

**ANGUS COUNCIL**

**SPECIAL CIVIC LICENSING COMMITTEE – 11 JUNE 2018**

**THE OPEN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP, CARNOUSTIE**  
**TAXI ARRANGEMENTS**

**REPORT BY SERVICE LEADER – LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC**

**ABSTRACT**

This report seeks approval for the arrangements for taxis for the duration of the Open Golf Championship in Carnoustie in July 2018.

**1. RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Committee agree that:-

- (i) all taxis and private hire vehicles licensed to operate in the Carnoustie and Arbroath zone be permitted to operate in Carnoustie for the duration of The Open;
- (ii) expressions of interest be invited from all taxi/private hire operators in Angus outwith the Carnoustie/Arbroath zone in operating in Carnoustie for the duration of the Open;
- (iii) 50 vehicles from outwith the Carnoustie/Arbroath zone be permitted to operate in Carnoustie for the duration of The Open;
- (iv) in the event that the number of expressions of interest exceeds 50, the vehicles permitted to operate will be selected at random; and
- (v) a fee of £40 is charged to those selected at (iv) above to cover administration costs and the deployment of marshals.

**2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS LOCAL OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN/CORPORATE PLAN**

This report contributes to the following local outcomes contained within the Angus Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and Locality Plans:

- An inclusive and sustainable economy
- Attractive employment opportunities

**3. BACKGROUND**

The Open Golf Championship (“The Open”) takes place between 19 and 22 July 2018. Practice days run from 15 to 18 July. The Open was last held in Carnoustie in 2007. The taxi and private hire arrangements agreed for that event were made by the Civic Licensing Committee at its meeting on 17 April 2007. This report can be found here:-

<http://archive.angus.gov.uk/ccmeetings/reports-committee2007/civlicensing/388.pdf>

Committee will note the concerns expressed in the report about the inability of taxis within the Carnoustie/Arbroath zone to cope with the demand for services during The Open. It is also submitted that accessing and egressing The Open is regularly cited as a key issue that impacts on the positive and negative ratings of customer experience at The Open.

Committee will note that the Council determined in 2007 to permit, for the duration of The Open, taxis and private hire vehicles licensed in Angus but not in the Carnoustie/Arbroath zone to operate in Carnoustie for the duration of the event. Whilst the report does not state how many permissions were granted, records indicate that this was around 74 vehicles.

Committee will be aware that a further report on taxi stance arrangements has been submitted to this Committee. Committee will note that this report recommends alternative arrangements to those implemented in 2007. Committee are asked to note that in 2007 vehicles were permitted access to the south of the railway line. This is not the case for this event as vehicular access has been restricted for a number of reasons including security.

Given the above, it is proposed that

- (i) all taxis and private hire vehicles be permitted to operate in Carnoustie for the duration of The Open;
- (ii) expressions of interest be invited from all taxi/private hire operators in Angus outwith the Carnoustie/Arbroath zone in operating in Carnoustie for the duration of the Open;
- (iii) that 50 vehicles from outwith the Carnoustie/Arbroath zone be permitted to operate in Carnoustie for the duration of The Open;
- (iv) in the event that the number of expressions of interest exceeds 50, the vehicles permitted to operate will be selected at random; and
- (v) a fee of £40 is charged to those selected at (iv) above to cover administration costs and the deployment of marshals.

## **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There will be costs associated with the administration of the proposals and the deployment of marshals as described. The proposals referred to above should result in income of £2,000.

**NOTE:** No background papers as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing this report.

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