

APPENDIX A**Comments Regarding Consultation for Removal of Taxi Rank on Kirk Gate, Newark**

Name and Address	Comments
Alasdair Morrison 26 Kirk Gate Newark NG24 1AB	Further to your letter of 1 September I think it would be good for local businesses to keep this spot of short term parking on Kirk Gate.
Damian Carlin Castle Taxis	The removal of Kirk Gate Taxi rank would not affect us if it was removed, the only passenger carrier vehicles that use that rank are private hire vehicles so I'm all for it being removed as a taxi rank as we only use it to drop customers off when going to places such as Wetherspoons.
Dan Lazar North Gate Taxi	It is very convenient to change the design taxi rank on Kirk Gate into short term parking. In replaces It would be nice to reduce our taxi license fee according to reduce the amount of taxi rank space.
David Moore Newark Art Gallery Kirk Gate Newark NG24 1AB	Regarding the leaflet dropped off at my shop on Kirkgate. Being positioned next to the violin school, I do have to say that the 'open' 30 minute parking has been a real boom to businesses at this end of Kirk Gate. Keeping the spaces as usable public parking on a 30 minute basis would be an excellent idea.
David Payne Newark Premier Travel	I cannot see any reason to keep the taxi rank at Kirk Gate. I have personally never seen it used by any hackney vehicles around here. On another note. The rank at Castle Gate is becoming so bad it may as well not be in existence either. I cannot remember a time when it has not had private motor vehicles parked in it during operating hours. There have been several occasions when there is not a single space to use. Why is this not getting policed?
Gill Jennison	I think it would be good to turn the space into disabled parking or very short term parking for collection of goods from the market, plants, furniture from flea-market etc.
Jo Cooper	I don't think there are enough taxi ranks in Newark as it is, without removing one. There is no rank at Castle Station and passengers often need to travel to Northgate Station to meet their connecting trains in a time restricted manner. We often get moved on whilst waiting for customers to come out of Morrisons at their front entrance , we aren't allowed to drop off or pick up around the back of Wilkos or near Boyes any longer because of double yellow line restrictions. Town centre is becoming a no-go area to collect or drop off passengers. The rank on Castlegate is often filled with illegally parked cars and nothing gets done about it. Middlegate rank is often obstructed by delivery vehicles and has minimum space for taxis. 🚗 need I go on?

<p>Martin Henson</p>	<p>My question would be why should the taxi rank be removed.</p> <p>The last information I had known about was that the decision had already been made that the Kirk Gate rank was being removed to allow free parking to continue and increase the foot fall into the town (although no evidence was supplied to support such a ridiculous claim). It will continue to be what it is, free parking for the stipulated period and beyond.</p> <p>The Middlegate taxi rank is a source for public parking and this occurrence happens every day. At best, a parking ticket may be issued should a warden be in the local area but often this is not the case. I worked today and this morning I was unable to get on the rank due to pick-up truck occupying 2 taxi spaces; this everyday normal. Challenging drivers in the past I have been met with abuse and in the case of a beer delivery lorry I was threatened and the same vehicle a week later caused damage to my company taxi.</p> <p>The 2 taxi stands on The Wharf are used by me but more of town centre waiting area but as a taxi rank these are redundant waste of spaces.</p> <p>A number of years ago the taxi rank for 7 taxis was removed during the new build of the bus station. At the time the bus station taxi was the most popular rank in town and drivers could earn some reasonable work off it. Although, at the time it was made known to local taxi drivers that the taxi rank at the new bus station would only stand 3 taxis a surveyor advised me prior to the old bus station being demolished that there was no plans to put a taxi rank on the new bus station; so it proofed.</p> <p>The one taxi stand at Castle Station was removed during the building of Castle House.</p> <p>The permanent removal of Kirkgate Taxi Rank us just a nail in the coffin in an ability to earn a living for local drivers to earn a living and it was always a rank that was slowly but surely become more popular with local people and a reasonable alternative to sometimes busy Middlegate.</p>
<p>Neil Smith Fernwood Travel??</p>	<p>My personal view and for the General Public, is that the towns Taxi Rank's like other towns are key, should remain and be central to the public transport network and hospitality areas, also clearly marked and marshalled/ enforced by the council, unfortunately this seems not to be the case. They should all remain, be larger in certain positions, including at the Railway stations.</p>

	<p>As you will know, we currently only operate Private Hire Exc. Vehicles, but feedback from customers I have provided previously is that; there are not enough Taxi's available in Newark at the Ranks; Kirkgate, Castlegate and the two Rail Stations (also nothing at the Bus Station for transfer or signage), at key times during the day/week; with also issues of access and or illegal parking issues.</p> <p>In the absence of Zcars/DG or similar who operate mainly via their Private Hire App (another issue raised by recent customers), you will see at certain key times of the day, there are no Taxi's available but plenty of people looking to hire, unsure where the issue is ?</p> <p>I have stated previously, many customers and friends I have spoken to recently, apart from a certain client base, choose to go out of Newark or drive; as Newark's Hospitality industry is a shell of its former self and you can never get a taxi to get around/home ?</p> <p>Two recent examples;</p> <p>I dropped a Fernwood customer off at Northgate Station as they could not get a local Taxi. People were just leaving a train and queuing waiting for Taxi's, a passenger asked me if I was free but I declined obviously and others approached me had walked from Newark Castle Station to Northgate Station for a transfer, asking how do you get a Taxi here ?.</p> <p>Last Friday night after picking up a Bride & Groom form their wedding celebration at the Town Hall @ 11:30, Not underestimating 30+ couples were waiting for a Taxi on Castlegate, not one Taxi in sight and private cars parked on the Taxi Rank ?</p> <p>I am unsure what the issue is fully or how to solve it, but removing the Ranks removes the public the ability to call on a Taxi when needed. Whether available or not ?</p>
<p>Richard Watkinson 35 Kirk Gate Newark NG24 1AD</p>	<p>We support the request to remove the rank on a permanent basis. Short stay parking is important to businesses in the area. As a taxi rank the location would seem remote and obscure for users and the site more appropriate for short stay. We thank you for the opportunity to make representations. Your faithfully,</p>

Sarah Foss
Bird & Co
38 Kirk Gate
Newark NG24 1AB

Thank you for your letter of 1 September 2022. It is our view, as a business occupier located at 38 Kirk Gate, that the Taxi Rank on Kirk Gate be removed on a permanent basis.