

Agenda Item	<b>18</b>
Report No	<b>CIA/61/18</b>

## **HIGHLAND COUNCIL**

**Committee:** City of Inverness Area Committee

**Date:** 22 November 2018

**Report Title:** Castle Wynd, Eastgate and Bridge Street, Proposed Alterations to Taxi Ranks

**Report By:** Joint Report by Inverness City Area Manager and Head of Roads and Transport

### **1. Purpose/Executive Summary**

1.1 Further to CIAC of 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018 members had asked officers to review their proposal to create an evening Taxi Rank on Eastgate Inverness

### **2. Recommendations**

2.1 Members are asked to:-

- i. Note the status of the provision of a night time TAXI rank in Eastgate Inverness;

### **3. Eastgate Rank Proposal**

- 3.1 Officers met with Central ward members to discuss the proposed Eastgate night-time Taxi rank from 19:00 to 06:00.

After review of the suggested night time rank Members agreed to support suspending the proposal at this time to allow for the imminent wider consultation taking place on the "Accessing Inverness" proposals that will impact on Academy Street. Accessing Inverness is a HITRANS-led project, in partnership with the Council, involving feasibility, design and community engagement on enhancing access by foot and bike to Inverness railway station by improving routes that connect station entrances to the city centre.

### **4. Closure of Castle Wynd**

- 4.1 Following the decision of the CIAC on the 31st May 2018 it is proposed to close Castle Wynd to all vehicles except for access to allow the commencement of streetscape works. It is currently planned to limit access from the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019 however this date is subject to contract tendering for the works.

### **5.0 Alternatives**

- 5.1 Officers have extensively reviewed alternatives with the TAXI representatives and Police Scotland and have been unable to identify any additional space available in the City Centre at this time.  
Following the 31<sup>st</sup> May committee officers reviewed suggestions for additional rank allocation eastbound on Bridge street outside the Caledonian Bar. It is felt that this is not deliverable due to the limited space (2 vehicles) and the high usage by the public after 6pm. This has been exaggerated by the reduction in space available for parking in the Town House Car Park.

Officers will continue to consider TAXI rank allocation in all future development plans within the city centre.

### **6. Implications**

- 6.1 Resource - None.
- 6.2 Legal – No implications.
- 6.3 Community (Equality, Poverty and Rural) - No implications.
- 6.4 Climate Change / Carbon Clever - No implications.
- 6.5 Risk - No implications.
- 6.6 Gaelic - No implications.

Designation: Head of Roads & Transport  
Date: 9<sup>th</sup> November 2018  
Author: Shane Manning, Principal Traffic Officer  
Background Papers: [Committee Report](#) dated 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018