

## **Appendix 1**

### **Response to Transport NI on the Taxi access to Royal Avenue, Taxi Ranks proposals at Donegall Square and new Cycle Routes proposals .**

#### **Taxi Access to Royal Avenue, Belfast**

The Council would recommend that any amendment to the access in this area should be considered by DRD, DSD and the Council as part of the next phase of the Streets Ahead project. It is considered that development work for Streets Ahead Phase 3 would provide the opportunity for a broader approach to consideration of how the streets are utilised and accessed in the northern area of the city centre.

There are a number of developments proposed and underway in this part of the city, including the Ulster University on York Street, which could impact on the traffic situation in this area. The Council would recommend that the pilot is extended, the situation kept under review and considered alongside the Streets Ahead Phase 3 proposals.

#### **Taxi Ranks – Donegall Square**

The Council would not support a new feeder rank in Donegall Square West as this would reduce the space available for coach pick up and drop off by 20 metres. The Council request further assessment and information to be provided on the impact of reducing the provision for visiting coaches in this area. There has been an increase in demand for coach parking in the city centre in recent years and coach operators consider the current provision to be inadequate to handle current demands.

#### **New Cycle Routes proposals**

The Council supports the proposals to upgrade the cycling infrastructure in the city centre and the connections to the western and eastern approaches to the city centre. This is subject to DRD engagement with the frontages along the routes. The proposals support a key objective outlined in the Council's Transport policy "to seek to influence the development of transportation policies and proposals which improve connectivity and encourage modal shift away from the private car to more sustainable forms of travel, such as walking, cycling and public transport".