

CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT
Director – Caroline Holland



**Democracy Services
London Borough of Merton
Merton Civic Centre
London Road
Morden SM4 5DX**

**Direct Line: 0208 545 3356
Email:
democratic.services@merton.gov.uk**

Date: 19 September 2016

Dear Councillor

**Notification of a Decision taken by the Cabinet Member for
Regeneration, Environment and Housing**

The attached non key decision has been taken by the Cabinet Member for Environmental Sustainability and Regeneration, with regards to:

- Morden Road Proposed Taxi Rank

The decision will be implemented at noon on **Thursday 22 September 2016** unless a call-in request is received.

The [call-in](#) form is attached for your use if needed and refers to the relevant sections of the constitution.

Yours sincerely

**Susanne Wicks
Democracy Services**

NON-KEY DECISION TAKEN BY A CABINET MEMBER UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

See over for instructions on how to use this form – all parts of this form must be completed. Type all information in the boxes. The boxes will expand to accommodate extra lines where needed.

1. Title of report and reason for exemption (if any)

Proposed Taxi Rank in Morden Road statutory consultation

2. Decision maker

Councillor Martin Whelton, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Environment and Housing

3. Date of Decision

16 September 2016

4. Date report made available to decision maker

8 September 2016

5. Date report made available to the Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission and of any relevant scrutiny panel

6. Decision

- 1) Note the result of the statutory consultation carried out between 26th May and 17th June 2016 on the proposal to introduce a taxi rank to accommodate 2 taxis in Morden Road, South Wimbledon.
- 2) Note that no objections have been received during the statutory consultation.
- 3) Agree to proceed with the making of the relevant Traffic Management Orders (TMOs) and the implementation of a taxi rank in Morden Road, South Wimbledon, as shown in Drawing No.Z100-003-001 in Appendix A of the report.

7. Reason for decision

- 1) A more accessible and safer taxi rank for South Wimbledon tube station
- 2) Implications of the introduction of the night tube later this year.

8. Alternative options considered and why rejected

- 1) Not to implement would not assist passengers exiting the stations at night who may wish to complete their journey using a Black cab. It would also do nothing to protect or reduce the risk of illegal and unlicensed 'cab' drivers.

9. Documents relied on in addition to officer report

10. Declarations of Interest

11. Publication of this decision and call in provision

Send this form and the officer report* to democratic.services@merton.gov.uk for publication. Publication will take place within two days. The call-in deadline will be at Noon on the third working day following publication.

Martin Whelton



Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Environment and Housing

16 September 2016

Delegated Report

Date: 5 September 2016

Agenda item: N/A

Ward: Abbey

Subject: Proposed Taxi Rank in Morden Road, South Wimbledon.

Lead officer: Chris Lee, Director of Environment & Regeneration

Lead member: Councillor Martin Whelton Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Environment and Housing.

Contact Officer: Barry Copestake (020 8545 3840)

Key decision reference number: N/A

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Cabinet Member notes and considers the content of this report and approves the following recommendations

- 1) Notes the result of the statutory consultation carried out between 26th May and 17th June 2016 on the proposal to introduce a taxi rank to accommodate 2 taxis in Morden Road, South Wimbledon.
- 2) Notes that no objections have been received during the statutory consultation.
- 3) Agrees to proceed with the making of the relevant Traffic Management Orders (TMOs) and the implementation of a taxi rank in Morden Road, South Wimbledon, as shown in Drawing No.Z100-003-001 in Appendix A.
- 4) Agrees to exercise his discretion not to hold a public inquiry on the consultation process.

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report details the undertaking of the statutory consultation and its outcome on the Councils' proposals to introduce a taxi rank, to accommodate 2 taxis, in Morden Road, South Wimbledon. The rank will operate Monday-Sunday between 10pm and 6.00am.
- 1.2 It seeks approval to proceed with the making of the relevant TMOs to introduce a taxi rank in Morden Road, South Wimbledon, SW19 as shown in Drawing No.Z100-003-001 in Appendix A.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In preparations for the Night Tube service introduced by the previous Mayor of London which covers the Central and Victoria lines and then on three other lines including the Northern line serving South Wimbledon station proposed for the Autumn of 2016, Transport for London (TfL) have been reviewing taxi rank provisions at London Underground stations. The purpose of the review has been to identify the need and suitable locations of ranks to accommodate those passengers leaving a Night Tube station who may wish to continue their journey by taxi easily and safely.
- 2.2 TfL and Council officers have worked in partnership in assessing the most suitable location for the proposed taxi rank. The following options were considered and rejected

- 2.2.1 Locate the taxi rank in Milner Road. However, it was considered that as it would be out of sight for passengers, it would not be the most suitable location for easy access. Officers also had safety concerns as patrons would probably attempt to run across 4 lanes of traffic to gain access to Milner Rd despite the fact that the signalised junction provides the appropriate crossing provisions. There would also be the need for some signs to direct patrons to the taxi rank.
- 2.2.2 Locate it further south from the proposed location. However, this would be outside residential properties and would be considered an unacceptable nuisance having taxis with engines running, slamming car doors etc throughout the night.
- 2.2.3 The current location is considered the most suitable location as it will be within immediate sightline of patrons as they exit the tube station; it would be on the footway and therefore passengers can gain safe access; it will not cause nuisance or hinder movement to other road users or local residents. More detail is provided in section 3 of this report.

3. PROPOSED MEASURES

- 3.1 In partnership with TfL, Council officers identified a suitable location as close as possible to South Wimbledon tube Station as shown in drawing No.Z100-003-001 in Appendix A.
- 3.2 The rank will be on the footway. The footway is 3.9m in width and there will be 1.9m clear access for pedestrians.
- 3.3 The taxi rank will be within an area where currently is used by Wimbledon Car & van hire to gain access by illegally driving over the footway. This business has a legitimate vehicular access to the site but over the years they have opened a second access without Council's approval. However, due to the hours of operation of the taxi rank (Monday-Sunday between 10pm and 6.00am), access will not be affected. This illegal manoeuvre will also be addressed through the Council's enforcement officers.
- 3.4 To ensure that flow of traffic along Morden Road is not hindered, the taxi rank will operate Monday-Sunday between 10pm and 6.00am and outside of these hours no vehicle will be permitted to stop.

4. STATUTORY CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The statutory consultation on the proposal to introduce a taxi rank in Morden Road commenced on 26th May 2016 and ended on 17th June 2016. The consultation included the erection of street Notices on lamp columns in the vicinity of the proposals and the publication of the Council's intentions in the Local Guardian and the London Gazette. Details and plans of the proposals, see appendix A, were also available on the Council's website and a link to this website was included on all street notices.
- 4.2 A newsletter was delivered to the vehicle rental business in the vicinity of the proposal, see Appendix B, however the business did not make a representation in response to the proposal.
- 4.3 The statutory consultation resulted in the Council receiving 2 representations in support of the proposals. These are detailed in appendix C.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 5.1 Do nothing. This would be contrary to the objectives of the proposal as expressed by TfL, and would not assist passengers exiting the stations at night who may wish to complete their journey using a Black cab. It would also do nothing to protect or reduce the risk of illegal and unlicensed 'cab' drivers.

6. TIMETABLE

- 6.1 If a decision is made to proceed with implementation of the proposed taxi rank, TMOs could be made six weeks after the made decision. This will include the erection of the Notices on lamp columns in the area, the publication of the Made Orders in the Local Guardian and the London Gazette. The documents will be made available at the Link, Civic Centre and on the Council's website. The rank will be introduced soon after.

7. FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 This work is estimated at approximately £5000 and will be funded by TfL.

8. LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The Traffic Management Orders would be made under Section 6 and Section 45 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended). The Council is required by the Local Authorities Traffic Order (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 to give notice of its intention to make a Traffic Order (by publishing a draft traffic order). These regulations also require the Council to consider any representations received as a result of publishing the draft order.
- 8.2 The Council has discretion as to whether or not to hold a public inquiry before deciding whether or not to make a traffic management order or to modify the published draft order. A public inquiry should be held where it would provide further information, which would assist the Council in reaching a decision.

9. HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The Council carries out careful consultation to ensure that all road users are given a fair opportunity to air their views and express their needs.
- 9.2 Bodies representing motorists, including commuters are included in the statutory consultation required for draft traffic management and similar orders.
- 9.3 The implementation of the proposal aims to assist the community at South Wimbledon Underground stations at night who may need access to licenced Black cab service.

10. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

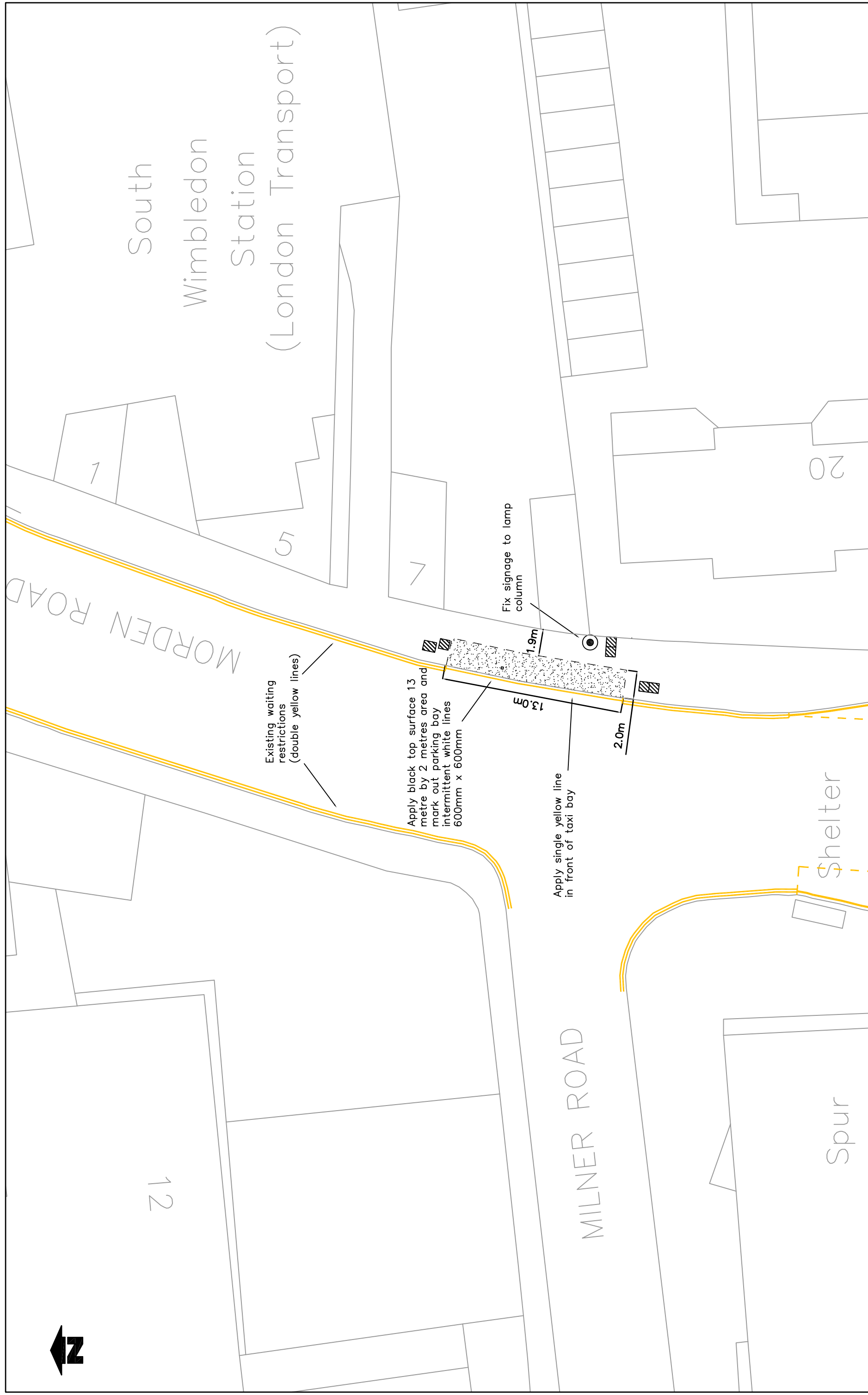
- 10.1 The proposal aims to reduce the risk to the community from illegal and unlicensed drivers.

11. RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 The road safety implications/risks during construction and maintenance will be fully considered at each stage of the detailed design process.
- 11.2 The risk of not implementing the proposal would be that passengers exiting the stations at night who wish to further their journey by taxi could be at risk from illegal 'cab' drivers and unlicensed 'cab' drivers.

12. APPENDICES

- 12.1 Appendix A - Drawing No.Z100-003-001
- 12.2 Appendix B - Statutory consultation letter to business
- 12.3 Appendix C - Representations received



Existing waiting restrictions (double yellow lines)

Apply black top surface 13 metre by 2 metres area and mark out parking bay intermittent white lines 600mm x 600mm

Apply single yellow line in front of taxi bay

Fix signage to lamp column

Shelter

South
Wimbledon
Station
(London Transport)

MILNER ROAD

Spur

MORDEN ROAD

Notes
Do not scale from this drawing

Rev.	Revisions	Drawn	Sig.	Date	Chd.	Sig.	Date	App.	Sig.	Date

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Drawn by	S.G.S.	Date	00 May 2002
Checked by		Date	00 May 2002
Approved by		Date	00 May 2002

Sustainable Communities
environment & regeneration

TRAFFIC & HIGHWAYS

PROJECT
Morden Road, South Wimbledon

TITLE
Design Layout 'Night Tube' Taxi Rank

PROJ
Z100-003-001

Revision
-

Classification
DRAFT

Scale
1: 1250

merton
Merton Civic Centre
London Road
Morden, Surrey
SM4 5DX
www.merton.gov.uk



Wimbledon Car & Van Hire
7 – 7a Morden Road
London
SW19 2HB

Future Merton
London Borough of Merton
Merton Civic Centre
London Road
Morden SM4 5DX

Direct Line: 020 8545 4830
Fax: 020 8545 3038
Date: 26 May 2016

Dear Sir / Madam,

In co-operation with Transport for London (TfL) and in preparation for the scheduled 24 hours running at the weekends for the London Underground Northern Line at South Wimbledon Underground Station, we are proposing to introduce a taxi rank on Morden Road at the location as illustrated on the attached plan.

PROPOSED MEASURES

The proposed Taxi Rank will operate every night between 10pm - 6am. Outside of these hours waiting or stopping (parking) by any vehicle will not be allowed. The location of the Taxi Rank is to provide convenient taxi facilities for use by 'tube' passengers when returning home late at night or in the early morning hours.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

A Notice of the Council's intentions to make the relevant Traffic Management Orders (TMOs) for the required changes will be published in the local newspaper (The Guardian), London Gazette and posted on lamp columns in the vicinity.

All representations must be in writing by either emailing trafficandhighways@merton.gov.uk

or to **Environment & Regeneration Department, futureMerton, Merton Civic Centre, London Road, Morden, Surrey, SM4 5DX.**

All comments must be received no later than 17 June 2016 quoting reference **ES/TAXI_MORDEN_RD**

Objections must relate only to the elements of the scheme that are subject to this statutory consultation. The Council is required to give weight to the nature and content of your representations and not necessarily the quantity. Your reasons are therefore important to us.



Copies of the proposed Traffic Management Order (TMO), a plan identifying the area affected by the proposal and the Council's 'Statement of Reasons' can be inspected at Merton Link, Merton Civic Centre, London Road, Morden, Surrey, SM4 5DX during the Council's normal office hours Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.

All representations along with Officers' comments and recommendations will be presented in the report to the Cabinet Member for Environmental Sustainability and Regeneration. Please note that responses to any representations received will not be made until a final decision is made by the Cabinet Member. Once a decision is made by the Cabinet Member all who made a representation will be informed accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

Barry Copestake
Traffic Engineer [futureMerton]
Environment and Regeneration|London Borough of Merton|
Direct Line: 020 8545 4830
Email: barry.copestake@merton.gov.uk
Merton Council - Putting You First

Appendix C - Representations received

ES/TAXI_MORDEN_RD 001

I fully support the proposal to implement a Licenced Taxi Rank outside the above Stn. If I may add a suggestion can we have signage inside/outside the Stn so the Public will know there is a Taxi rank just outside to the left. Maybe some signage to say we are disabled accessible as well could be a good idea.

ES/TAXI_MORDEN_RD 002

We fully support the proposal that would lead to the introduction of a two bay taxi rank opposite Milner Road. During the feasibility and design period for the rank we have been continually supportive of the proposal.

In preparations for the Night Tube service that the Mayor of London has announced will be introduced on 19 August 2016 on the Central and Victoria lines and then on three other lines including the Northern line serving South Wimbledon station in the Autumn of 2016 we have been reviewing new taxi rank arrangements at stations. The purpose of the review has been to identify where ranks are needed in order to help ensure that passengers leaving a Night Tube station and who want to continue their journey by taxi can do so easily and safely.

Having designated night time taxi ranks for these Night Tube stations will not only help ensure that passengers exiting the stations can easily and safely access taxi services but should also help reduce the risk to passengers from illegal 'cab' drivers and unlicensed 'cab' drivers.

Another benefit of introducing the taxi rank is that it will make it easier for people in the South Wimbledon station area to access taxis which are accessible. This is particularly important as all taxis (black cabs) are wheelchair accessible and have other accessibility features so our ambition is that by having a taxi rank close to the station anyone with accessibility requirements will still be able to take a taxi and complete their journey.

The provision of the taxi rank will also ensure that passengers have a choice of taxi (black cab) or private hire/minicab services.

Merton Council - call-in request form

1. Decision to be called in: (required)

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2. Which of the principles of decision making in Article 13 of the constitution has not been applied? (required)

Required by part 4E Section 16(c)(a)(ii) of the constitution - tick all that apply:

(a) proportionality (i.e. the action must be proportionate to the desired outcome);	
(b) due consultation and the taking of professional advice from officers;	
(c) respect for human rights and equalities;	
(d) a presumption in favour of openness;	
(e) clarity of aims and desired outcomes;	
(f) consideration and evaluation of alternatives;	
(g) irrelevant matters must be ignored.	

3. Desired outcome

Part 4E Section 16(f) of the constitution- select one:

(a) The Panel/Commission to refer the decision back to the decision making person or body for reconsideration, setting out in writing the nature of its concerns.	
(b) To refer the matter to full Council where the Commission/Panel determines that the decision is contrary to the Policy and/or Budget Framework	
(c) The Panel/Commission to decide not to refer the matter back to the decision making person or body *	
* If you select (c) please explain the purpose of calling in the decision.	

4. Evidence which demonstrates the alleged breach(es) indicated in 2 above (required)

Required by part 4E Section 16(c)(a)(ii) of the constitution:

5. Documents requested

6. Witnesses requested

7. Signed (not required if sent by email):

8. Notes

Call-ins must be supported by at least three members of the Council
(Part 4E Section 16(c)(a)(i))

The call in form and supporting requests must be received by by 12 Noon on
the third working day following the publication of the decision
(Part 4E Section 16(c)(a)(iii)).

The form and/or supporting requests must be sent **EITHER** by email from a
Councillor's email account (no signature required) to
democratic.services@merton.gov.uk **OR** as a signed paper copy
(Part 4E Section 16(c)(a)(iv)) to the Assistant Head of Democracy, 8th floor,
Civic Centre, London Road, Morden SM4 5DX.

For further information or advice contact the Assistant Head of Democracy on
020 8545 3361