

Regulatory Committee

9.30am, Monday, 21 October 2019

Taxi Stance Appointment – East Market Street

Executive/routine	
Wards	All
Council Commitments	

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 It is recommended that the Regulatory Committee:
 - 1.1.1 notes the content of this report;
 - 1.1.2 notes that a temporary Traffic Regulation Order has been introduced by the Roads Authority for this proposed taxi stance;
 - 1.1.3 notes that officers have carried out statutory consultation on the appointment of the proposed taxi stance; and
 - 1.1.4 agrees to the appointment of the proposed taxi stance.

Paul Lawrence

Executive Director of Place

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Report

Taxi Stance Appointment – East Market Street

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to agree to the proposal by Roads Services to relocate the taxi stance currently situated at Market Street to East Market Street (Appendix 1), and to note that the Directorate have carried out the statutory consultation required to enable formal appointment of the taxi stance, as required by the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

3. Background

- 3.1 The City of Edinburgh Council, as a Licensing Authority, is required to appoint taxi stances in line with the provisions of S.19 (1) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 ('the 1982 Act').
- 3.2 The powers available to licensing authorities to provide taxi stances in their respective areas can be exercised provided that they obtain the necessary prior consents (including that of the Council, acting as roads authority); consult the appropriate trade organisations and other representatives; give notice to the Police and the public; and that they do not obstruct access to any premises.
- 3.3 To satisfy the process of obtaining relevant permission from the roads authority, taxi stances are also required to be created by way of Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO). This is separate from the requirements of the 1982 Act and falls within the remit of the Council as the roads authority. The appointment of stances is therefore subject to a dual process. Parking restrictions on and around taxi stances are facilitated by a TRO or a Temporary TRO (TTRO). A process map is included at [Appendix 2](#) for the information of members.

4. Main report

- 4.1 At its meeting on 19 August 2019, the Regulatory Committee agreed to instruct officers to proceed with the statutory consultation process for the proposed appointment of a taxi stance at East Market Street. The current temporary taxi stance at Market Street is considered no longer fit for purpose, and the reasons for removing this temporary taxi stance include significant traffic congestion, increase

in volume of pedestrians in the area and planned building development in the area exacerbating these concerns.

- 4.2 Officers conducted the relevant consultation requirements and actions which are detailed in 7.1 and 7.2 below. This included notifying ward councillors, businesses in the vicinity of East Market Street, Network Rail, Edinburgh Access Panel, administrators of the Taxi Card Scheme and Community Councils. The Directorate has checked the responses that have been received and no response has been received from any of these organisations. Officers have followed up with these organisations to check whether or not they wish to respond, and should any late responses be received these will be circulated as part of the additional papers.
- 4.3 A public advertisement was placed in the Edinburgh Evening News on Tuesday 17 September 2019 (see Appendix 3 for information).
- 4.4 No objections were raised to the Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) introduced by Road Services.
- 4.5 All comments and responses received in response to the newspaper advert and additional consultation actions undertaken by officers are included at Appendix 4. There were 140 responses submitted on the Council's Consultation Hub, and one additional response was received by email.
- 4.6 Several broad themes were outlined in the consultation responses:
 - 4.6.1 Public safety concerns that the proposal requires potential passengers to cross busy road(s)
 - 4.6.2 Concern about lack of a controlled crossing(s)
 - 4.6.3 View that the proposed stance is too far from Waverley station entrance
 - 4.6.4 Distance from station will encourage illegal Private Hire Car (PHC) touting (as no sight line to 'For Hire' lights on taxis)
 - 4.6.5 Will decrease accessibility for users and particularly those with reduced mobility, children, luggage etc
 - 4.6.6 Concern that there is no shelter from adverse weather
 - 4.6.7 Suggestion of marshalled rank under North Bridge and drop-off across road.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 In the event that the proposed taxi stance is appointed, Roads Services will commence the necessary follow up actions to implement the stance (e.g. laying of road markings, erection of appropriate signage etc.)
- 5.2 Officers will continue to engage with affected parties, including Network Rail, to assist their preparations for implementing this taxi stance appointment including altering existing signage within Waverley Station.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 The costs associated with the changes to the road infrastructure etc. required to implement these proposals will be managed within the existing Roads budget.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 In addition to its statutory obligations of notification to Police Scotland and public consultation by way of a newspaper advert, as instructed by the committee a wide-reaching notification took place. This included notifying:
- Businesses on East Market St and Market St – hand delivered letter
 - Police Scotland – by email
 - Administrators of the Taxi Card Scheme – by email
 - Edinburgh Access Panel – by email on 20/9/19
 - City Centre Ward Cllrs – by email on 20/9/19
 - Community Councils – by email on 20/9/19
 - Taxi Trade reps – by email on 20/9/19
 - Network Rail – by email on 20/9/19
 - Notice on display at Taxi Examination Centre – from 20/9/19
- 7.2 A consultation (Appendix 4) was hosted on the Council's public consultation hub between 17 September 2019 and 15 October 2019.

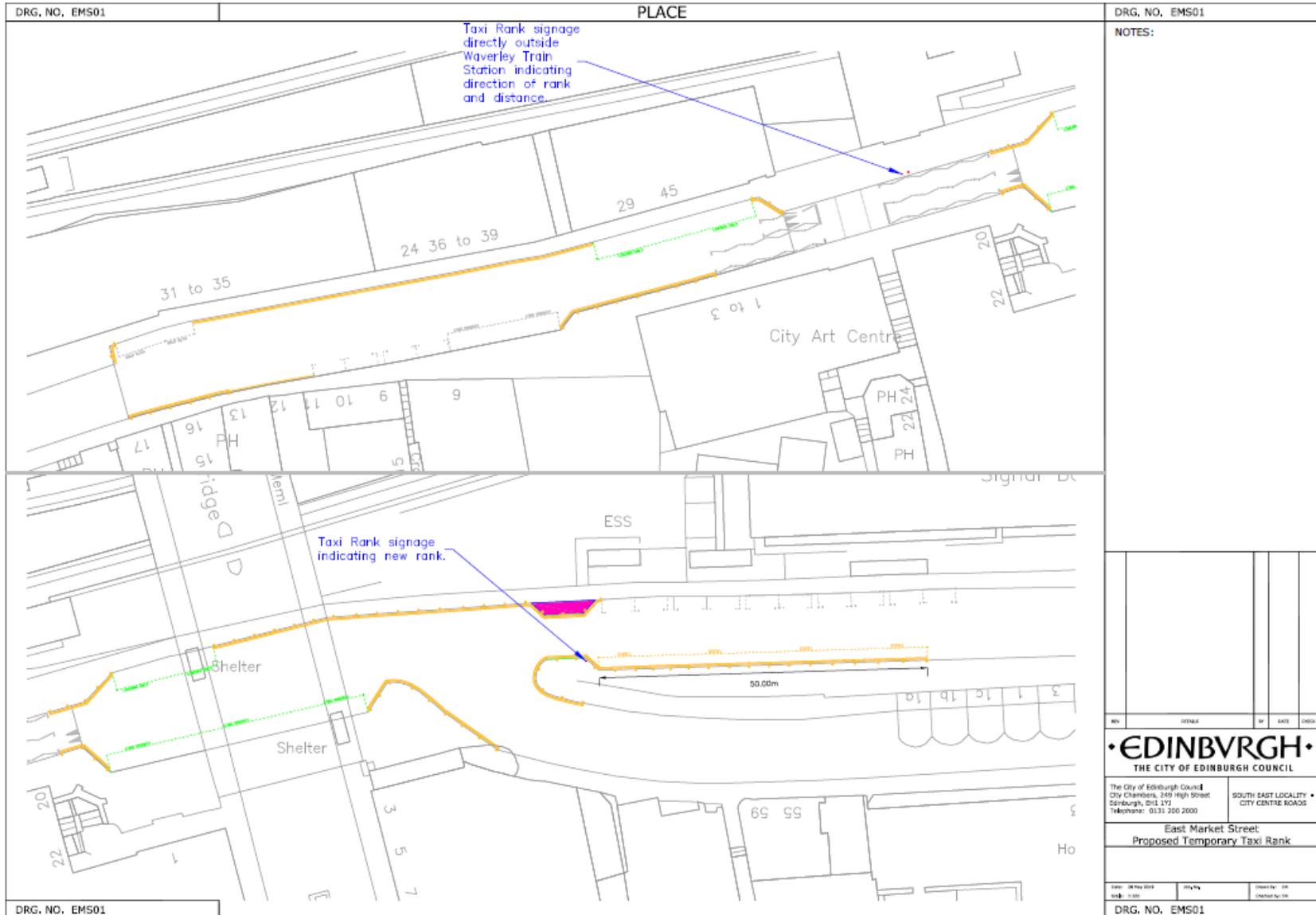
8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 None

9. Appendices

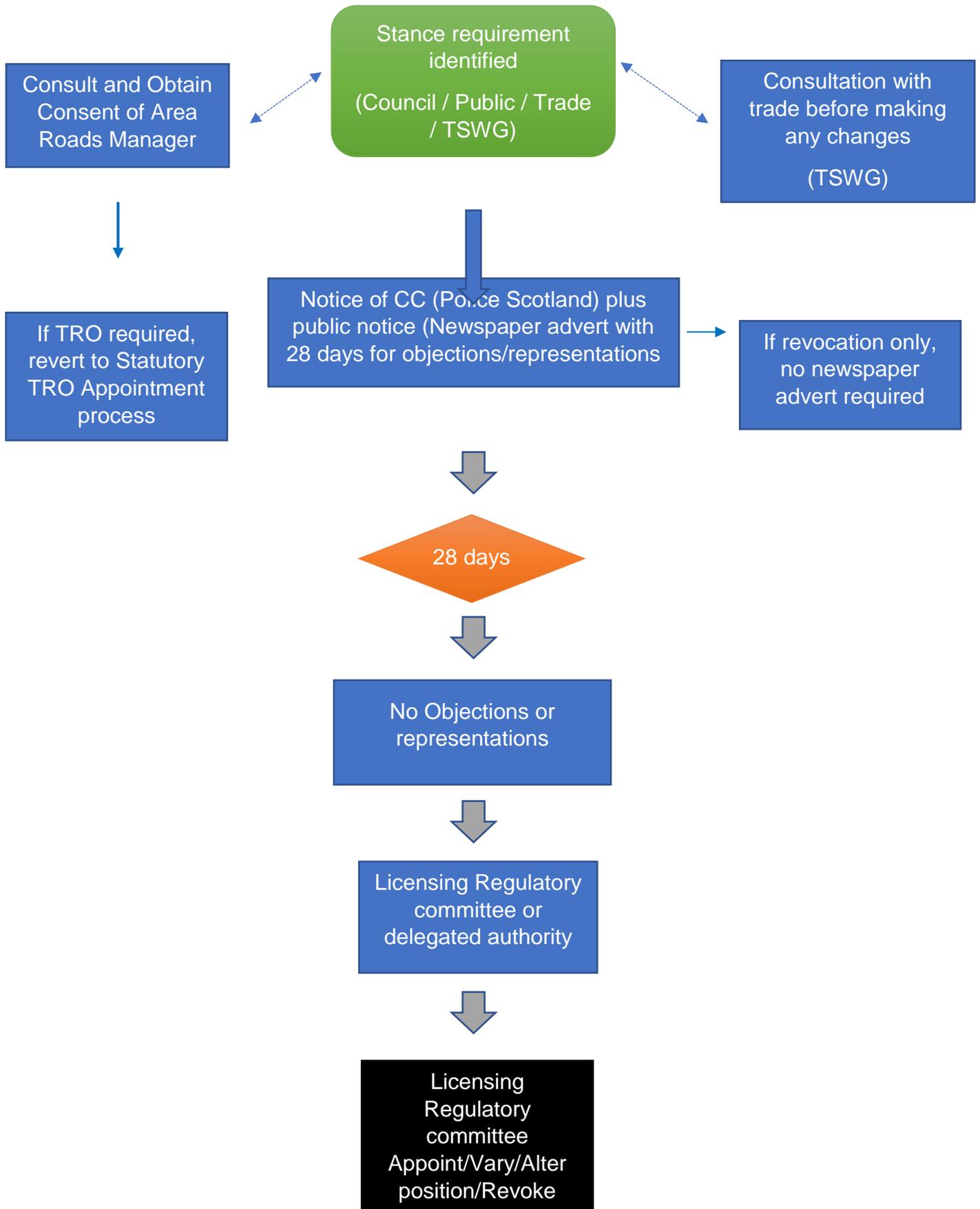
- 9.1 Appendix 1 – proposed plan of taxi stance at East Market Street
- 9.2 Appendix 2 – Taxi stance appointment process flowchart
- 9.3 Appendix 3 – Advertisement published in the Edinburgh Evening News on 17 September 2019
- 9.3 Appendix 4 – Consultation responses

Appendix 1 - proposed plan of the taxi stance at East Market Street



Appendix 2 – Stance appointment procedure

Procedure To Appoint, Vary, Revoke or Alter a Taxi Stance



CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

**CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982
APPOINTMENT OF A TAXI STANCE**

Notice is given that The City of Edinburgh Council, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 19 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, proposes to appoint the following taxi stance:

East Market Street

10 vehicle stance – 24 hours per day, Monday to Sunday

Located on East Market Street from the junction with Jeffrey Street heading in an easterly direction towards Waverley Court, terminating immediately adjacent to 1a The Arches.

Any objections or representations to this proposal should be lodged in writing with the Licensing Manager, The City of Edinburgh Council, City Chambers, Level 10, 329 High Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1YJ or by email to licensing@edinburgh.gov.uk, no later than 28 days after the date of this advertisement.

Paul Lawrence, Executive Director of Place, City of Edinburgh Council

Appendix 4: Consultation Responses

Consultation Hub

Question 4: Please give us your views on the proposed taxi stance.	
1.	Wrong area for a taxi stance
2.	<p>I agree that the existing arrangements in Market Street are unworkable.</p> <p>However the proposed solution requires all potential taxi users to cross a public road without (as far as I can see from the plan) any controlled crossing. There is then a high probability that they and their luggage will cluster on and around the pavement at the head of the rank causing a potential obstruction to traffic.</p> <p>I suggest a small adjustment to improve practical operation: create a small rank (perhaps 3 or 4 spaces at most) on the north side of Market Street clearly signposted "wait here for taxis" - which would avoid the the potential downsides of crossing roads with luggage - and use the space marked on the plan as a feeder rank, with drivers clearly able to see when they should pull over to pick up passengers and when there is a space for them.</p>
3.	Plan not clear which is the taxi pickup point and which is the taxi queue. As a passenger I would want the pickup point to be close to the East Market St exit.
4.	This idea will just move the taxi rank further away from the customers. Making life even more difficult for elderly and special needs people. Also encourage further touting from the Phc
5.	Age Concern groups and disabled groups already struggle to get out the station with Luggage etc, so moving it further makes absolutely no sense. The move will also involve crossing a busy junction.
6.	Ridiculous to move the rank further away from Waverley exit. The passengers have to cross an extremely busy road, many of the passengers are elderly, mobility issues or have young families. To expect people to navigate this crossing with suitcases and other heavy and difficult items is ludicrous. There is no shelter and being further away from the exit just further encourages the illegal touting and pick up from Private Hire vehicles.
7.	I think depending on where its placed,its not a good idea for customers,they are not going to have access to waverley bridge rank because its being moved too,i think the taxi rank in market street is too far away as it is,directly under north bridge was an excellent rank,customers are tired enough when they come out of the station,let alone having to walk more
8.	You want to move the taxi rank further away from one of the main entrances not a great idea the public at the moment are struggling to find a taxi at the station as it is
9.	The new stance is too far away and passengers, including disabled, will have to cross at a dangerously wide junction to get to the new rank. The existing temporary rank works well and has only been problematic since

	<p>the construction works began. Given these are almost finished the traffic should move again. Another contributor to the congestion is the zebra crossing with which pedestrians constantly stream across and most times not even looking leaving vehicles to wait 2-3 mins at a time to get one vehicle over the crossing. A pelican crossing would allow the traffic to move quicker thus avoiding tailbacks.</p>
10.	<p>Whist the position of the existing rank is not ideal to move the rank further from the exit is not in the best interest of passengers. There are many elderly passengers who struggle with luggage and also young families with luggage who need to engage onward travel from the Station with ease</p>
11.	<p>I believe it is essential for a licensed taxi rank to be as near to the exit of Waverly station on Market Street as possible. Moving the rank away to East market Street will cause the public unnecessary confusion and time locating the rank.</p> <p>People expect to be able to walk out of a major transport hub in a capital city and see licensed taxis in front of them.</p> <p>This proposal could result in the public getting into unlicensed vehicles (PHC that haven't been booked). Private Hire vehicles will undoubtedly form a 'rank' near to the exit in the anticipation on unsuspecting passengers not knowing the difference between public and private hire vehicles. I believe this is a public safety issue!</p>
12.	
13.	<p>This is a total slap on the face to every cabbie in Edinburgh from the counsel. I think it is a total disgrace how the black cab trade is getting victimised. How are we supposed to pick up the elderly and disabled safely if we do not have a proper designated drop-off and pickup point at one of the U.K.'s busiest train stations.</p>
14.	<p>It's been a disgrace the way the public have been treated near Waverley Station for a number of years now. Especially disabled and those who have walking difficulties trying to access a taxi at the station. We need a proper Taxi stance for a reasonable number of Taxis with a decent feeder area as well due to the number of people requiring a taxi when the city is very busy. There also has to be a decent area for dropping people off. Carlton Road entrance is unacceptable due to having to access 2 lifts before getting into the station.</p>
15.	<p>As a taxi driver ive pointed out to customers about new rank 100 percent not in favour</p>
16.	<p>The rank is too far away from the station. As this council encourages tourists from all over the world how do you expect elderly, people with children in pushchairs to walk that distance whist also carrying luggage</p>
17.	<p>Too far for pax. Main rank should be under the bridge and use that part as a feeder.</p>
18.	<p>Shocking idea.thing about the elderly and disabled.making people walk further than they should and crossing roads.The council need to have a long hard look at themself.</p>
19.	<p>The taxi rank at the Waverley station is a joke. Too many cars vans and buses blocking the road not allowing the taxis to turn onto the rank</p>

	causing congestion. The rank should be in the station where passengers with disabilities can be picked up with ease.
20.	
21.	The taxi rank should not be moved further away from station It should be right outside station It is a main transport hub and it should be easy for passengers to get a taxi
22.	Leaving it wide open for private hire to tout for work !!
23.	Leaving it wide open for private hire to tout for work !!
24.	The Taxi situation has never been the same since it was removed from the station. It's now very difficult to get in and out of the station when being dropped off outside. I cannot imagine how the elderly and disabled manage. It's time it was the citizen of Edinburgh that was put first and not the tourist.
25.	This taxi rank is no good especially as it rains a lot in Edinburgh and the fact that passengers with kids need to cross the road with luggage this could be a real safety problem and the fact that there is no shelter as passengers have to wait on taxis I think this process should be consulted with disability groups as it's not very disabled friendly
26.	The proposed new taxi rank is far too far away from the exit of the station. I'd like to see a drop off at the current taxi rank on Market Street with the new rank under North Bridge and a feeder rank in your proposed new taxi rank. Making rail travellers cross two roads after exiting Edinburgh's biggest station is embarrassing. The impact on the elderly and anyone with young children or a large amount of baggage will definitely struggle. Has anyone with a young family and baggage or someone elderly with baggage attempted this yet. If so I'm sure they'll be less than impressed.
27.	The council obviously don't have any family members that find each yard they walk painful how can you possibly move it even further away from station have some serious consideration avoid disabled and elderly
28.	This is outrageous that you expect disabled and physically challenged customers to walk some distance from the station to get a taxi. It's almost discrimination.
29.	Disgraceful that that it should be so far away from the exit and on the other side of the road.
30.	The taxi rank in my opinion should be situated under cover and not exposed to the elements and should also be under the control of a rank marshal to avoid the misuse of the rank by numerous private hire cars
31.	Poor decision.. passengers already have to travel very far from platforms to current taxi stance.. the new position proposed for stance will be difficult to see and dangerous as passengers will have to walk further beside a busy road.. if the rank was to move the space left where current rank is would be taken up by private hire vehicles touting for business off the street which they aren't allowed to do.. passengers will try to flag down passing taxis who will have to decline the fares as the rank is further down the street.. this will upset passengers

32.	Does no one in the council ever consider the public? Have they been consulted? The new rank is even further away from the station than at present. Would you want to walk all that way, especially if it was raining? It also gives carte blanche to the private hire to carry on with their illegal activities outside the station because the council and police will just turn a blind eye as usual. Another nail in the coffin for the black cab trade.
33.	<p>East market st is far from exit, taxi ranks won't be visible like we have witnessed in the past during road works.</p> <p>Private hire cars been seen many times touting under the bridge.</p> <p>We have lots of visitors by trains in Edinburgh and I think if we take taxi ranks far we can leave many of these first time comers on the mercy of private hire cars sitting and touting under the bridge.</p> <p>Also I think it will be more difficult for senior citizens or ones on wheel chairs to go all the way down</p>
34.	Not the best idea the Council has ever had. Customers know where the rank is now, they expect to find taxis on rank. Moving the rank will only confuse customer & let PHC'S pick up illegally on the street. Do the Council have NO thought for the elderly and disabled.
35.	The elderly and disabled find our current rank in market street far to far to walk from the platform as it is never mind moving it another 50 yards further down the road.crossing maker st then having to get themselves over the busy junction of Jeffrey st, there must be a better solution than this come on Edinburgh let's make arriving at waverly welcoming, you could keep us on the same side of the rd facing the opposite way all the way down market st on left hand side facing up towards the entrance simple. It used to be impossible as wheelchair loading was on passenger side but most cabs can load both sides now. Let's make it customer friendly
36.	The proposed rank is too far with suitcases, hard for elderly and disabled and wheelchair users plus means crossing at the crossing point outside the station and then over Jeffrey Street which is a busy and dangerous junction or walking along on the same side as the station and crossing over opposite the rank which is also dangerous for the public as there is no crossing further up. Bet they will walk up and cross over opposite rank. At the very least the public should only have to cross one road at proper pedestrian crossing so perhaps the rank along Jeffrey Street back toward the Jury's Inn? Or along East Market Street on the same side as the station. Back in the station would be best...
37.	A taxi rank in Market Street is not suitable. Currently access for pedestrians is a nightmare which is bad enough but even worse is the dangerous U turns taxis do. Often mounting the pavement. If I have interpreted the plans correctly the proposed area near the junction to Jeffrey St is even worse with that junction being almost impossible for pedestrians to cross currently. What it will be like with much higher traffic movement compounded with people unfamiliar with the area is an accident waiting to happen.

38.	It's bad enough where it's currently situated, to move it further away from the exit and on the opposite side of the road is ridiculous. No consideration for the elderly or disabled. Edinburgh's weather can also be pretty brutal at times, to expect customers to have to walk even further to pick up a taxi is also unacceptable. This proposal must be knocked on the head immediately.
39.	Useless too far away from station , not good for people with disabilities.
40.	May serve a purpose but radical rethink needed in line with plans for city centre. Perhaps a rank outside apple shop. Larger rank on waverley bridge would mean less importance on market st rank. Too much traffic on market st also.
41.	What a absolute farce! The capital city of scotland and you put a rank more than 100 metres from the main train station! It your duty as a council to make it ease of access for all passengers living/visiting the capital! Virtually no signage to inform passengers! Apart from that there is no where near enough rank spaces for the cabs, no enforcement of phc illegally picking up off our streets day or night! No enforcement of vehicles parking on ranks, no enforcement of greenways! This clowncil are an absolute farse! Sack the lot of them and put people in that can actually do the job #edcwasteofspace!
42.	To far to walk for older customers..
43.	Shocking to far away ...
44.	To far away and private hire will have a Field day ...
45.	To far to walk For the old people
46.	Terrible
47.	Unbelievable how you expect people to walk so far ..
48.	Shocking to far away from Station
49.	How far do you expect Tourists to walk ,with luggage to find a taxi ,shocking 😡
50.	To far away ,another excuse for people thinking there is no taxis available.
51.	Very poor as people will need to walk further and older people with luggage or disabled people will not be able to
52.	It was a bad idea moving it out of station, old and infirm are now very exhausted by time the get out of station to existing rank (and wet if raining) moving even further away not helping public transport only making it worse.
53.	The proposed location is too far from the exit of the station which will add on to the problem faced by the passengers on daily basis. already this is very challenging for elderly, families with young kids and disabled, people with luggage. It will also encourage illegal pick ups by private hire vehicles as the lights are too far from the entrance with no enforcement in place. Also will create friction between black cab drivers as it will be tempting to pick up near dungeons while lights are hardly visible sitting on the proposed location.
54.	This is yet another astonishing mistake by the ever failing council! As the sales and marketing consultant for City Cabs, I hear constantly from key accounts (Hotel GM's etc) the feeling of disbelief at the council's lack of

	support for local businesses and city residents. There is an overwhelming feeling that the amount of private hire plates in Edinburgh is purely a money making scheme with no leaving little resources to deal with the actual problems that are causing long term devastating problems in our city!
55.	Taxi rank has to be close to exits of Station for easy access for our customers, some with health issues.
56.	It will avoid traffic congestion in market Street, but only concern is that passenger s have to cross the road to hop on to the taxi. Pain for people having luggages.
57.	This new proposed taxi is too far away for disabled passengers.
58.	Too long for elderly and disabled people to walk. Crossing 2 roads to get to a taxi rank seems madness. Sensible solution if the existing rank has to be moved, which is a big if! Would be to have a rank under north bridge. And the extended rank down east market street. That would be much safer and more accessible. Even more sensible would be to operate some sort of fob for approved taxi drivers to go down into waverly.
59.	I am concerned with the public safety in getting to the proposed rank also the clear danger that Pivate hire cars will use the area under the north bridge to pick up illegally
60.	Far to far away from exit the drop off point opposite exit will be full of phc and with no one enforcing illegal pick ups people will take them rather than walk 100yards for a taxi
61.	To far away from the station, people who are require a taxi will be left confused as to whether they can get one, also we seem to be moved from pillar to post, while eagle eye phc sit opposite and offer their services unopposed. Thus causing problems of safety and rule breaking
62.	Find it incredibly frustrating that you want to move the main taxi rank from the biggest transport hub in town further away from the public.i wish you could hear the complaints we get on a daily basis from elderly and disabled passengers about the state of market at and lack of accessibility to get a taxi after a long train journey.any other mainline train station in the country apart from Edinburgh has a taxi rank right next to the station.the council and ScotRail should hold there heads in shame the way they are treating the public
63.	Moving taxi rank in market street is bad move as amount of old folk and disabled people find it hard enough where rank is at moment.There is limited drop off space because of workers bans allowed to park anywhere.Put rank under bridge move the illegal phc rank it would help movement of traffic in the area
64.	At the moment people coming out of the station have trouble seeing us so it would be more difficult to see us in East Market Street and even further to walk . People with low mobility struggle enough without us being further away .
65.	The stance is far too far away from the station this city is a laughable
66.	I do not think it is suitable for travellers crossing the street with luggage, they may also have children. My concern is also with the elderly, infirm or disabled. Visitors to the city will also find it more difficult to find the taxi

	rank. With no rank visible at the exit of Waverley station I also believe that travellers will summon a private car or taxi to travel to the exit causing increased and unnecessary emissions.
67.	<p>Why on earth do you keep moving the taxi rank further and further away from the station? It's hard enough making my way there now and you are making it worse. I sometimes feel this council is against those of us with disabilities.</p> <p>I suppose I could just go into one of the private cars that sit there shouting 'taxi' at me every time I slowly walk past. Trust me if I could run away from our commonwealth cousins shouting taxi at me then I really would.</p>
68.	It will be far to far away for passengers there are far more easier options like leaving it where it is and creating a feeder rank on the top part of Market street it is after all the main railway station for the capital of Scotland
69.	<p>The proposal is not fit for purpose moving taxis further away from the station exit and also on the other side of the road. Cars and especially private hire vehicles will continue to pick up under the north bridge and will impede the view of the rank making it even more difficult for the public to see the rank.</p> <p>The rank has previously been there temporarily and cars were regularly parked on it unenforced causing even more problems</p> <p>This proposal is unworkable and unacceptable</p> <p>A solution, place a painted roundabout at the junction of market st/ Jeffrey st and a solid white middle line between said roundabout and Waverley bridge/market st roundabout leaving the rank in its current position. Any taxis having picked up from rank then have to go to roundabout to turn if going west or north. Any taxi coming from Jeffrey st/east market st must turn at Waverley bridge/market st roundabout due to solid white line.</p> <p>Stops congestion caused by taxis creating "U turns" in market street and alleviates the problem currently caused at the rank</p> <p>Cost to the council, painting roundabout and solid white line between both roundabouts. Minimal</p>
70.	<p>in my opinion the moving of the taxi stance is totally shambolic, it should be as close as practically possible to allow members of the public to exit the station and enter a taxi and depart to their next destination. Moving it away will cause utter confusion allowing the already illegal touting of the private hire drivers which goes on unchecked. Even the local police do nothing about it when they stand at the exit of the station !</p> <p>the disabled and infirm are again losing out with having to navigate to an area away from the station, as mentioned the illegal parking/touting of private hire cars makes this a very dangerous route for people to walk. Put the the taxi rank back to where it used to be, under the bridge and</p>

	have it marshalled to only allow drop off at the opposite side and not as it seems a rank for private hire cars.
71.	The taxi stance should be in the station. Its a unique setting with challenges for disabled/elderly and families with luggage to navigate their way into the station. Having it in Market St is hard enough without having to get to East Market St now. Ridiculous.
72.	This a complete misuse of time and money. ECC should be trying to reduce the usage of vehicles in the city centre not building more taxi ranks. Support more Just Eat cycle docks, cycle parking, pedestrian and public transport options.
73.	Absolutely hopeless. The taxi ranks are miles from the station platforms; rail passengers with heavy luggage, pushchairs or mobility problems have to negotiate their way up and down steps, escalators and slow and possibly crowded lifts to reach that side of Waverley Station, then have to deal with a crowded and poorly-lit street, clogged with cars, delivery vans, Jury's Hotel traffic, gallery visitors - and much of the time - exposed to rain and wind.
74.	As I understand it, the plans mean that the rank would be further away from the station. While I do not have mobility difficulties, I frequently travel to and from Waverley by taxi and with luggage that slows me down. As such I am aware that it is already a difficult station to access, navigate and use (nobody's fault: just a reflection of the steep gradient on both sides and the topography of the site). In particular people with mobility problems will already find it hard to use. Moving the taxis further away will increase this problem. While I suppose that the old system of allowing taxis in cannot be reinstated for security reasons, they should be as close as possible.
75.	In its current position, the Taxi-rank Market Street, is a total disaster. I work part-time at the City Art Centre and am, therefore, in an ideal position to view the farce on a regular basis. The taxi-rank simply has to move further away from Fruitmarket. All day long there are traffic pile-ups, near misses with non-stop Taxi U-turns in the road, consistent blocking of loading bays all day (which the parking inspectors never ever enforce), there is car engine idling, and bus routes consistently blocked with double-parking to unload and collect passengers. It is one, if not the single, most depressing street in Edinburgh City Centre.
76.	Too far for disabled and the elderly to walk with luggage, present rank works fine, just use both sides of the street for the rank. If it is too proceed needs better signage both inside and outside the station. This may also lead to more "seagulling" by PHC drivers who will hang about station entrance, while the taxi rank is out of sight. So not a good idea Also requires better enforcement to make sure rank is not used as a drop off zone, also the drop off needs looked at, considering the amount of passengers using the station
77.	Makes sense to have it where the road is less narrow but there will be lots of disabled passengers who will struggle to get along the road safely and there is no shelter for them to travel under other than the bridge.

	<p>If the whole of Market/East Market Street was a one way road from Waverley Bridge/Cockburn Street and Jeffrey Street was only a right turn road then there would not be an issue with the current location of the taxi rank taking up one half of the road nearest the station - lack of shelter and phone for people to call taxi's withstanding.</p> <p>Enforcement of taxi's/other vehicles doing u-turns around the Station needs to up a step with cameras to catch those breaking the law that the irregular wardens do not.</p>
78.	<p>For any one who has the slightest mobility problems or the elderly or families with buggies small children and luggage, the taxi rank is already too far away.</p> <p>I appreciate that it is not an easy station to access but please don't move the rank</p>
79.	<p>It should be as close as possible to help everyone coming out of the station. It's hard enough for some to exit the steep hill never mind then looking for further assistance to get a TAXI.</p>
80.	<p>I think that finding a taxi close enough to the station is difficult at the moment, having to walk up the hill. When you get there, if you have problems with your hips or knees it is difficult to get in the taxi's if they park away from the kerb</p>
81.	<p>The taxi stance should stay where it is or ideally move back in to the train station!</p>
82.	<p>It's too far away from the exit for people with disabilities and elderly people</p>
83.	<p>I have slight mobility problems and find it extremely difficult accessing Waverley station and more so when you have to alight from further down the rank due to a queue of taxis dropping off passengers. Even though there are lifts to take you to platforms there is quite a distance between them. Please reinstall taxis within the station.</p>
84.	<p>Dreadful idea. Should never have been moved from inside the station in the first place, never mind further away still. Completely ignoring the needs of less mobile travellers, or families with luggage and small children. Area is already overly congested with pedestrians so having to walk further to taxi rank will be really difficult for a lot of people. What sort of impact does this have to first time visitors to our city?</p>
85.	<p>What does this say about arriving in Edinburgh - it is ill conceived and is not practical or welcoming.</p> <p>A huge effort is about to be made to rearrange everything in the city centre - will this location fit in with those plans?</p> <p>Why here?</p> <p>The old stance under North Bridge was closed and is still closed with temporary barriers - why?</p> <p>What prevents this area being used?</p> <p>This stance will serve the station and to get to the suggested location anyone leaving the station has to walk a considerable distance and cross two roads and Jeffrey Street is more than 6metres wide!</p> <p>Neither East Market Street or Jeffrey Street has a crossing to help at this location.</p> <p>How realistic is this for anyone with a disability - as if doing that will not</p>

	<p>be difficult enough with luggage.</p> <p>The suggested stance is in such an unintuitive location that it has to be signposted! It is nearly 100metres away from the entrance and is not near to any other premises that may generate demand for a taxi?</p> <p>Why not use the south side of Market Street under North Bridge - it is still "open"? There is already a well used crossing and the area can readily be seen from the station and is under a degree of cover.</p>
86.	<p>The rank is too far from the station entrance making it far too difficult for anyone with mobility issues or disabilities to access. Visually impaired persons would find this very difficult.</p> <p>The rank should be as close to the entrance as possible and feature a shelter for busy periods during inclement weather.</p> <p>The Calton Road exit would be an ideal locus for a rank, turning a generally quiet street into a busier area. Ideal for access to Old Town/Leith/Bridges/Broughton/New Town/East/South of city</p>
87.	<p>i spend half my year in Edinburgh. But I come back especially if my 86 year old father needs to catch a train. Already it is a nightmare for older people with cases. This will make it even worse. I've lived in cities all over the EU and Waverley is one of the least accessible stations.</p>
88.	<p>It's bad enough that you have to walk so far from the concourse, up escalators /stairs and then stand in open with no shelter, but moving the rank further away is a dreadful idea. Move it back into the station where it used to be - dry, sheltered, convenient for all especially the elderly and infirm. No brainer.</p>
89.	<p>It is far too far from the Waverley station entrance . The only acceptable solution is to require network rail to allow Waverley station to be reopened to taxis so those with luggage can access trains . My 80 year old mother struggled down the steps with suitcase in August as lift at market st end not working. It hardly encourages rail travel! In the meantime rank should remain as close to entrance as possible</p>
90.	<p>It is hard for older and disabled people to even get out of the station, so putting the taxi stance even further away seems a retrograde step. I find the station an increasingly difficult place to use.</p>
91.	<p>How are people who can't walk far able to access?. Hidden disabilities like COPD, SBS, MS, ME Parkinson's, Cancer - all these and others mean that people don't have stamina to walk more than 25 yards.</p>
92.	<p>Basically this is a poorly considered proposal. It is essential to minimise the distance between train and taxi particularly for those mobility challenged.</p> <p>The current arrangements are already extremely poor. It requires a walk of up to 150m and at least 2 separate lift journeys exiting onto a pavement of inadequate width for people to pass and queue.</p> <p>Given developments in the station, Network Rail's contention that closure of the internal taxi pick up was for security appears mendacious. They should be forced to reopen the through road to taxis, which had to be approved previously, maintaining any existing moveable barriers considered necessary.</p>

93.	<p>Good location, should stop dangerous manouevres at the current location. Good signage required, and shelter would be ideal. Can the space below North Bridge be better utilised if this was deemed by others to be too far away?</p>
94.	<p>No objection.</p> <p>The relocation is required and the proposal is sensible. This has the added benefit of locating rank closer to Council HQ and the new hotels in area.</p> <p>This should remain a temporary measure pending Waverley Masterplan and City Centre Transformation.</p>
95.	<p>On paper it looks ok but I would like confirmation that the taxis would be allowed to pull forward from the rank to pick up their fare at the station entrance.</p> <p>There should be a 'taxi master' in charge at the rank. He should be the same be to whistle forward the taxi that is to take the next fare.</p>
96.	<p>Two things, the weather can be very inhospitable at that entrance, so asking people to drag their cases another 200m, is not very welcoming. The area you propose putting the Taxi rank, is useful for dropping off/collecting people who travel by train, I use this frequently for collecting my elderly mother.</p>
97.	<p>Utterly ridicules, to far and out the way! What if..... your disabled! Old and can't walk far, a Mum with pushchair and children, a visitor with Luggage. So it's the middle of winter raining cold and dark, it's just the wrong place!</p> <p>Why not have a proper covered Taxi Rank on the Waverley Bridge especially now that the plan is to close it off to general traffic. We are the Capital City after all!</p>
98.	<p>The only way this will ever work is if it's enforced properly. Market Street is already very busy, and taxis frequently take up more than the space the rank allows. You need to stipulate how many cans can be ranked at any one time, and move the rest on.</p>
99.	<p>The proposal is very disappointingly presented as it fails to set out any information about number of people who need to use a taxi rank interchange with Waverley station and what their needs are. It is correct that the present arrangements are very unsatisfactory and the ease of interchange between taxi and rail at Waverley has significantly deteriorated since the Internal taxi rank was closed. Passengers are now faced with hauling their luggage up a number of sets of stairs or at busy times a huge queue for lifts to the street to stand, possibly in the rain on an overcrowded pavement. These proposals may reduce pavement congestion by moving the rank further away from the station but they take no account of the need to improve matters for passengers wishing to get a taxi from the station, especially if they are disabled or have heavy luggage. The aim should be to reduce not increase the walking distance for passengers arriving at Waverley Station. It is not clear how this proposal improves transport interchange beyond making</p>

	things slightly less dire for those who are able to walk the extra distance from the station. Overall the arrangements for interchange with the station are shambolic for a capital city. A better proposal should be developed.
100.	It will be good to move the taxis away from the current spot on market st. The footpath is too narrow and the taxis are constantly blocking the road and making it more dangerous for other road users
101.	This will help bring more footfall to the shops under the arches. Good location but could do with a zebra crossing at the junction.
102.	Too far away from station exit which will surely encourage the illegal touting of phc
103.	Market st is very busy at times a taxi rank inside the station would be much better for disabled passengers and tourists.
104.	I believe we need a much larger and better organised taxi stance within Waverly Station. The existing taxi stance on East Market Street is simply not fit for purpose - it is far too small, far too crowded and has no cover from the elements. When combined with everyday traffic, this stance is dangerous for customers and completely insufficient for a transport hub in a capital city.
105.	I think making the stance even this short distance away from the present one is difficult for 1 older people 2 those with mobility problems 3 families with pushchairs and luggage and what about bad weather?
106.	This move would be disastrously disadvantageous to the Taxi Trade in the City. Despite the difficulties of the present location, the public, at least, are able to exit the Station and immediately see the 'FOR HIRE' lights of the queuing taxis, and recognise that there is a taxi rank from the number of 'FOR HIRE' lights within their range of vision. THIS WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE FROM THE PROPOSED RELOCATION SITE!
107.	THE PROPOSED TAXI STANCE IS NOT FIT FOR PURPOSE, YOU ARE ASKING PASSENGERS TO CROSS OVER TWO BUSY ROADS, WITH ONLY ONE CROSSING WITH LIGHTS TO STOP TRAFFIC, THIS IS UNSAFE. SOME PASSENGERS ARE INFIRM, HAVE BUGGY'S, SMALL CHILDREN AND LUGGAGE. IF PASSENGERS ARE TRAVELLING EAST THERE WILL BE AN AWKWARD MANOEUVRE TO TURN IN THE ROAD, WHICH WILL CAUSE OBSTRUCTIONS TO OTHER ROAD USERS.
108.	Its too far away from the railway station. Not really sure what the point of having this. You could alternatively put measures in place to make the existing stance in Market Street safer. Albeit Appendix 1 Plan is totally unclear you explain the location.
109.	It seems most logical to me to return the stance to Waverley Bridge, which is a wider road, accessible without crossing roads, and at least provides some shelter when exiting. The current plan looks fraught with problems, even if it is a marginal improvement on the chaos outside the

	Market street exit currently. The two ramps out of Waverley are ideal exits and there is room on the Bridge to accommodate a rank. Some sort of online monitoring system could allow a larger number of taxis to wait elsewhere (e.g. East Market Street) and then to move to the Bridge as needed.
110.	Yes, we need this taxi stance, even though it holds up other traffic. But what we need MORE is a tase stance in Waverley Station itself I am physically disabled, and getting down from any of the existing taxi ranls to the station itself is a challenge. PLEASE can we go back to the previous system, when taxis were ranked on the lower floor of the station.
111.	The taxi rank is far to far away as it is and you are going to move it further away over the other side of the road how an earth are the disabled and elderly going to manage that one. You guys up in the council need to start looking after the people of Edinburgh rather than running this city as a business it's our city after all. Tell you what one of you guys carry suitcases and kids of the platform up to the proposed taxi rank you are absolutely mad to think this is a good decision. Over 2 crossings when someone gets killed. Get the taxi rank turned round the other way from the side door down market st easy sorted.
112.	Moving the taxi rank further away is not a good idea. Lots of older people and people with luggage would you like to walk that distance with your luggage even on a good day
113.	It gets moved from Pilar to post this rank keep it where it is as it's in view when coming out of market st and it is large enough for a lot of taxis to get on
114.	Absolutely ridiculous.. can't even see the rank when you come out of the station it's soooo far away. Plus on other side of road. No good whatsoever. Utter joke..everyone will just turn right when they come out of station not left. Who on earth thinks this is a good idea. Sacked is what they need to be. Bloody Edinburgh clowncil at its best
115.	Too far from station especially for travelers with luggage, families with buggies and kids,and the older generation... The rank should be back in the station!!!
116.	I belive market st taxi stance it's in right place also I would belive market st should be excluded from street traffic like cowgate btw 22 and 5 am due to people walking on the street In my personal opinion driving thru this part many times I was notice dangerous behaviour of night stag outs children's running in to the street also waverley bridge and for me public safety it's most important! So I would like to suggest pick up point at east market st new st or Jeffrey street thanks
117.	The proposed taxi rank is dangerous as passenger will have to cross a busy road which will be difficult for elderly and infirm people also it is too far away from station the PHC cars will simply stop outside the station and pick up they are doing it now in challenged
118.	Taxi stance too far away from station exit and proposed location is across a busy road which will cause traffic chaos, when large numbers of people try to get to the it. Elderly, disabled and infirm find it a task already to get

	<p>out of the station to taxis where they are currently situated, so this will compound the problem. Visitors and locals alike should have immediate access to taxis as far as possible, as this is often the first thing they see and gives an overall impression of the city to them. The new proposed site is out of clear visual line and will just cause confusion as it did previously when situated there. A taxi rank of sufficient capacity at the station exit, in my opinion, will benefit visitors and residents far more than this new proposed location. Also, leaving 'free space' outside the station exit (ie-loading bays) just creates chaos in terms of double parking and phc using it as a 'rank' such as under North bridge currently.</p>
119.	Terrible
120.	<p>The proposed position for the new rank in east market street would NOT be fit for use! Its current location and the under provision of rank spaces is not fit for purpose either! The ideal location of the rank would be under north bridge! This area would allow taxis to rank and give waiting passengers a little bit of shelter too. To move the rank to east market street would put us at a distance from the exit doors of the Waverley that could allow the unsolicited touting of private hire cars to sit there and tout for work! Also because we would be out with the fifty metre radius it would allow unscrupulous Taxi drivers to stop and pick up there too!</p>
121.	<p>Unnecessary and also more difficult for the passenger. Safety is an issue also with passengers having to cross the road. Elderly and disabled people will find it more challenging to make it to the taxi stance with luggage also. During peak periods the amount of people crossing the road is an accident waiting to happen</p>
122.	<p>The whole arrangement here from an Edinburgh citizen point of view is a farce. A supposed capital city of a putative independent country has a third world station support arrangement - congestion and no shelter for people queuing. Why can't the bridge repairs be completed? Like Picardy Place, this is a project with no apparent end. Why won't the Council engage with Network Rail to get taxis back into the station or relocated away from Market Street to the other side of the station (assuming of course that the road there will ever be opened properly if work on the rock will ever be finished)?</p>
123.	<p>Stance is too far away from station Stance is on wrong side of the road Private hire cars will be allowed to pick up closer to the station Rank needs to stay where it is Roundabout needs placing at Jeffrey st junction with solid white line between both roundabouts so entering and exiting rank is by roundabout cutting out congestion by removing turning at rank</p>
124.	<p>This is a terrible idea! Almost as bad as at Haymarket and don't get me started on the loss of the Omni tank. In this climate, when there is alternative options. Why not have front of the taxi rank on the same side of the street as Waverley, under the bridge? More easily visible. Less difficult to get to. If it had to move then at least save the (possibly foreign) passengers from having to cross the road, taxi drivers ranking on the right of the road will cause far less chaos than travellers crossing at an awkward junction.</p>

	<p>Also, at least the bridge could afford some semblance of shelter in the rain..</p> <p>Please re consider this. You are placing a loading bay exactly where it will be abused and there is little to no enforcement on this when it's busy and most necessary.</p>
125.	seems like a reasonable idea
126.	<p>It is held as the principle argument the re-location of the Market Street rank is for 'public health & safety'. Unfortunately, the proposal in its current form is likely to have the opposite effect. I shall illustrate the situation for you.</p> <p>It is unavoidable and inconvenient fact that taxis can and will congregate where demand exists. The only legal mechanism that can currently control this behaviour is the 50m radius of a taxi stance.</p> <p>The current licensing rules surrounding taxi ranks are well respected by the Edinburgh taxi trade and crucially, give a clear legal framework for enforcement of such ranks.</p> <p>By moving the rank to such a far distance from the entrance, you also move all the strict rules and regulations away from the station entrance, as these rules only have a 50m radius.</p> <p>We now have an exposed station entrance, out-width the 50m regulatory radius of a taxi rank. This, very clearly, is going to create a very unregulated environment in-front of the station entrance on Market Street. This will take on many forms, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Taxis forming unofficial ranks in the previous location. - Private Hire Vehicles touting for business in an area of high demand. - Public confusion as to where and why there are not taxis available immediately at the entrance. <p>As has been clearly demonstrated in recent years, various attempts have been made to discourage taxis congregating at the top of Waverley Steps. All of these efforts have failed, and the very same situation is likely to occur on Market Street on a much grander scale. Pressing ahead with these proposals will leave the authorities powerless to act on what will be continued & relentless Taxi/PH activity at the previous area. Chaos will ensue.</p> <p>Given that the illustrated scenario above is patently obvious to anybody who involved with the Taxi/PH trade, it begs the question as to whether underlying motives exist in regards to the relocation of arguably the busiest public taxi rank in the east of Scotland.</p>
127.	I think the further you put the rank away from station it will deter the paying public from using a licensed Black cab. Also the drop off point ie under the bridge is always full of phc sitting there for some considerable amount off time and unoficialy ranking against the rules
128.	By moving the stance to where you are suggesting will make it extremely difficult for elderly, disabled and young families that will no doubt be

	<p>carrying luggage. The public will also have to cross a very busy street that is also at a junction with Jeffrey street.</p> <p>The drop of area that you propose will also turn into an illegal private hire car rank . This will make touting for illegal pick ups more of a regular thing. I really hope city of Edinburgh council have measurable resources to deal with this inevitable behaviour from private hire drivers.</p>
129.	You should really have one at the steps at balmoral
130.	Ridiculous too far away for elderly and disabled passengers
131.	As long as the traffic can flow and the double parking is resolved
132.	Market street is a disaster for taxi stance as street is very tidy and other private cars blocking taxi rank
133.	The rank is in a silly place having to cross over a busy road to get into a taxi is ridiculous and being made worse here . Taxis should be allowed into the station at the old rank
134.	Clearly no thought has gone into this new plan. Not only are they taking away instant taxis from the train commuters who should be able to get in one instantly as they step out the station, we will also see commuters being endangered when crossing the road to get to the rank. Especially those in a hurry. We will see further more pirating by non taxis outside the front door of the market street. Also why are the businesses at the arches losing parking spaces vital to their customers? Clearly the ones making these proposals have never been in business. Utter disgrace!
135.	Utterly ridiculous, Market St has always been a terrible place for a rank due to the amount of traffic and the narrowness of the street, to move it further away from the entrance will just create more chaos.
136.	The taxi stance at the moment is in a ridiculous position but to move it further away is an even worse option either open up the station again or leave it be
137.	The main station in Edinburgh needs a taxi rank as close to station exit as possible we are s tourist city and it can't be expected for people to carry luggage any distance to obtain a taxi
138.	Too far away from the train station and. Very discriminatory against disabled people and the elderly and infirm
139.	Not any good , it's too far away . Leave on market street
140.	<p>It's very far away from the exit to the underground station. People already struggle to get to street level and to have to walk this distance with luggage and children or health issues is inconsiderate and impractical.</p> <p>The rank should be forced back in the station or remain wher it is but on both sides of the road as s feeder to allow taxis to service the city properly.</p> <p>A turning circle at the junction of Jeffrey ad East market street should be in place to allow taxis to move off the rank and turn westbound if this is where they need to go.</p>

	This would avoid the chaos that is already in Place.
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Email Response to Consultation

From: Tony Harris

Sent: 01 October 2019 12:54

To: Licensing <Licensing@edinburgh.gov.uk>

Subject: East Market Street - 10 vehicle taxi stance

FAO Licensing Manager,

Grange/Prestonfield Community Council, of which I am a member, has been notified of this proposal, but I am responding as an individual resident of Edinburgh. I have no objection to the creation of this taxi stance as such, but my representation is to the perpetuation of a very unsatisfactory situation whereby residents and visitors arriving by train to Waverley station, possibly late at night after most buses have stopped running, then have to queue maybe for a long time in the rain for a taxi. It is a most unwelcome experience for a visitor arriving by train at this capital city and one which compares very badly indeed with many other cities in Europe and elsewhere in the world.

Tony Harris