Halton Council Legal Services Licensing Section is undertaking a review of taxi rank provision in the Borough. This document sets out the background to the review together with a statement of the relevant law. The taxi trade will be asked to put forward proposals for consideration and to comment on any proposals put forward by the Licensing Section.

What is a taxi rank or stand?

- A taxi rank or stand is a place where hackney carriages “stand for hire”. When a taxi is in motion and is hailed in the street it is normally said to be plying for hire (although “plying for hire” can include standing for hire). In both cases, a taxi advertises that it is available for hire by illuminating its “for hire” light.

- Normally, rank will provide space for more than one taxi. This has entered the language as an assumption because the expression “ranking up” means to form a queue.
• A taxi rank may exist anywhere: either on or off a highway or street. However, rules have evolved to restrict the places where taxis may rank up.

**Designated taxi ranks**

• National model taxi byelaw No. 7 (which has been adopted by the Council) require drivers when plying for hire in any STREET and not actually hired … to proceed … to one of the stands fixed by [section 63 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976].

• In this document “designated” stand means a stand fixed by an order made under the 1976 Act. The order currently in place is the Halton Borough Council (Various Hackney Carriage Stands, Widnes and Runcorn) Order 2006.

• But for byelaw No. 7 there would be no restriction on plying for hire by driving around on the highway or (subject to landowner consents) standing on any land either as a single vehicle or with others or (subject to traffic regulation orders) standing on the highway.

• Given that the byelaw does exist there is a responsibility on the taxi licensing authority to provide ranks so that the byelaw can be complied with.

• One issue to consider is whether the byelaw should continue to exist or should be revoked.

• Note that the byelaw only applies where a driver is plying for hire in any street. If the driver is not plying for hire (i.e. does not have the for fire
sign lit) or is plying or standing for hire in a “street” the byelaw does not apply.

What is a “street”?

- Section 3 Town Police Clauses Act 1847 defines a street as extending to and including any “road, square, court, alley and thoroughfare, or public passage …”.

- The case of Young v Scampion (1988) overturned well established cases by holding that land will only be a street if the public has the legal right to be there. In that case a rank at Birmingham Airport was held not to be in a street.

- There have been different interpretations as to what constitutes a street for a number of years. The meaning of the word has also been interpreted differently depending on context. For example, the word has been re-interpreted in the context of the meaning of “street trading” by case of West Berkshire District Council v Simon Paine [2009] EWHC 422 (Admin). The essential point from the case is that a street can include private land such as a private car park. It does not just mean land which is part of a highway. This means that a number of activities that have not previously been considered to require a street trading consent will require one from now on. It remains to be seen whether this wider interpretation will be extended to taxi law.

- Railway stations and other railway land constitute streets.

Competition for parking space in streets
• In modern urban streets there is fierce competition for parking space. The reservation of scarce parking resources for particular user groups requires special justification.

• Taxis constitute a significant part of the public transport system. It follows that taxi ranks have a similar justification to bus stops and bus lanes.

• The existence of byelaw No. 7 also implies that a certain number of ranks must be made available. There are 267 licensed hackney carriage vehicles in Halton. Should there be a relationship between the number of designated ranks and the number of taxis? Historically, there has been a gross mismatch between the number of ranks and the number of vehicles but the trade has never indicated that this causes a problem in practice.

• Many taxi ranks are time limited so that road space is taken up only for the optimum number of hours.

• Nevertheless, each taxi rank must be justified in terms of function and amenity.

Limitations on the positioning of ranks

• The positioning of taxi ranks is subject to a number of restrictions as set out in section 63 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

• This states that nothing in the section shall empower a district council to appoint any such stand—
  o so as unreasonably to prevent access to any premises;
so as to impede the use of any points authorised to be used in connection with a local service within the meaning of the Transport Act 1985 or PSV operator’s licence granted under the Public Passenger Vehicles Act 1981, as points for the taking up or setting down of passengers, or in such a position as to interfere unreasonably with access to any station or depot of any passenger road transport operators, except with the consent of those operators;

- on any highway except with the consent of the highway authority;

- In deciding the position of stands a district council shall have regard to the position of any bus stops for the time being in use.

Highways issues

- The majority of taxi ranks are on adopted highways. The consent and advice of the highways authority are therefore crucial.

- Orders designating ranks under the 1976 Act have a relationship with traffic regulation orders made under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

- Taxi ranks may be placed on highways which have no other restrictions on road users: an order under the 1976 Act may then be seen to be a “free standing” order unrelated to a traffic regulation order.

- Taxi ranks may also be placed on highways which already have a number of restrictions placed on road users (such as no waiting or no
stopping orders). In these cases, the designation of a taxi rank will, in effect, place an exception on the pre-existing traffic regulation order.

- Depending on the situation that applies, there will be different types of “lining and signing” designating the effect of the designation of the taxi rank.

“Private” Ranks

- The expression “private” ranks (for the purposes of this document) refers to ranks on private land which have not been designated by the taxi licensing authority. These can typically be found in certain supermarket car parks. Provided that such private ranks are not on a street the use of them does not constitute a breach of byelaw No. 7. Such ranks are often formalised (that is, marked out with lines and signs) and are sometimes restricted to particular taxi firms on payment to the landowner. Ranks at railway stations are a hybrid form of private rank because of the effect of section 76 Public Health Act 1925 (see below for further information).

- Another kind of rank to distinguish from the “private” rank described above is the informal rank. This describes off-street ranking without the formalisation associated with “private” ranks.

- With the consent of the landowner (and subject to various other control mechanisms such as the possible need for planning permission) the taxi licensing authority may designate ranks in the above categories under section 63 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 in association with (in the case of railway stations) section 76 Public Health Act 1925.
• A list of the private ranks within the Borough is set out below.

**Could the Council provide private ranks?**

• There is no legal rule to prevent the Council from providing private ranks.

• However, as Licensing Authority, the Council should not put itself in a position whereby it could be accused of bias by favoring one element of the taxi trade over another.

• The Council should therefore restrict itself to providing designated ranks which would be open to all hackney carriage drivers.

**Railway stations**

• Section 76 Public Health Act 1925 extended the controls in the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 to include railway stations and other railway land. Essentially, the meant that the meaning of “street” was extended to include such land.

• Railway stations are deemed to be stands and (provided that drivers have the consent of the railway company) drivers may return to railway stations without contravening byelaw number 7.

• However, the Council cannot formally designate stands (i.e. fix the sites) at a railway without the consent of the railway company.

**Ranking and private hire vehicles**

• The basic distinction between taxis and private hire vehicles is that private hire vehicles may not be used to ply for hire in any street. The
The topic of taxi ranks should in theory be of no interest to the private hire trade.

- The licensing of private hire vehicles is based on a vehicle (1) not being a licensed hackney carriage vehicle or public service vehicle (2) being constructed or adapted to seat fewer than 9 passengers (3) which is used for hire with the services of a driver for the purposes of carrying passengers.

- Nevertheless, the issue of private hire “ranking” does arise. The question is what kind of activities might result in private hire vehicles being held to be being used for standing or plying for hire. The first scenario is that of a single private hire vehicle simply being parked on a street. The second scenario is two or more private hire vehicles being parked in a street. In both cases we can take “in a street” to include “very close to a street”.

- Button on Taxis puts the tests as follows\(^1\):
  - Nothing in the legislation or case law prevents a private hire vehicle parking lawfully to await a booking made via the operator, provided that the vehicle is not standing or plying for hire;
  - The length of time that a private hire vehicle is lawfully parked is irrelevant;
  - The test of whether or not the vehicle is available for hire (i.e. is plying for hire) is based on the intentions of the driver, as

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\(^1\) Third Edition - Paragraph 8.52 (page 196)
evidenced by his actions if approached by a prospective passenger.

- It would seem to follow that the same tests would apply if two or more private hire vehicles are parked together.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHEDULE LIST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Schedule 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Schedule 2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Schedule 3</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Schedule 4</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The issue of what constitutes private hire “ranking” is really outside the scope of this document. Button deals with the issue in greater detail. It is mentioned here to avoid confusion.
### Schedule 1

**Details of Designated Ranks in Halton under the 2006 Order**

**OFFICIAL TAXI STANDS REGULATED BY HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL UNDER SECTION 63 OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976**

**WIDNES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stand Number</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Order Plan Number</th>
<th>Permitted Maximum Number of Vehicles</th>
<th>Permitted Times of Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Market Street (in 3 separated locations)</td>
<td>8902</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Any</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Alforde Street</td>
<td>8635/3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Any</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Hale Road</td>
<td>8635/4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Any</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Arley Drive</td>
<td>8635/5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Any</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Hough Green Road</td>
<td>8635/6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Any</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Upton Lane</td>
<td>8635/7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Any</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Dickson Street</td>
<td>8635/8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Any</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Cross Street</td>
<td>8635/11</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Any</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Victoria Square</td>
<td>8903</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2100-0600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Prescot Road</td>
<td>8635/13</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Any</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Appleton Village</td>
<td>8635/14</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Any</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Croton Lane</td>
<td>8635/15</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Any</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Croft Street</td>
<td>8635/16</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2300-0300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Widnes Road</td>
<td>8901</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0000-0600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Albert Road</td>
<td>8905</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2100-0600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**RUNCORN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stand Number</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Order Plan Number</th>
<th>Permitted Maximum Number of Vehicles</th>
<th>Permitted Times of Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>High Street</td>
<td>8906</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Any</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Public Hall Street</td>
<td>8904</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Any</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Halton Lea (off)</td>
<td>TD/TM/SJB/R/L/01</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Any</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Avenue</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Schedule 2

Details of Private Ranks in Halton

Widnes
Albert Square
Asda
Morrisons

Runcorn
Asda
Runcorn Railway Station
Sommerfields
Trident Centre
PROCEDURAL ISSUES

Section 63 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

Ranks

Where

- On any highway maintainable at public expense
- Any other land with the owner's consent.

How

- Give notice to the chief officer of police
- Advert in local paper
- Consider objections which may be received within 28 days of (first) publication

Form of order

Non specified but should identify:
- Where
- How many
- Time limits if any

Road Markings and signs

The Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002 contain detailed requirements.

The Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002 (SI 2002/3113)

1. The road markings are set out at diagram 1028.2.
2. These road markings can be used in connection with plates: 640, 650.1, 650.2, 650.3 and 857.1.
3. One Regulation (12(6)) and four Directions (7, 22(3), 24(1) and 25) apply.

Road Markings:

- When used with plate 650.1 (No stopping) a continuous longitudinal yellow line 200 or 300 mm wide shall be placed along the carriageway in the manner shown in diagram 1025.1.
Plates:
   640  No loading
   650.1 No stopping
   650.2 No waiting (limited time)
   650.3 No waiting (limited time variant)
   857.1 Blue “Stand for XXX taxis” plate

Regulation 12(6)

This requires internal consistency in signs where different dimensions can be
chosen so that shape and proportions are maintained.

Direction 7

This requires that the above road marking and plates (except for plate 867.1)
may only be used to indicate the effect of an Act, order, regulation, byelaw or
notice which prohibits or restricts the use of the road by traffic. This provision
seems to be designed to prohibit certain “informal” signs which are not backed
up by authority.

Direction 22(3)

This states that diagram 1017 (single yellow lines) or 1018.1 (double yellow
lines) may not be used in conjunction with diagram 1028.2 (when used in
conjunction with plate 650.1 (n stopping).

Direction 24(1)

This requires certain plates to be used in conjunction with certain road
markings. Thus.
   Road markings 1028.2 must be used in conjunction with plates 650.2 and
   650.3 but
   Plate 640 is only required when the upper panel is varied to the sign shown in
diagram 650.3 and
   Plate 650.1 is only required with 1028.2 when varied to include a continuous
   yellow line 200 or 300 mm in the manner in diagram 1025.1.

Direction 25

This is essentially the flip side of Regulation 24(1) by requiring certain road
markings only to be used in conjunction with certain plates.
Schedule 4

Legislation Relevant to Ranks

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

Section 63 Stands for hackney carriages.

— (1) For the purposes of their functions under the Act of 1847, a district council may from time to time appoint stands for hackney carriages for the whole or any part of a day in any highway in the district which is maintainable at the public expense and, with the consent of the owner, on any land in the district which does not form part of a highway so maintainable and may from time to time vary the number of hackney carriages permitted to be at each stand.

(2) Before appointing any stand for hackney carriages or varying the number of hackney carriages to be at each stand in exercise of the powers of this section, a district council shall give notice to the chief officer of police for the police area in which the stand is situated and shall also give public notice of the proposal by advertisement in at least one local newspaper circulating in the district and shall take into consideration any objections or representations in respect of such proposal which may be made to them in writing within twenty-eight days of the first publication of such notice.

(3) Nothing in this section shall empower a district council to appoint any such stand—

(a) so as unreasonably to prevent access to any premises;

(b) so as to impede the use of any points authorised to be used in connection with a local service within the meaning of the Transport Act 1985 or PSV operator’s licence granted under the Public Passenger Vehicles Act 1981, as points for the taking up or setting down of passengers, or in such a position as to interfere unreasonably with access to any station or depot of any passenger road transport operators, except with the consent of those operators;

(c) on any highway except with the consent of the highway authority; and in deciding the position of stands a district council shall have regard to the position of any bus stops for the time being in use.

(4) Any hackney carriage byelaws for fixing stands for hackney carriages which were made by a district council before the date when this section comes into force in the area of the council and are in force immediately before that date shall cease to have effect, but any stands fixed by such byelaws shall be deemed to have been appointed under this section.

(5) The power to appoint stands for hackney carriages under subsection (1) of this section shall include power to revoke such appointment and to alter any stand so appointed and the expressions “appointing” and “appoint” in subsections (2) and (3) of this section shall be construed accordingly.

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976
Section 64 Prohibition of other vehicles on hackney carriage stands.

— (1) No person shall cause or permit any vehicle other than a hackney carriage to wait on any stand for hackney carriages during any period for which that stand has been appointed, or is deemed to have been appointed, by a district council under the provisions of section 63 of this Act.
(2) Notice of the prohibition in this section shall be indicated by such traffic signs as may be prescribed or authorised for the purpose by the Secretary of State in pursuance of his powers under section 64 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.
(3) If any person without reasonable excuse contravenes the provisions of this section, he shall be guilty of an offence.
(4) In any proceedings under this section against the driver of a public service vehicle it shall be a defence to show that, by reason of obstruction to traffic or for other compelling reason, he caused his vehicle to wait on a stand or part thereof and that he caused or permitted his vehicle so to wait only for so long as was reasonably necessary for the taking up or setting down of passengers.

Public Health Act 1925

Section 75.

Byelaws as to persons waiting to enter public vehicles.

— (1) The local authority may make byelaws for regulating the conduct of persons waiting in streets to enter public vehicles, and the priority of entry into such vehicles, and may by such byelaws require queues or lines to be formed and kept by such persons.
(2) The local authority may erect and maintain, or permit other persons to erect and maintain, in any street such barriers and posts as appear to the local authority to be necessary for the purposes of securing compliance with any such byelaws:

(3) Nothing in subsection (2) of this section shall be construed as empowering the local authority to hinder the reasonable use of the street by the public, or to obstruct the access to or exit from any station or goods yard belonging to a railway company or to or from any premises belonging to the owners, trustees, or conservators, acting under powers conferred by Parliament, of any canal, inland navigation, dock or harbour, and used for the purposes of the canal, inland navigation, dock or harbour, nor shall any barrier or post be erected on any bridge carrying any street over a railway or the approaches thereto.

Public Health Act 1925

Section 76

As to public vehicles taken at railway stations.
In any area within which the provisions of the **Town Police Clauses Act 1847**, with respect to hackney carriages are in force, those provisions and any byelaws of the local authority with respect to hackney carriages shall be as fully applicable in all respects to hackney carriages standing or plying for hire at any railway station or railway premises within such area, as if such railway station or railway premises were a stand for hackney carriages or a street:

Provided that—

(a) the provisions of this section shall not apply to any vehicle belonging to or used by any railway company for the purpose of carrying passengers and their luggage to or from any of their railway stations or railway premises, or to the driver or conductor of such vehicle;

(b) Nothing in this section shall empower the local authority to fix the site of the stand or starting place of any hackney carriage in any railway station or railway premises, or in any yard belonging to a railway company, except with the consent of that company.

**Town Police Clauses Act 1847**  
**Section 45.**

**Penalty for plying for hire without a licence.**

If the proprietor or part proprietor of any carriage, or any person so concerned as aforesaid, permits the same to be used as a hackney carriage plying for hire within the prescribed distance without having obtained a licence as aforesaid for such carriage, or during the time that such licence is suspended as hereinafter provided, or if any person be found driving, standing, or plying for hire with any carriage within the prescribed distance for which such licence as aforesaid has not been previously obtained, or without having the number of such carriage corresponding with the number of the licence openly displayed on such carriage, every such person so offending shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding forty shillings

**Town Police Clauses Act 1847**  
**Section 64.**

**Improperly standing with carriage; refusing to give way to, or obstructing, any other driver or depriving him of his fare.**

Any driver of any hackney carriage who suffers the same to stand for hire across any street or alongside of any other hackney carriage, or who refuses to give way, if he conveniently can, to any other carriage, or who obstructs or hinders the driver of any other carriage in taking up or setting down any person into or from such other carriage, or who wrongfully in a forcible manner prevents or endeavours to prevent the driver of any other hackney carriage from being hired, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding level 1 on the standard scale.
APPENDIX B

RESPONSES TO CONSULTATION EXERCISE

Proposals made by Cllr Rob Polhill

Cllr Polhill proposes that there should be new ranks:

A1. Outside the Imperial Widnes
A2. Outside St Pauls Church Widnes

REPLY TO PROPOSALS:-

A1. This is supported. There would be space for a stand for 4 Hackney Carriages to the north east of the existing bus stop on the left hand side of the carriageway. (Also, see B2)
A2. The area outside St Pauls Church Widnes is not specifically a layby but rather a pull in suitable for such use as the temporary parking of a funeral car. There may also be a risk to pedestrians and other road users were there to be a change of use. (Also, see B1)

Proposals made by John Gerrard (Taxi Driver)

In so far as they relate to the consultation exercise Mr Gerrard proposes:-

B1. “I would like to see the lay-by at St Paul's Church, Widnes adopted as a taxi rank during the same hours as the opposite rank outside the Bar Reef premises. The adoption of the same hours would not interfere with the daytime use of the lay-by”.

B2. “I would also like to see a new rank created outside the Imperial public house on Albert Road. This could be situated on either side and I would suggest the operational hours are from 18.00 hours daily”.

B3. “I would like to see an extension to the hours of the rank outside Wetherspoons so as to be operational from 18.00 hours daily”.

REPLY TO PROPOSALS:-

B1. See response at A2 above.
B2. This is supported. (See A1 for reasons).
B3. This is supported. It would incur minimal disruption to the general public and local traders
Proposals made by the Highway Authority

The Highways Authority proposes:-

C1 “I am now in a position to progress phase 2 [of the Appleton Village Scheme] through to formal consultation with the public and other interested parties. Statutory Undertakers and Emergency Services have already been consulted and no objections were raised.

The element of the scheme which I believe will be of interest to yourself, are the alterations to the taxi stand on Appleton Village and the public car park. The existing stand allows for 10 taxis, though the available length does not currently support this. With the introduction of the traffic signals at the junction, I am even more conscious about the available safe length. What I propose is that the stand allows a length for no taxis.

With the alterations to the car park area, I propose the addition of no parking bays and to also provide a safe pedestrian route, avoiding conflict between pedestrians and vehicles. To achieve this aim however, kerb lines will need realigning and following such work, it would not be possible to manoeuvre a coach around the top side of the car park (close to the school entrance). Emergency vehicles and refuse lorries will still be accommodated. As the safe route to school is a primary concern, I also propose that the taxi stand is made available to coaches / buses. The use of the stand for this purpose would be infrequent, i.e. only school day and term time”.

REPLY TO PROPOSALS:-

C1. **This is not supported as suggested.** It would be unlawful for vehicles other than licensed Hackney Carriages to use an official Stand. Alternative proposals have been offered and are being considered which will require the movement of the existing rank sideways and away from the carriageway into a newly created lay bye. The usage of the rank will be unaffected with the possible exception of a reduction (of 2 spaces) in capacity.
Taxi Ranks Consultation
Additional Ranks Consideration
Widnes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Road</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albert Road</td>
<td>Outside Imperial towards Ross Street - Rank for 4 Taxis 20.00 to 06.00 – See Appendix E(P1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albert Road</td>
<td>Between 77 and 87 Albert Road in existing parking bays– See Appendix E (P2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Witt Road</td>
<td>Side of the Doctors Pub. Unlikely to be used as out of site of Victoria Square.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Road</td>
<td>Outside St Pauls Church – Location not supported by Highways Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Lane Hale</td>
<td>Outside shops – Private land and due to the relative infrequency of passengers does not display a need</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### APPENDIX D

**Taxi Ranks Consultation**  
**Additional Ranks Consideration**  
**Runcorn**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Sandymoor**    | Entrance to Sandymoor Community Centre  
|                  | Otterburn Street – Private Road & no evidence of need                                                                                                                                               |
| **Moore**        | Red Lion Pub  
|                  | Busy road - too narrow.                                                                                                                                                                              |
| **Daresbury**    | Ring O’Bells pub is on a junction opposite a bus stop and narrow road.  
|                  | Un-named road leading to Keckwick Lane Rank for 8 Time Limited (Creamfields) Cannot justify the cost of, and limited demand, for a rank which in effect would only be operating for three days a year |
| **Preston Brook/Brookvale** | Preston Brook Pub – Private land which is taken up predominantly by existing car parking for the pub and adjacent hotel. Little need or demand for a taxi stand |
| **Murdishaw**    | Halton Arms Pub – As above. Very quiet area with very little pedestrian traffic.  
|                  | Runcorn East Station – Private land which is in extensive need of improvement by the owners. Currently used as a car park. There is no vehicular access direct to the station. Relatively small footfall |
| **Windmill Hill**| Windmill Hill Local Centre – Unsuitable for parking and ranking of vehicles. Could create a risk to other road users. No previous evidence of need Private land need to check ownership |
| **Castlefields** | No current ranks and no requests. No apparent demand. The principal highway has insufficient straights to safely establish a rank. |
| **Halton Village**| Castle Pub – Private land around the pub, principally used as a car park. Approach road very narrow.                                             |
| **Weston / Weston Point** | No current ranks and no requests. No apparent demand |
| **Grangeway**    | Grangeway shops evening rank for 2 taxis. The |
establishment of a rank could interfere with loading, deliveries etc. to existing shops. No demand after the shops closed for business. Suggest monitoring for future need
Grangeway near to Youth Centre rank for 5 taxis
Road Junctions, Bus Stops and traffic calming would currently restrict the choice of site for a rank. Suggest monitoring for future need

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Halton Lodge</td>
<td>No current ranks and no requests. No apparent demand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halton Brook</td>
<td>No current ranks and no requests. No apparent demand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shopping City</td>
<td>Bridge going from Hospital to Hallwood Park. Widest highway in the area but with very little footfall. No apparent demand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palacefields</td>
<td>No current ranks and no requests. No apparent demand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beechwood</td>
<td>Between Beechwood Community Centre and the Beechwood Pub rank for 2 taxis. The existing highway is relatively narrow with no facilities for pull ins or safe vehicular waiting. Not considered suitable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sutton Weaver</td>
<td>Ashbrook Avenue outside Holiday Inn exit barrier – rank for 3 taxis. No apparent demand. Perhaps monitor for future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Street</td>
<td>- Outside bookshop rank for 5 taxis – Recommended see Appendix E (P4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Brindley Arts Centre outside entrance – off road rank – recommended for future consideration on a timed basis. Too far from highway to justify 24hr. rank.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Outside Bargain Booze rank for 7 taxis - Evening only rank 20.00 to 06.00 With existing structure of highway would be more suitable as a rank for 4 vehicles. Recommended for 4 - See Appendix E (P5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church Street</td>
<td>Currently a rank off Church Street in Public Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street for eight vehicles which served the area.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public Hall Street</strong> Already has a rank (See Church St)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Alcock Street</strong> Currently access restricted by bus station.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Runcorn Railway Station</strong> Looked at entrance road – too narrow. Also existing rank on private land of forecourt of station</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix E

Proposals consequent on review

Widnes.

P1. New evening Rank for **four** vehicles outside The Imperial at Albert Road, adjacent to but after the existing bus stop.

**Times**: 18:00hrs to 06:00hrs

P2. New evening Rank for **two** vehicles between 77 and 87 Albert Road as a feeder for the existing rank outside Wetherspoons.

**Times**: to coincide with amended timing for the rank outside Weather spoons (see P3)

P3. *Existing* rank outside Wetherspoons at Albert Road.

**Times**: change to 1800-0600 from existing times of 2100-0600

Runcorn.

P4. New evening Rank for **five** vehicles on High Street in existing lay-by outside Estate Agents and Bookshop

**Times**: 20:00hrs to 06:00hrs

P5. New evening Rank for **four** vehicles on High Street outside Bargain Booze

**Times**: 20:00Hrs to 06:00 Hrs