REPORT TO LICENSING PANEL

ETON TAXI RANK

Date: 19 July 2011

Member Reporting: Councillor Andrew Jenner, Chairman of the Licensing Panel

Contact Officer: Steve Johnson, Tel: 01628 683555

Wards affected: None

1. SUMMARY

1.1. There is currently a taxi rank consisting of one space in Brocas Street, Eton. This rank is not often used as the RBWM taxis rarely operate on this side of the bridge.

1.2 A developer is converting a building adjacent to the rank for residential use. As a result, he wishes to have the rank removed so that potential purchasers are not put off by having a taxi rank outside

2. RECOMMENDATION: That Members consider this application to remove the taxi rank in Brocas Street, Eton.

What will be different for residents as a result of this decision?

Residents of Windsor Bridge Court will not face potential noise and disturbance from this taxi rank.

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Background

3.1. Windsor Bridge Court in Eton has been used for offices for some years. Mr Leon Lenik has obtained planning permission to convert these offices for residential use. There is a small taxi rank outside the premises in Brocas Street. Mr Lenik requests that this rank should be removed to reduce potential noise and disturbance to residents.

3.2 The rank is used infrequently and in the survey of 2006 it was estimated that only 190 passengers used the rank per week. Officers feel that this number must have reduced since then as RBWM taxis are rarely seen on the Eton side of the river as they have to go all the way round the one way system.

3.3 There has been an informal consultation with taxi trade representatives. They feel that the rank should be retained as it is used occasionally and may be useful during the period of the Olympic Rowing Events.

3.4 Taxi ranks are formally adopted under section 63 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. If Members are minded to grant the
request for revocation of the rank there will need to be formal consultation and objections will be referred to the next meeting of the Panel.

4. OPTIONS AVAILABLE AND RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Financial Implications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Members can refuse this application to revoke the rank.</td>
<td>There may be complaints in the future from residents of the new flats.</td>
<td>The developer has offered to pay the full costs of the necessary advertising.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Members can grant the application and the formal consultation can then take place.</td>
<td>An existing taxi rank would be lost and although not used a great deal at present, it could be useful in future if taxis do want to operate from Eton</td>
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4.2 Risk assessment

4.2.1 Members are able to make whichever decision they consider appropriate.

5. CONSULTATIONS CARRIED OUT

5.1 Informal consultation only has been carried out at this stage, as outlined above in the Supporting Information.

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The following implications have been addressed where indicated below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial</th>
<th>Legal</th>
<th>Human Rights Act</th>
<th>Planning</th>
<th>Sustainable Development</th>
<th>Diversity &amp; Equality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Background Papers:

Plan

Photograph of rank