



**PROPOSED TAXI RANK
CHERTSEY ROAD, WOKING**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE (WOKING)
2 NOVEMBER 2006**

KEY ISSUE:

To agree to the proposed location of a night-time (1800 hr to 0830hr) taxi rank in Chertsey Road, Woking.

SUMMARY:

Woking Borough Council wish to introduce a 12 car night-time only taxi rank in Chertsey Road Woking, which would assist with the safe and orderly dispersal of people leaving late night opening premises in the town centre.

CONSULTATIONS:

Committee Chairman and members

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee is asked to agree

- (i) That the proposed night-time (1800hr to 0830hr) taxi rank at Chertsey Road between Duke Street and Stanley Road be approved.**
- (ii) That the necessary Traffic Order Amendment required is made, (including advertising)**
- (iii) That the resolutions of any objections that are received are made by the Local Transportation Manager (Woking) in consultation with the Chairman and Electoral Division member.**
- (iv) That subject to there being no sustained objection the Order is made.**

INTRODUCTION and BACKGROUND

1. Woking Borough Council's Executive, at its meeting on the 4 November 2004, considered a report detailing proposed improvements to the taxi licensing service, including consideration of the feasibility of designating a new rank in Woking town centre.
2. Following initial discussions with Surrey County Council (as highway authority), Woking Borough Council's Parking Services, Surrey Police and the Hackney Carriage Trade Association, it was decided that the more feasible location was in Chertsey Road, between Duke Street and Stanley Road, where a 12 car taxi rank can be incorporated within the Controlled Parking area.

ANALYSIS AND COMMENTARY

3. Woking Borough Council, following a report to their Executive on the 7 September 2006, have recommended the introduction of this taxi rank with the hours of operation being 1800hr (6.00pm) to 0830hr (0830am) 7 days a week. A plan showing the proposed rank is attached as Annex A.
4. It should also be noted that the existing taxi rank on the north side of Woking railway station during the Albion Square Canopy works, has been re-located within the western most bus bays for a distance of 72 metres from the western end of the bus bay area, following discussions with Surrey County Council, Surrey Police and the main bus operators. This temporary taxi rank will be in operation for a period of approximately 22 weeks from the 11 September 2006 and will revert back to the original location when the road reopens following completion of the Canopy works.
5. The procedure for the introduction or amendments of taxi ranks is a function of Woking Borough Council under Section 63 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. Woking Borough Council are responsible for advertising and dealing with any objections, however they are required to serve a Notice on Surrey Police advising of the changes and require formal consent of the County Council as Highway Authority.
6. Surrey Police have requested that this taxi rank is introduced as soon as possible to assist with dispersing people leaving the late night opening premises within the town centre. With this in mind, the Area Transportation Service (Woking) has pursued the making of the relevant Traffic Order amendments following consultation with the Chairman and Local Committee members, so that the necessary works can be carried out at the earliest opportunity. However, the Local Committee still require to formally approve the making of the Traffic Order.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7. There are no financial implications for the County Council, as Woking Borough Council will pay for all the relevant work associated with the introduction of this taxi rank.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT & CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

8. The night-time taxi rank proposal will assist with the safe and orderly dispersal of people leaving late night opening premises in the town centre.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9. There are no equalities Implications

CONCLUSIONS AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

10. The introduction of the night-time taxi rank in Chertsey Road Woking between Duke Street and Stanley Road, will assist with the safe and orderly dispersal of people leaving late night opening premises in the town centre.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: Woking Borough Council Executive Reports dated 4 November 2004 and 7 September 2006

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