

Taxi Ranks - Task Group Meeting 9 January 2017	
Objectives of meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To consult with representatives of taxi trade on their desired locations for taxi ranks To formulate recommendations for the O&S Cttee to put to Licensing Committee
Decisions	No decisions were made at this meeting
Date	9 January 2017
Time	18:00 to 19:30
Chair Person	Councillor Richard Smith-Ainsley
Attendees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hackney carriage/Private Hire Trade representatives - Baljeet Chopra, Gary Stansby, Paul Johnson; Councillor Richard Smith-Ainsley, Councillor Kevin Flurry Officers - Dawn Morrison (Licencing Manager), Lucy Hopkins (Licencing Enforcement Officer), Tracey Willmott-French (Senior Environmental Health Manager)
Agenda Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome and receive any apologies Purpose of meeting - scope of Task Group and Key Objectives (document attached Current Taxi Rank locations (document attached) Rank locations/issues identified at Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 29 November (document attached) Other rank locations for discussion
Minutes prepared	Tracey Willmott-French

#	Discussed	Action
1	<p>There is a need for more taxi ranks across the Borough, particularly at train stations; a minimum of two taxi ranks at each station. Particular reference was made to Shepperton and Ashford stations.</p> <p>That it is common practice for railway providers to charge the trade an annual fee (thought to be in the region of £350) to use ranks located on land at railway stations, although currently this is not the case at Staines Station.</p>	<p>Approach the train station providers to ask if they would install minimum of two taxi ranks at the stations in the Borough</p> <p>We would need to research what facilities and land is available at each station to ensure that any approach to the train station providers is realistic (NB Sunbury Station is unlikely to have available land for this purpose)</p>
2	<p>Some of the taxi ranks require better signage and facilities (e.g. shelter) to make them more obvious to the public (e.g. Communications House).</p>	<p>Visit all taxi ranks to assess signage with a view to improve as necessary</p> <p>Need to research what 'good' clear sign looks like.</p>
3	<p>Some ranks may see greater use if their hours of use were extended, these included:-</p>	<p>To consider the viability of extending the ranks as discussed and consult with the appropriate authorities as necessary (highways, police, etc).</p>

#	Discussed	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No.3 on 'current taxi stand list' outside Debenhams was considered by the trade representatives to be of little value due to its low usage. • No.6 on 'current taxi stand list' on Clarence Street (50m west of Thames Street adjacent to Market Square) – trade preference would be to extended to include daytime • No.7 on 'current taxi stand list' outside 15-13a Clarence street, Staines – trade preference would be to extended to include daytime • No.8 on 'current taxi stand list' at bus stop on High Street (south side) – trade preference would be to extended to include daytime 	<p>No.8 is a bus stop – would it be safe/appropriate to have taxis parked at an operational bus stop?</p>
4	A number of the ranks are predominately being used by the public for parking.	Discuss with the Parking Services Manager the routine monitoring of taxi ranks and their enforcement to prevent the public from parking on taxi ranks
5	Kempton Park could provide a good base from which to collect fares on event days/nights. There are no formal rank provisions within the Park.	Approach Kempton Park management to ask them if they would consider installing a taxi rank within their grounds
6	The provision of a taxi rank at Staines Bus Station could provide additional transport options for the public	Examine the viability of installing a taxi rank at Staines Bus Station
7	Research the potential of installing ranks in Shepperton and Sunbury, and in particular in Church Square, Shepperton and close to Shepperton and Sunbury stations.	<p>Research the potential of installing a rank in Church Square in Shepperton, and close to Sunbury and Shepperton stations. There have been objections in the past due to parking shortages in the area.</p> <p>This will also require consultation with Surrey County Council as the highway authority</p>

The Taxi Task Group recommends that:

1. the Overview and Scrutiny Committee asks officers to progress the matters raised by taxi drivers in relation to amendments to, and new, rank locations and after due process report their findings to the Licensing Committee for approval; and
2. the Task Group continues to meet as and when required to monitor progress of the above matter.