

Cumbria County Council
Cumbria Highways
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WHITEHAVEN
Cumbria
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By Fax: 01946 852523 & Hand Delivered

5 August 2005

My Ref MJ/FL
Your Ref 05/7034/DW/CLS

Dear Ms Wilson

Review of Waiting Restrictions – Whitehaven Taxi Ranks

Thank you for your letter and enclosure of 11th July 2005 in respect of the above.

The Taxi and General Licensing Panel had an informal meeting with the Copeland Taxi Owners Association to discuss the proposals on 4th August 2005 which was immediately followed by a meeting of the Panel to further discuss the proposals and to formulate a reply.

In accordance with your letter which required comments to be submitted no later than 5th August 2005 the Taxi and General Licensing Panel's comments are as follows:-

1. Market Place – there are no objections to the Market Place taxi rank being removed and replaced with a parking bay.
2. Swingpump Lane outside the Multi-Storey Car Park – this should be a taxi rank from 6am to 6pm 7 days a week in order to provide a service for customers in the Market Place area on Market days etc.
3. Strand Street – there were no objections to the taxi rank being removed and replaced with a loading bay.
4. Lowther Street bus stop clearway – it was agreed that it would be advantageous to have a taxi rank between the hours of 11.30-6am all days.

5. Duke Street – there were strong objections to this being a loading bay between 7am to 7pm Monday to Saturday and a taxi rank from 7pm to 7am Monday to Saturday and all day Sunday.

It was felt that this area should be a 24 hour taxi rank as it is the main area in town where people go for taxis. The Taxi Association did state that they would be prepared to move their vehicles if any business needed to load/unload.

6. Bransty Row outside Weatherspoons – It was agreed that this would be an excellent site for a 24 hour taxi rank and it was hoped that there would be 5 spaces provided.

The Panel also considered that taxi ranks should be provided in the following areas which were on the agenda for and discussed at the meeting between the Cumbria County Council's Highways Working Group, Copeland Borough Council Taxi and General Licensing Panel and the Copeland Taxi Owners Association on 12th April 2005 namely:-

1. Tangier Street loading bay – there should be a taxi rank between 6pm and 6am all days.
2. Lowther Street outside Burtons – there should be a 24 hour rank for either 5 spaces on one side of the road or 2 spaces on one side and 3 on the other side of the road.

The Taxi and General Licensing Panel have made these comments on your proposals after consultation with the Copeland Taxi Owners Association and feel that taxi ranks at these points which are spread throughout the town would provide a good and readily accessible service.

I look forward to hearing from you after this matter has been before the Copeland Local Area Committee on 2nd September 2005.

Yours sincerely



M JEWELL
Senior Legal Services Officer