

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

6 SEPTEMBER 2018

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CASTLEGATE TAXI RANK

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 For Members to consider an amendment to the operating hours of the Castlegate taxi rank.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 In November 2011 General Purposes Committee resolved to amend the taxi rank order relating to the 5 space rank adjacent to Swan & Salmon Yard to have an operating time of 20.00hrs to 06.00hrs

3.0 Introduction

- 3.1 Since the introduction of the changes there have been regular complaints from taxi drivers expressing their frustrations at private vehicles being parked in the taxi rank taking up valuable space and making movement in and out of the rank difficult.
- 3.2 The stretch of road on which the rank is situated is subject to controlled parking between the hours of 06.00hrs and 18.00hrs. Parking is limited to one hour with no return within 2 hours.
- 3.3 The problems have arisen because of the uncontrolled parking that can occur between 18.00hrs and 20.00hrs. Cars are parking after the 18.00hrs limit and whether deliberately or not are not returning to their vehicles before the operation of the rank starts. Clearly this is in breach of the traffic regulations and private cars parked in the rank after 20.00hrs are liable to a Penalty Charge Notice.
- 3.4 The issue is of particular concern on Friday and Saturday evenings. Traffic patrols in the area have been increased and Penalty Charge Notices have been issued. However, complaints continue to be received.
- 3.5 Discussions with the County Council have taken place and they have agreed that the two hour uncontrolled period between 18.00hrs and 20.00hrs could be removed and the rank operating start time moved to 18.00hrs.

3.0 Proposals

- 3.1 It is proposed to undertake a consultation exercise with businesses on Castlegate and with the taxi trade seeking comments on a suggested change to the operating times of the rank. The proposed change would be:

Current operating times	20:00 to 06:00 every day
Proposed operating times	18:00 to 06:00 every day

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS that Members consider the details relating to the proposed amendments to the taxi rank adjacent to the Swan & Salmon Yard Castlegate and:

- (a) approve the times of operation for the rank;**
- (b) approve the proposed consultation process; and**
- (c) delegated authority be given to the Business Manager – Environmental Health & Licensing in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the General Purposes Committee to review the consultation comments with a view to instructing Nottinghamshire County Council to amend the Traffic Regulation Order.**

Reason for Recommendations

To address the concerns from taxi drivers with regard to the availability of space in the Castlegate Taxi Rank.

Background Papers

Nil

For further information please contact Alan Batty on 01636 655467

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