

8. CATHEDRAL SQUARE PARKING

RR 9828

The Projects and Property Committee requested the City Streets Manager to report to the City Services Committee on the need for the provision of a taxi or taxi stands in Cathedral Square and a possible review of the present P5 parking areas with a view of restricting the use of such parking to tour buses and service vehicles.

The report to the Committee outlined the changes which have occurred as a result of the reconstruction of Cathedral Square. One of the consequences of the construction activity has been limited enforcement of vehicle parking on pedestrian areas. Enforcement of the P5 loading areas has been more active. The current parking concerns are:

- Too many vehicles parking on the pedestrian areas.
- The unloading and loading of buses in open areas away from Hotel awnings.
- Lack of definition of parking areas.
- The bollards being of fragile construction.
- A low level of parking enforcement.
- That taxis are not in Cathedral Square.
- Lack of physical barriers to restrict the movement and parking of vehicles.
- Parking in the permitted areas restricting access to adjacent properties.

The Committee **decided**:

1. That a new bollard be considered that is more robust and visible and where necessary new bollards be installed.
2. That the Legal Services Manager be requested to report to the Council on the option of altering the Traffic and Parking Bylaw to allow vehicles displaying an exemption label to park for more than 5 minutes in a "P5 loading zone".
3. That a high level of parking enforcement be maintained throughout the day to encourage a high turnover of vehicles in the parking areas provided.
4. That the existing parking restrictions be reviewed on the completion of the reconstruction works of Cathedral Square.
5. That discussions be held with the Cathedral Chapter with regard to the removal of the parking area in front of the Cathedral.
6. That staff arrange with the taxi operators appropriate signage to direct people to taxi stands adjacent to Cathedral Square.