

Crawley Borough Council

	Report No: PES/084	C
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Report to Licensing Committee

5th September 2012

Hackney Carriage Stands

1. Key Points

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to enable the Licensing Committee to consider the objections received following the notification of the Licensing Committee's decision on 14 June 2012 to appoint 3 new taxi ranks within the Borough of Crawley and to make a final decision in respect of the proposed ranks.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The Licensing Committee is asked to:

- (a) Consider the objections (at Appendices B and C) made in respect of the proposal to appoint a taxi rank at The Boulevard outside Lloyds Bank;
- (b) RESOLVE, in light of the objections, to either:
- (i) confirm the Committee's decision of the 14 June 2012 and approve the appointment of the taxi ranks (at Appendix A);
- OR
- (ii) amend the decision in respect of the proposed taxi ranks.

ANGELA TANNER
Head of Planning & Environmental Services

3. Background

- 3.1 On the 14th June 2012 the Licensing Committee accepted the proposed 3 new Hackney Carriage Stands. Approval was also given to advertise in the local media as required by the legislation (Section 63 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976).
- 3.2 Accordingly the proposal to appoint 3 new Hackney Carriage Stands was published in the form of a public notice in the local media. A statutory period of 28 days is permitted for any objections to be submitted. The Council received 2 objections to one of the 3 proposed Hackney Carriage Stands within that specific time period and these are attached as appendix B and C.

4. Current Situation

- 4.1 Both of the objections received relate to the same location in The Boulevard outside of Lloyds Bank site.
- 4.2 The traffic regulation order in The Boulevard restricts the loading and unloading between the hours of 10.30 am and 16:00hrs Monday to Saturday this means that no vehicle may load or unload between these times.
- 4.3 Outside the times stated the road then becomes a normal double yellow line contravention. Double yellow lines mean no waiting at any time; unless there are signs that specifically indicate seasonal restrictions. There are no seasonal restrictions in the Boulevard.
- 4.4 Vehicles may stop to load or unload on double yellow lines (unless there are also loading restrictions as above) or while passengers board or alight outside the restricted hours.
- 4.5 There is a car park which is managed by NCP (National Car Parks) opposite Lloyds Bank and the Council's Enforcement and Technical Services Manager has confirmed that this car park is underutilised during the day.

5. Ward Members' Views

- 5.1. The views of ward members have not been considered at this stage.

6. Staffing, Equalities, Financial and Legal Implications/Powers

- 6.1 There are no staffing related matters other than additional time spent preparing adverts for the consultation.
- 6.2 All financial costs are recovered through the self-financing of the licensing office.
- 6.3 All legal implications have been taken into consideration i.e. advertising and consultation.

An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed n

7. Risk Implications

7.1 None

8. Environmental Impacts

8.1 Additional Taxi Stands will allow persons to possibly queue outside premises that will be adjacent to the stands.

9. Other Implications

9.1 None

10. Links to the Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Plan

10.1 The proposals contained in this report relate to the following key areas of the Sustainable Community Strategy

Community Cohesion	y	Community Safety	y
Young People and Children	y	Health and Well Being	y
Older People	y	The Environment	y
The Local Economy	y	Social Inclusion	y

The following key principles are applicable:-

(i) Working together	y
(ii) Dignity, respect and opportunities for all	y
(iii) Involving People	y
(iv) Making it last	y

The report relates to the following areas in which the Council operates to enhance the town and the quality of life of local people:-

(i) Prosperity	y
(ii) Community	y
(iii) Environment	y
(iv) Value for Money	y

11. Reasons for the Recommendation

11.1 The Act requires members to give due consideration to the objections received regarding the proposed Hackney Carriage Stands. On the 20th June 2012 a public notice was placed in the local media and within the 28 day consultation period which is allowed for objections, two objections were received by Crawley Borough Council.

12. Background Papers

12.1 Report to the licensing committee on the 14th June 2012.

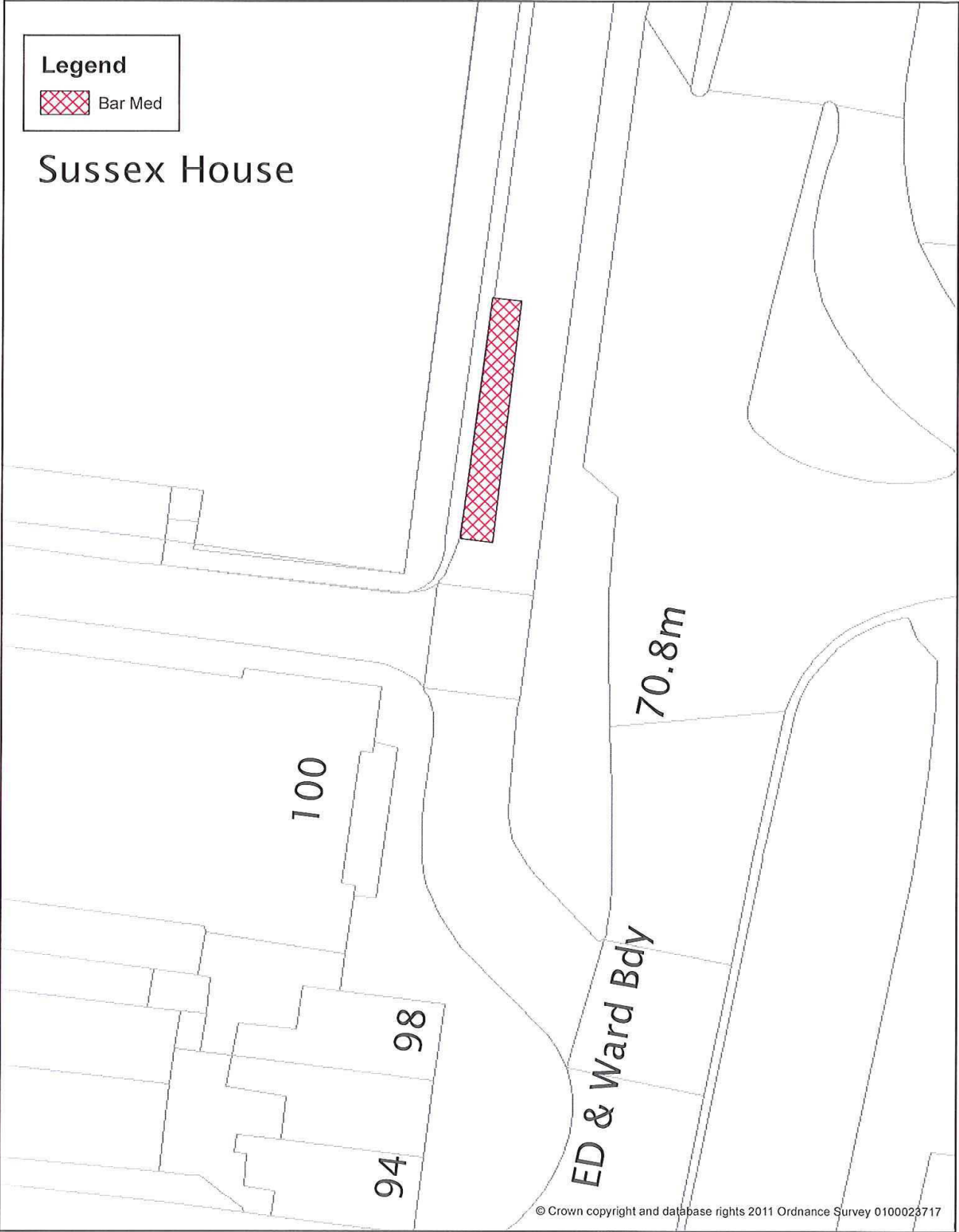
Contact Officer: - Bill Nailen – Licensing Officer
Direct Line: - 01293 438734



Taxi ranks

Crawley Borough Council
Town Hall
The Boulevard
Crawley
West Sussex RH10 1UZ

Tel: 01293 438000 Fax: 01293 438603

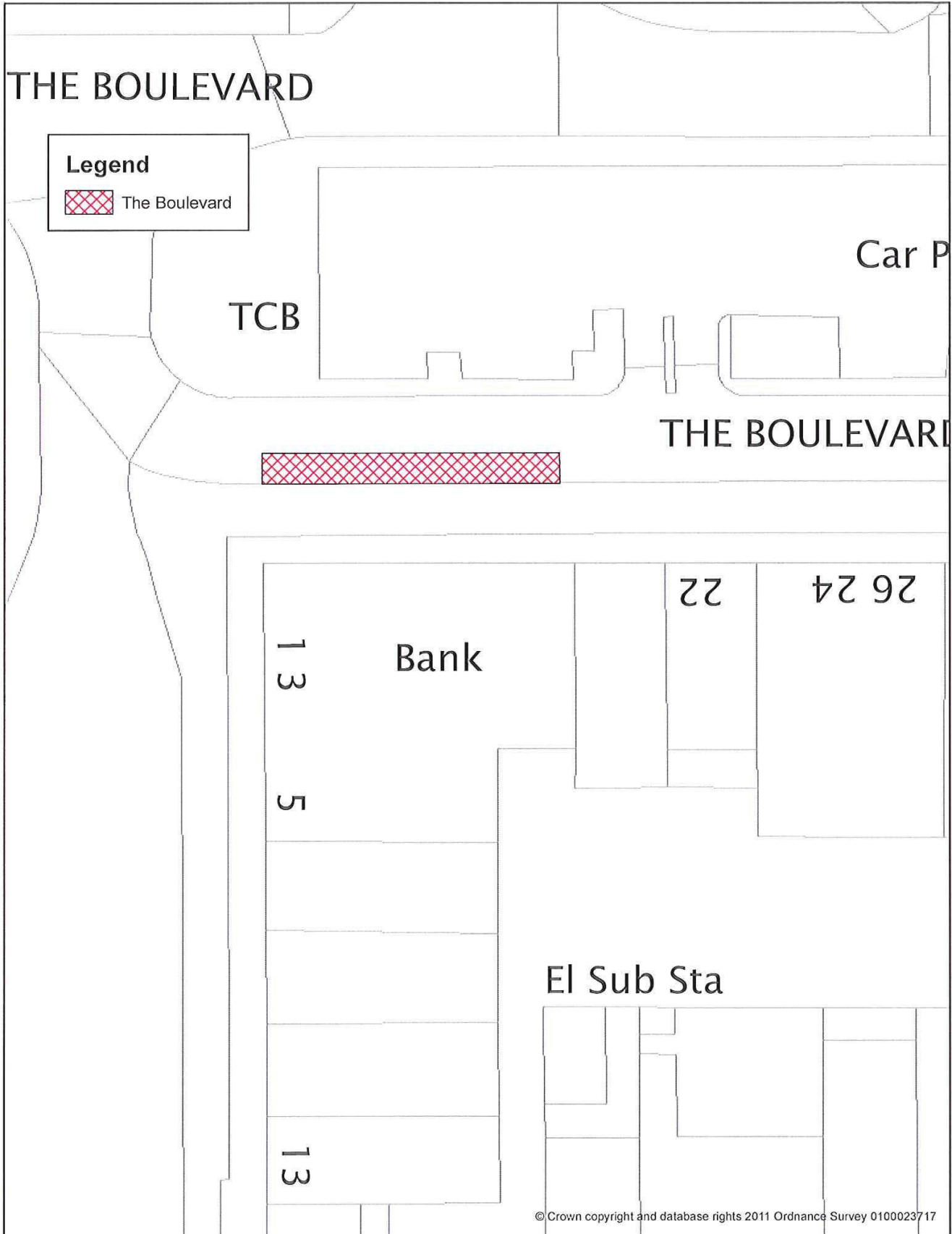




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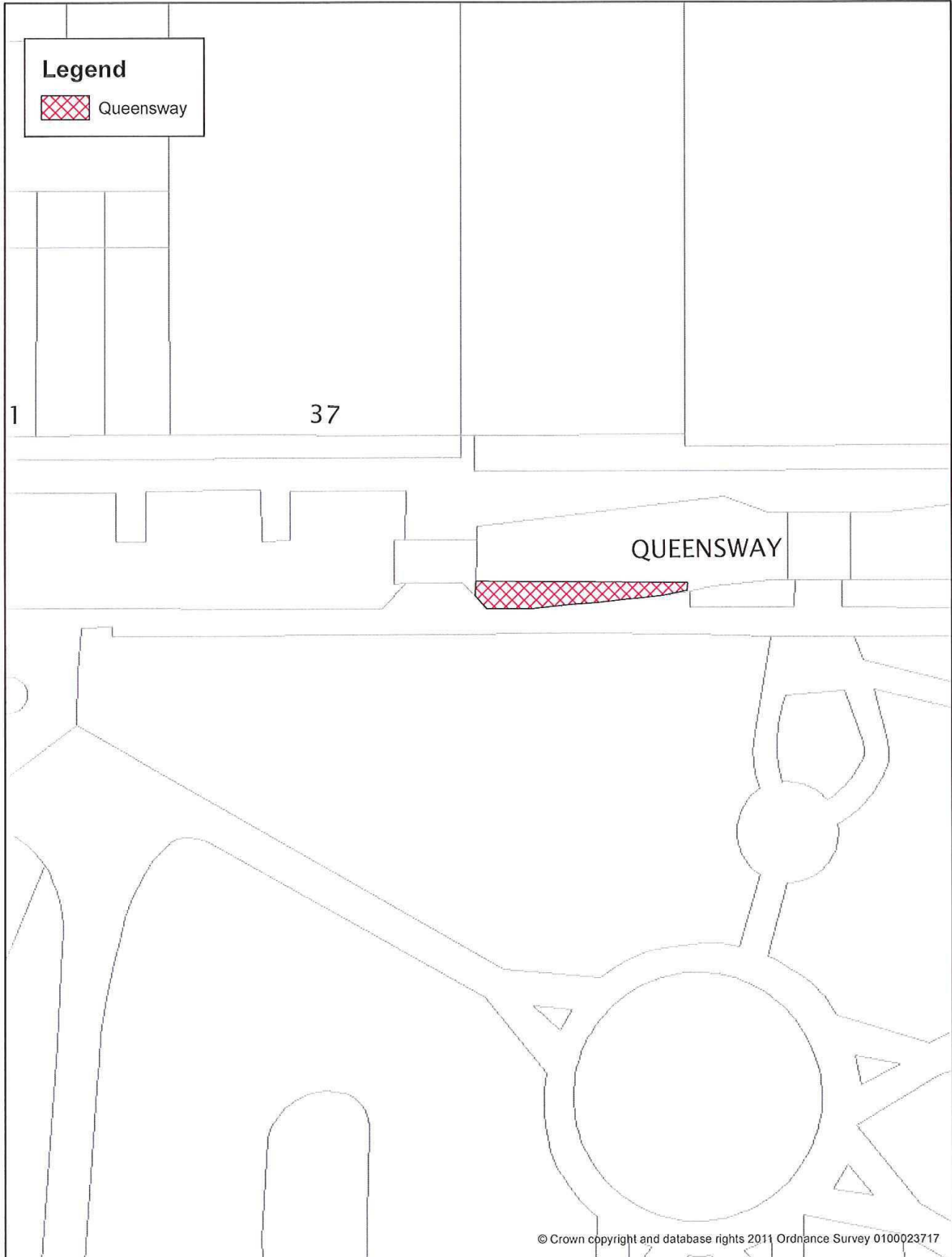




Taxi ranks

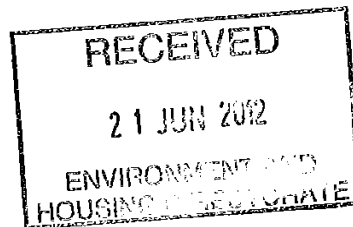
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Town Hall
The Boulevard
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West Sussex RH10 1UZ

Tel: 01293 438000 Fax: 01293 438603



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The White Hart
High Street, Crawley
RH10 1BQ
19/06/12



Dear Sir,

I would like to object to the proposed Taxi Rank in the Boulevard, next to Lloyds Bank in the Broadway.

This is the only area that traders including myself can load change (heavy bags of coinage) near to the bank.

Would we be allowed to load on the pavement in the same way that security companies do as there is nowhere near the bank?

What is the point of "another" Taxi rank on the Boulevard? A more favourable position would be outside the row of shops between Nat West Bank and The Punch Bowl.

Yours Sincerely

S J Attenborough

Appendix C

-----Original Message-----

From: John Fraser
Sent: 21 June 2012 14:00
To: Licensing
Subject: Objection to new taxi rank

Dear Ms Tanner

I would like to object to one of the proposed new taxi ranks outlined in your Public Notice dated 20/6/12.

My objection is to the proposed rank on The Boulevard, Service Road.

My objection is based on the following.

- a. The proximity of the other taxi rank at the opposite end of the Boulevard service Road
- b. The failure of the Taxi Trade to effectively use the other Town centre ranks which are available in the High Street and by County Mall
- c. The position of this rank will potentially have serious road traffic congestion problems associated with it, due to the fact that the towns hundreds of Private Hire drivers use this as a pick - up point regularly. there used to be space to pick up beyond the taxi rank at M&S but the previous extension of that rank has driven Crawleys PHVs to pick up elsewhere which is now precisely where you propose to site another rank)
- d. While I acknowledge that there is over-ranking going on at The M&S rank it should be solved by other means than forcing Crawley Licensed Private Hire Drivers to perhaps act in a way which might be provocative to Crawleys Taxi Drivers. We are two sides of the same coin providing a personal transport service to those who need it and the needs of one side should not be ignored in an attempt to solve the problems caused by the other side.

I look forward to the withdrawal of this proposal.

Yours sincerely

John B Fraser