

Meeting Cabinet
Portfolio Area Environment and Climate Change
Date 10th December 2025



**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANIOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976 –
REVOCATION & ADOPTION OF TAXI RANK, LISTER HOSPITAL, COREYS MILL
LANE, STEVENAGE.**

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NON-KEY DECISION

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To seek approval to revoke the existing taxi rank located at the Lister Hospital, Coreys Mill Lane, Stevenage and to adopt a new taxi rank, 35m from the existing rank on Coreys Mill Lane, in accordance with Section 63 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Cabinet approves the revocation of the existing, adopted taxi rank located at Lister Hospital, Coreys Mill Lane, Stevenage.
- 2.2 That Cabinet approves the adoption of the new taxi rank at Lister Hospital, Coreys Mill Lane, Stevenage, which will replace the existing rank being revoked, ensuring continued service provision, improved accessibility, and enhanced pedestrian safety in the area.

- 2.3 That Cabinet approve the implementation of a temporary taxi rank, located in the vicinity of the existing one, in the event that the new rank cannot be completed prior to the removal of the current provision. This temporary arrangement will ensure the continuity of taxi services. A plan outlining the anticipated location of the temporary taxi rank can be found in **Appendix E**.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Stevenage Borough Council (SBC), pursuant to its powers under Section 63 of the Local government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, formally adopted the Hackney Carriage stand in Coreys Mill Lane, Stevenage on 2nd April 2017. A copy of the order and schedule is attached at **Appendix A**.
- 3.2 Pursuant to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Hertfordshire County Council (Highways) undertook a statutory public consultation between 28 August 2025 and 18 September 2025 in relation to the *Hertfordshire (Coreys Mill Lane, Stevenage) (Prohibition of Stopping Except Taxis) Order 2025*. This proposed Order forms part of the wider scheme for the reconfiguration of the Lister Hospital bus terminal and has been combined with other associated traffic regulation orders to support the overall design and operational changes to the site.
- 3.3 No responses were received, no objections, comments, or expressions of support.

Consultation

- 3.4 In line with the statutory requirements set out in sections 63 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, the Council must give notice to the Chief Officer of Police. A public notice must also be provided in one local newspaper. Any objections which are received within 28 days of the first publication of the public notice must be taken into account, including any comments from the Chief Officer of Police, before such a stand is appointed, revoked or varied.
- 3.5 The Licensing Authority conducted a 28-day public consultation on the proposed revocation and relocation of the existing taxi rank. The consultation was held between 13th October and 10th November 2025. Full details of the relocation of the Lister Hospital Taxi Rank were published on the Council's website, including a plan of the works to be carried out, an explanation of the reasons for the changes, information about the consultation period and instructions on how to submit representations. In addition to this, a Public Notice was displayed at the Customer Service Centre, Daneshill House, and published in the Comet newspaper on 16th October 2025.
- 3.6 An email notification was also circulated to all Stevenage-licensed taxi and private hire drivers, vehicle proprietors, and operators; and a taxi forum was

held during the consultation period, where the Licensing team were available to discuss the proposals, answer queries and listen to any concerns raised by members of the trade. Social media posts went out on 3rd November for the remainder of the consultation period. Copies of all public notices are included as background documents.

- 3.7 The Council has received one representation from a member of the public, who is not against the relocation of the Taxi rank but objects to the removal of trees to accommodate the works being carried out. A copy of the representation can be found attached at **Appendix D**.
- 3.8 HCC have confirmed that four trees will have to be removed from the area whilst completing the works but will be replaced with six new trees as part of the scheme.
- 3.9 No responses have been received from police, or the taxi/private hire trade.

4 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED COURSE OF ACTION AND OTHER OPTIONS

- 4.1 The proposal to remove the existing taxi rank at the hospital on Coreys Mill Lane is essential as part of the reconfiguration of the Lister Hospital bus terminal. The new bus terminal layout will utilise the current taxi rank area making it unsuitable to retain the rank in its present position.
- 4.2 The reconfiguration aims to support public transport, while also encouraging more sustainable modes of transport, including walking, wheeling, and cycling. These improvements are part of the Council's broader strategy to encourage fewer car journeys, enhance the overall travel experience and encourage greater use of public transport in the region. This is a scheme that also meets with SBC objectives in its local plan to improve and invest in the lives of the local community.
 - SBC are supporting the initiative and have dedicated land to HCC for the Bus interchange improvement to be delivered by them. This is so the improvement works can be designed and constructed by one organisation, HCC, and delivered by their team contract. This approach provides the following additional benefits to SBC:
 - The construction work can now be carried out by HCC in its entirety without cost or liability to SBC.
 - It reduces SBC's future maintenance burden and liability for the existing Bus area (the parcel of land that has been dedicated to HCC). This is because it will now be owned and operated by HCC.
 - It supports and fosters collaborative working among authorities in the Stevenage area. This is because HCC have also acquired land from the North Herts NHS trust in order to deliver the scheme and improve accessibility and transport links in the vicinity for all our organisations.

- 4.3 It is proposed that a new taxi rank be introduced to replace the existing rank, which is to be revoked. The new location is situated approximately 35m from the current site, positioned on the opposite side of the area where the bus terminal exits. The proposed location is adjacent to a footway that provides a direct pedestrian link to the hospital. A plan showing the existing taxi rank and the location of the new taxi rank is attached at **Appendix B**.
- 4.4 The new rank will extend for approximately 24 metres, providing sufficient capacity for up to four licensed hackney carriage vehicles at any one time. While this represents a reduction of one vehicle compared to the current rank, we do not anticipate a significant impact on operations.
- 4.5 No responses were received from the trade indicating concerns about the reduced capacity during the consultation period. As such, we believe the new rank will meet the operational needs of the area without causing any undue disruption to service levels.
- 4.6 The revised location also provides an improved layout, allowing taxi users to be picked up and dropped off without crossing through the bus terminal, thereby reducing potential conflicts between taxis and bus movements and improving overall safety and accessibility.
- 4.7 HCC has confirmed that there will be no loss of taxi provision during the reconfiguration of the bus terminal. The intention is to construct the new proposed taxi rank prior to the removal of the existing one, ensuring continuity of service. However, in the event that this phased approach is not feasible, a temporary taxi stand will be established within the vicinity of the existing rank.
- 4.8 No formal authorisation is required for a temporary taxi rank. The temporary rank will be managed by the contractor carrying out the works, through the placement of temporary signage for an estimated period of around two to three months, during which time certain parking bays will be suspended. Due to the nature of the works and the space requirements, the location of the temporary rank may shift slightly as the project progresses. However, HCC will ensure that the contractor maintains an adequate and safe area to maintain taxi availability throughout the duration of the works.

5 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial Implications

The costs associated with revoking/relocating the taxi rank (e.g., removal/addition of road markings, signage and statutory notices) will be met by Hertfordshire County Council who have secured funding from BSIP (Bus Service Improvement Plan) to improve the existing Bus interchange outside Lister Hospital. This funding is time limited, and the works themselves need to commence by the end of the Financial Year 25/26 for the money to be committed to HCC. The money is ringfenced for Bus Improvement and if it is not utilised here, it could be redistributed and spent elsewhere in the county or possibly the country. There are no anticipated ongoing financial implications for SBC.

5.2 Legal Implications

Under Section 63(1) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, the Council has the power to appoint, alter, or remove taxi ranks (hackney carriage stands) within the district. However, this power is subject to the procedural requirements set out in Section 63(2), which must be strictly followed to ensure legality and to mitigate the risk of challenge.

5.3 Equalities and Diversity Implications

An Equalities Impact Assessment was carried out on 1st November 2025. The taxi rank being revoked will be relocated a short walk from its existing location, alternative pick-up and drop-off arrangements remain available for patients and visitors, including accessible parking bays and drop-off points near the main entrance. The proposal is not expected to adversely impact equality of access. A copy of the Equalities Impact Assessment can be found at **Appendix C**.

5.4 Community Safety Implications

- 5.4.1 The removal of a designated taxi rank has several potential implications for community safety, which must be carefully considered as part of the decision-making process under Section 63 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.
- 5.4.2 The revocation of the existing taxi rank at The Lister Hospital is not anticipated to have a negative impact on the community safety, as the proposed new rank will be located adjacent to a footway, therefore maintaining safe and convenient pedestrian links to the hospital.
- 5.4.3 An added benefit of the proposed location of the new taxi rank, is that taxi users will no longer be required to cross the bus terminal when being set down or picked up. This will significantly reduce potential conflicts between taxi and bus movements, improving overall pedestrian safety, traffic management, and accessibility for patients, visitors and hospital staff.
- 5.4.4 Overall, the revised arrangement is expected to enhance safety standards at the front of the hospital and surrounding transport facilities. HCC have confirmed that there will be no loss of taxi provision whilst the bus terminal reconfiguration works take place.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- BD1 [Local Government \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1976](#)
- BD2 HCC Local Transport Plan: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/recycling-waste-and-environment/planning-in-hertfordshire/transport-planning/local-transport-plan.aspx
- BD3 HCC Bus Service Improvement Plan: <http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/busimprovements>
- BD4 Consultation Email
- BD5 Newspaper Notice
- BD6 Social Media Post

APPENDICES

- A Copy of the Order for the adoption of the Lister Hospital Taxi rank dated 02/04/2017
- B A Plan showing the existing taxi rank and the location of the proposed new taxi rank
- C Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA)
- D Representation received from a member of the public.
- E Plan showing the location of temporary taxi rank.