

Appendix 2

Police Scotland Response

Are the Union St taxi ranks re-emerging and are ACC in a position to set out the wider plan around taxi ranks and transport strategy in the city centre?

Will taxis be permitted in the section currently pedestrianised between Bridge Street and Market Street?

What are the plans from 0000 to 0500 – are the night ranks being reinstated or are persons to get taxis at the other ranks? Aside from the lighting etc., will adequate signage be in place to direct people to other ranks?

Is there any data available to assess demand for taxis and as such better assess provision?

From a policing perspective, we would generally welcome an increase in taxi ranks to reduce the risk of disorder or violence associated with large queues. However, we would be better placed to give an opinion with more information at hand. From a community safety perspective, the Police would like a reassurance around adequate lighting and provision of Taxi Marshalls at peak times. There is probably no issue with it before 2200 hours but thereafter is where problems arise.

Roads Department Response

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposal to re-instate the Back Wynd taxi rank for 15 vehicles as per the Council instruction of 28th February 2022.

In this regard, I would reiterate the comment (with attached plan) that was previously e-mailed by my colleague Graeme McKenzie.

Further to the request having been made to the Licensing Committee to re-instate the rank, detailed design works have been carried out and it has been determined that servicing vehicles will also need to traverse Back Wynd to access Union Street. As access will be restricted to the hours between 6pm and 10 am, a reduction of taxi rank spaces will be required between those hours. The reduction in spaces is required to allow larger vehicles negotiate a pinchpoint in the carriageway on Back Wynd from the southern kerblines of Gaelic Lane for 25 metres southwards (5no. vehicle lengths). I have attached a plan of the proposals for clarification.

The decision on the servicing arrangements was made by the City Centre Masterplan Management Board, formed to manage the delivery of the overall scheme.

We would ask that consultation is carried out with this variation included.