

# LICENSING COMMITTEE



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| Report subject             | <b>Update on the provision and positioning of Taxi Ranks</b>   |
| Meeting date               | 7 December 2023  |
| Status                     | Public Report  |
| Executive summary          | <p>At the Licensing Committee meeting on 9 March 2023 members asked for an update on the audit of all taxi ranks in BCP area which had been completed by the Licensing Team and Taxi Trade jointly.</p> <p>The members requested the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To review the progress of Highways in programming the necessary works summarised in the report of 9 March 2023</li><li>• To receive a response from the Director of Infrastructure to provide the proposed schedule of works.</li><li>• To receive a response from the Director of Infrastructure on the number of Penalty Charge Notices issued over the last 12 months as a result of parking of non licensed vehicles on taxi ranks.</li></ul> |
| Recommendations            | <p><b>It is RECOMMENDED that:</b></p> <p><b>Members are asked to consider the information provided within the report</b></p>   |
| Reason for recommendations | The Licensing Committee on 9 March 2023 requested an update on following the Licensing Team audit of all taxi ranks within the BCP area.   |

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| Portfolio Holder(s): | Kieron Wilson, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Regulation |
| Corporate Director   | Jillian Kay – Corporate Director for Wellbeing             |
| Report Authors       | Nananka Randle – Licensing Manager                         |
| Wards                | Council-wide   |
| Classification       | For Information  |

## Background

1. A taxi rank is provided by way of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) which controls the number of hackney carriages that can use the rank and the times that the rank is in force.
2. The provision and maintenance of ranks is not a licensing function and sits with the Highways team within the Directorate of Infrastructure.
3. The Licensing Manager presented a report to Committee on 9 March 2023 which summarised the findings of a joint exercise with taxi trade representative which visited all ranks and identified where works were needed such as signage and road sign marking as well as where ranks were no longer needed or had disappeared.
4. The minutes of this meeting and report are available for review. [BCP Council – Democracy](#)
5. At the Committee meeting members noted the content of the report and resolved the following:-
  - (a) that the Committee notes the contents of the report and requests a further report in six months' time to review the progress of the Highways team in programming the necessary works summarised in paragraph 4 of the report, following the audit of all taxi ranks in the BCP area;
  - (b) that the Chair writes to the Director of Infrastructure at the Committee's request to advise that the Committee has asked for a six-month review and to advise of the Committee's views around the need for a structured and timely delivery of these works and to request that a proposed schedule of works be provided;
  - (c) that the Chair writes to the Director of Infrastructure at the Committee's request to advise of the Committee's views around the need to prioritise enforcement against parking of non-licensed vehicles on ranks, a matter raised in paragraph 5 of the report and to request that the number of Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) issued over the last 12 months as a result of such parking be provided.

## **Update**

6. With regard to programming any works, the Traffic Team are visiting all the sites and placing orders for maintenance as and if required. If Traffic Regulation Order amendments are required, they will be assessed and prioritised for possible inclusion in the 2024/25 programme.
7. The Traffic Team Leader attended a taxi association meeting earlier in 2023 and has indicated he will be happy to do so again in early 2024 to report on progress and discuss issues.
8. No specific proposed works programme is available. However, I have been advised that to date all Bournemouth zone ranks which were highlighted as requiring action have been visited and maintenance has been scheduled.
9. The traffic technician is in the process of visiting first Poole and then Christchurch Ranks during the coming weeks and will assess any necessary works/maintenance and this will then be scheduled.
10. The Parking Operations Team Leader has reported that for the year 31 October 2022 to 31 October 2023 there were **939** Penalty Charge Notices (PCN) issued across all taxi bays/ranks within the BCP area.

## **Options Appraisal**

11. Information only report, no options to consider.

## **Summary of financial implications**

12. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## **Summary of legal implications**

13. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

## **Summary of human resources implications**

14. There are no human resources arising from this report.

## **Summary of sustainability impact**

15. There is no sustainability impact arising from this report.

## **Summary of public health implications**

16. There are no public health implications arising from this report.

## **Summary of equality implications**

17. There are no equality implications arising from this report.

## **Summary of risk assessment**

18. There is no risk assessment arising from this report.

## **Background Papers**

Published works

## **Appendices**

There are no appendices to this report