

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO LICENSING COMMITTEE

meeting date: 30 JANUARY 2024
title: HACKNEY CARRIAGE STANDS
submitted by: MARSHAL SCOTT, CHIEF EXECUTIVE
principal author: STEPHEN BARKER, SOLICITOR

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To inform Committee of the position with regard to Hackney Carriage stands (ranks) and actions being taken by officers.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities

- Community Objectives }
 - Corporate Priorities }
 - Other Considerations }
- Consideration of these issues will promote the Council's aim to be a well managed Council.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Hackney Carriages and their drivers are licensed by the Council and are subject to conditions and bye laws. Hackney Carriages are allowed to ply for hire, unbooked, either by being flagged down or by waiting on approved ranks or stands. In contrast, private hire journeys have to be pre-booked.

2.2 The Council has 4 stands designated in Clitheroe. The stands at the top of King Lane, in the Market Place outside Cowgills (part time), and on Station Road close to Booths and the YMCA are on highways land and have been established in conjunction with Lancashire County Council (LCC). Some work may need to be carried out to the signage and road markings for these stands.

2.3 Approval has been given for creation of a stand for two Hackney Carriages on the lay by adjacent to the Platform Gallery, on land owned by the Council. The signs and markings for this stand have not yet been put in place.

- 2.4 There are currently no stands in Longridge, notwithstanding the development of a thriving night-time economy in the town. Currently, there are no Hackney Carriages based in Longridge.
- 2.5 There are currently no stands in Whalley which also has a busy night-time economy. Hackney Carriages do visit the village on busy evenings.
- 2.6 The issue of establishing further stands was considered at the annual taxi meeting and officers are undertaking actions as set out in this report.

3 ISSUES

- 3.1 Officers are liaising with LCC in relation to possible stands in the loading bay on Wellgate (part time) and in the vicinity of Holmes Mill (possibly on Greenacre Street).
- 3.2 Officers are liaising with LCC in relation to two possible part time stands in Whalley. One would be night-time use of the loading bay on Accrington Road, outside Alta, close to the junction with Queen Street. The other would use part of the bus station at night, in a part used as an occasional coach park during the day and an occasional waiting place for police vehicles at night.
- 3.3 Officers are liaising with LCC and Longridge Town Council in seeking to identify whether any locations in the town would be suitable for creation of a taxi stand.
- 3.4 Officers are establishing the likely cost involved in manufacture and erection of appropriate signage and laying down any road markings that may be required.
- 3.5 Before a stand can be created, notice has to be given to the police and public notice must also be published in a newspaper circulating in the district. The Council has to take into consideration any objection or representation in writing within 28 days of first publication of the notice.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications

- Resources – at this stage, officer time is being expended in investigating possible courses of action, and the likely cost of implementation. If further steps are taken, specific expenditure will be incurred in signage, road markings and advertising.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – N/A
- Political – N/A
- Reputation – N/A
- Equality & Diversity – N/A

5 CONCLUSION

5.1 Recommended that committee note the content of this report.

STEPHEN BARKER
SOLICITOR

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE

BACKGROUND PAPERS

(If any)

For further information please ask for Stephen Barker, extension 3216.