

Report to Licensing Committee

Report reference: LSC-005-2011/12.

Date of meeting: 12 October 2011.



**Epping Forest
District Council**

Subject: Taxi Wardens.

Responsible Officer: Kim Tuckey (01992 564034).

Democratic Services: Gary Woodhall (01992 564470).

Recommendation:

(1) That members consider the introduction of Wardens at Taxi ranks or elsewhere in the District and agree to delay a decision until there are taxi ranks in place.

Reasons for Proposed Decision:

To consider the proposal of taxi wardens at a later stage as it is uncertain as to what decision will be made by the Licensing Committee until the result of the consultation for Taxi Ranks.

Other Options for Action:

Not to consider implementing taxi wardens.

To consult regarding where taxi wardens would be most useful without waiting for the result of the consultation on taxi ranks.

Report:

1. There has been a growing demand for taxi ranks within the authority.
2. The Epping Forest Taxi Association has asked that the Council provide a taxi rank at Loughton Station and Security Industry Association (SIA) accredited wardens to regulate the use of any taxi rank there. There have been other requests for wardens to be available outside some of the night clubs and public houses in the past.
3. The Senior Licensing Officer made contact with other authorities who she knew employed wardens in their areas. Chelmsford Borough Council explained that they work in partnership with the Town Centre partnership, who facilitate and pay for taxi wardens and that independent SIA security staff are used.
4. Members are requested to consider whether this proposal is one that the authority would consider if a taxi rank was installed at Loughton station or at other venues. If so, consultation should be carried out and funding requirements explored.
5. However, until such time formal taxi ranks are in place, it is felt that to undertake this work would be premature.

Resource Implications:

None if the decision is delayed. If a consultation is to be carried out there will be a cost to the council and the long term funding of the wardens

Legal & Governance Implications:

None.

Safer and Cleaner and Greener Implications:

None.

Consultation Undertaken:

None.

Background Papers:

None.

Impact Assessments:

Not Applicable.