Nicolson Square	1	62	Thursday	05-07-18	00:00-02:00	00:00:00
	Nicolson Square	2		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
15	Queensferry Street	1	69	Saturday	30-06-18	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
	Queensferry Street	2		Monday	02-07-18	21:00-23:00	00:00:00
16	Rutland Street	1	72	Saturday	30-06-18	16:00-18:00	00:02:38
	Rutland Street	2		Monday	02-07-18	02:00-04:00	00:02:48
	Rutland Street	3		Tuesday	03-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:03:48
	Rutland Street	4		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:03:02
17	Waverley Bridge	1	79	Saturday	30-06-18	16:00-18:00	00:09:40
	Waverley Bridge	2		Monday	02-07-18	02:00-04:00	00:00:00
	Waverley Bridge	3		Friday	06-07-18	21:00-23:00	00:00:00
	Waverley Bridge	4		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
18	Wester Hailes	1	80 & 81	Tuesday	03-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:01:02
	Wester Hailes	2		Thursday	05-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
	Wester Hailes	3		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
	Wester Hailes	4		Saturday	07-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:00:00
19	Airport	1		Friday	29-06-18	21:00-23:00	00:00:00
	Airport	2		Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:13:49
	Airport	3		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
20	Casselbank Street	1		Tuesday	03-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
	Casselbank Street	2		Friday	06-07-18	21:00-23:00	00:00:00
21	Haymarket Dairy Road	1		Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:03:34
	Haymarket Dairy Road	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:04:29
22	Haymarket Terrace	1		Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:01:50
	Haymarket Terrace	2		Saturday	07-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:00:00
23	Market Street	1		Friday	06-07-18	16:00-18:00	00:04:05
	Market Street	2		Monday	09-07-18	12:00-14:00	00:03:58



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 20 seconds.



3 ADDITIONAL RANK SURVEYS

3.1 Comments on the surveys

A selection of 7 of the ranks in Edinburgh, not included in the regular interim surveys, was made. Each of these locations was recorded on video camera from 7am Thursday 28th June 2018 – 7am Sunday 1st July 2018. For each of the three 24 hour periods, there was an analysis of how busy the hourly intervals were. These were categorised by activity levels as:

- **No** = no taxis in the hour,
- **Low** = fewer than 3 taxi hires per hour,
- **Active** = 3 or more taxi hires 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	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)
Oxgangs Street	4	Thursday	28-06-18	12:00-14:00	0	0:00:00	0	0	0:00	00:00
Oxgangs Street		Friday	29-06-18	12:00-14:00	0	0:00:00	0	0	00:00	00:00
Falcon Avenue	9	Thursday	28-06-18	12:00-14:00	5	0:01:45	5	0	00:00	00:00
Falcon Avenue		Friday	29-06-18	18:00 - 18:00	4	0:02:11	4	0	00:00	00:00
Merchiston Place	20	Friday	29-06-18	12:00 - 14:00	3	0:01:54	3	0	00:00	00:00
Merchiston Place		Saturday	30-06-18	16:00 - 18:00	9	0:02:40	5	0	00:00	00:00
Waverley Park Road	49	Thursday	28-06-18	12:00 - 14:00	4	0:14:12	0	0	00:00	00:00
Sciennes Road	63	Thursday	29-06-18	12:00 - 14:00	3	0:14:36	1	0	00:00	00:00
Home Street - Stance 36		Friday	29-06-18	18:00-18:00	3	0:00:36	5	0	00:00	00:00
Home Street - Stance 37		Thursday	29-06-18	16:00 - 18:00	2	0:03:17	3	0	00:00	00:00
Home Street - Stance 37		Saturday	30-06-18	21:00-23:00	2	0:00:12	2	0	00:00	00:00
Totals					39	00:04:11	28	0	00:00	00:00