Submission concerning proposed changes to Parking in Princes Street to allow for taxi/small passenger services

Thank you for allowing comments on the proposed parking arrangements outside 300 Princes Street, Fables Hotel and the vacant building on the corner of Princes and Manse Streets. For ease of reference and to save any confusion I have divided the area into 3 sections –

Section A – the existing 3x30minute parks outside the vacant corner building (320);

Section B – the present space outside the Hotel(310); and

Section C - the 5 minute parking space outside the front of 300 Princes Street.

Section A These 3 parking spaces are somewhat longer than the normal size. If they were reduced to the normal size there could be sufficient room for a fourth space without undue encroachment into Section B.

Section B At the moment the signs are confusing to me and I cannot see any specific space for a coach; nor indeed for the 5x5minute parks referred to in your diagram. The lack of delineation may be deliberate and if so I would agree that the space sometimes can be used more efficiently without marking for specific vehicles.

However to reduce the present space to 3x5minute parks must be a disadvantage for those arriving by private transport at peak hours having to decant with luggage and sign in to the hotel;

for those arriving by taxi;

for those arriving by shuttle with or without trailers; and for admittedly the very few coaches that arrive with numbers of passengers to decant or load up.

The proposed space would simply not be large enough to cope with more than 3 ordinary cars, and my suggestion is to leave the space as it is at present, labelling it as a 5 minute dropping off zone. This would allow sufficient space for taxis, small passenger services vehicles and the odd coach as well as cars.

Section C Present usage of this 5minute parking area outside 300 Princes Street is varied and it is of no use to the residents in the building.

The owner of the Dress Shop on the Ground Floor however objects to the prospect of space being used for taxis, shuttles and small passenger vehicles decanting hotel guests, cluttering up the main entrance to our building and entrance to her shop.

Recommendations

This part of town is visited for purposes of hospitality, business, trades people, delivery and cartage. Any parking space with a lesser time limit of

1hour is not helpful. Common sense suggests that the interests of everyone in this area, and of those who service or visit it, would best be met with the 3 or 4 parks discussed in Section A above, and those in Section C, should be converted to 1hour maximum parking areas.

The area dealt with in Section B above should remain as it is but labelled a 5minute drop off zone.

Advantages of these recommendations are that implementation of them would be relatively simple, less disruptive, less costly, and more useful to users than what has been proposed.

AT Gray

Date 1 August, 2024