

**Consultation Response from KC,
Highways Development Management**
2021/93016 first floor, Unit 2, Bar Street, Batley, WF17 5PG
Change of use to class E(g)(i) for use as taxi booking office
Date Responded: 21/12/21 Responding Officer: CNB Responding Ref: K15-4NE/33

This application is for the change of use of a storeroom to Class E for use as a taxi office in an existing building fronting on to both Bar Street and A652 Bradford Road.

Bar Street is a one-way single carriageway local access road of approximately 6.9m wide with footways on both sides and street lighting present. There are No Waiting (Mon-Sat 8am-6pm) TRO markings at various points along both sides of the highway and Limited Waiting Bay (Mon-Sat 8am-6pm 2 hours no return 2 hours) TROs opposite. There is evidence of worker/commuter parking all along Bar Street.

A652 Bradford Road is a busy 30mph two-way single carriageway main distributor road of approximately 9.4m width with footways and street lighting. There are major signalised junctions to either side of the application site and so some congestion is expected during the peak hours. There are No Waiting at any Time TRO markings all along with bus box markings on both sides close the junction with Bar Street. The No Waiting at Any Time TRO has just recently been updated.

We have been informed by Kirklees Highway Safety team that they are in the process of adding further parking restriction TROs at the opposite end of Bar Street around the junction with Field Lane due to existing obstruction and road safety issues.

There was no parking associated with the application and the limited daytime parking may cause a concern. We wouldn't like to see any of the highway, especially the A652 Bradford Road obstructed by parked vehicles and Bar Street is heavily parked up during the day and due to its narrow width, we wouldn't want to see an increase in parking on the footway as this would lead to road safety issues.

There is a two-vehicle taxi rank on A652 Bradford Road immediately to the south of the junction with Bar Street, however there is still a no stopping TRO in operation during the day as the taxi rank is only operational between 10pm and 6:30am. The No Waiting at Any Time TRO along this section of A652 Bradford Road has only recently been renewed and so the current markings may not reflect the actual TRO status.

With this lack of local parking, we would not wish to see any further development that would generate a demand for additional on street parking in this area and so we would have concerns at the use of a taxi office with either driver or passenger waiting facilities. However, we would be able to accept a taxi control office with no driver or customer waiting facilities and this could be conditioned.

With this, and on balance due to the lack of daytime parking in the vicinity of the site, we consider the application acceptable on highways grounds with the following condition.

Condition

No waiting room for customers or rest room for private hire vehicle drivers shall be provided at the premises.

Reason; In the interest of highway safety

