



**SURREY
POLICE**
*With you, making
Surrey safer*

Graham Cannon
Road Safety & Traffic Management
Officer

29th January 2014

Our Ref:
Your Ref:

Reba Danson
Licensing Enforcement Officer
Spelthorne Borough Council
Council Offices
Knowle Green
Staines Upon Thames
TW18 1XB

Dear Reba,

Re- Road Safety in Gresham Road Staines near Rail Station.

Further to our site visit at the above location on Tuesday 28th January, I would make the following observations and comments-;

The problems of parking and general road safety in Gresham Road, near the rail station, have been raised many times over the last six years or so. The main complaint centres on the use of the taxi rank immediately outside the station and the often inconsiderate parking that also takes place in the area, in contravention of the formal waiting restrictions that are in place.

During this time I am aware that there have been numerous complaints over the number of taxis that park outside the station, off the designated rank, waiting for a space and a fare. This has resulted in many taxis waiting on the yellow lines and causing a certain amount of obstruction to the through flow of passing traffic, as well as providing obstructions and difficulties for any pedestrians that wish to cross Gresham Road at that point. In addition, they have been driving up and down the road looking for a space on the rank, as well as parking up in Cherry Orchard. The only way to resolve the matter was for regular enforcement to take place, thereby ensuring that the only stationary taxis were those parked in the designated rank.

My observations on Tuesday were that the situation, with regard to taxis, was much better than in previous visits some years ago. There were very few, if any, that were parked on the yellow lines waiting for a space on the rank. In my opinion this is most likely as a result of the enforcement that takes place in this area.

However, I noted that many private cars and company mini buses were parked on the waiting restrictions outside the station. Whilst there is an exemption for a short period of parking to allow pick up and drop off, I observed a number of company mini buses parked up for anything

up to 10 minutes waiting for company employees to arrive off the trains. This in effect is causing the same problems as that caused by the taxis some years ago. I accept that your department are only responsible for the enforcement of the taxi rank; however in my opinion enforcement of these waiting restrictions is also required from a road safety point of view. I am aware that the enforcement of the waiting restrictions is a matter for Spelthorne Borough Council Parking Services and I feel that some form of representation should be made to them to ensure that this enforcement takes place.

In summary, I do feel that the enforcement of the taxi rank and the surrounding waiting restrictions is required to ensure the safety of the general travelling public in that area.

Yours sincerely,

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Graham Cannon.

Graham Cannon

Road Safety & Traffic Management.