

SCRUTINY PROGRESS MONITORING REPORT ON : HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENCE LIMIT

This is the progress report on item Ref EW4 of the Scrutiny Monitoring Form - to provide progress in implementing recommendations of the Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee from its scrutiny project work on the Hackney Carriage Licence Limit. These recommendations were considered by the Appeals and Regulatory Committee on 12.02.14, for action and further consideration.

Recommendation 1 : That a clear comparison of the review survey be produced and broken down into each taxi rank to aid members of the Appeals and Regulatory Committee at the decision making stage.				
Action	Responsibility / Implementation by:	Resources Needed / Available	Target Date	Achievement / Completed
As recommendation.	Cabinet Member Health and Wellbeing Licensing Manager, and Solicitor (Local Government & Regulatory Law) & Deputy Monitoring Officer.	Existing resources.		For the next council review of the limit on hackney carriage numbers, which is due to commence autumn 2016, comparisons by taxi rank will form part of the survey contract specification. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Comparison by taxi rank will form part of the contract specification for this year's review.</i>
Recommendation 2 : That a clear written process be put together including the reviews inclusion in the Council's Forward Plan in future.				
Action	Responsibility / Implementation by:	Resources Needed / Available	Target Date	Achievement / Completed
As recommendation.	Cabinet Member Health and Wellbeing Licensing Manager, and Solicitor (Local Government & Regulatory Law) & Deputy Monitoring Officer.	Existing resources.		The required commissioning of an independent review process/survey, means the written procedure for each (3-yearly) review will comprise the Council's adopted procurement process and the Appeals and Regulatory Committee will be involved with this process. The findings and report for a formal policy decision by the Appeals and Regulatory Committee,

				<p>will be included in the Forward Plan at the appropriate time as a non-key decision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The commissioning of the latest 'unmet demand' survey will use the council's procurement procedures and a report will be submitted for decision by the Appeals and Regulatory committee. The findings and report are included on the forward plan as a non-key decision.</i>
<p>Recommendation 3 : That the Appeals and Regulatory Committee considers taking action to resolve the number of Hackney Carriage licences within the borough, such as removing the option to transfer the licence, when legislation permits.</p>				
Action	Responsibility / Implementation by:	Resources Needed / Available	Target Date	Achievement / Completed
As recommendation.	<p>Cabinet Member Health and Wellbeing</p> <p>Licensing Manager, and Solicitor (Local Government & Regulatory Law) & Deputy Monitoring Officer.</p>	Existing resources.		<p>The consideration of other options to help reduce the number of hackney licences is ongoing. Legislation has now passed through parliament and been made – this is the Deregulation Act 2015. The Act does not include any power to enable the control of transfer of hackney carriage licences. There is currently no proposed legislation to remove or control the ability to transfer a licence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>There are no other options to reduce the number of hackney carriages as the anticipated legislative change did not happen.</i>

Any Additional Information :

The Appeals and Regulatory Committee must decide on the unmet demand survey before April 2017, I anticipate the report will be with them in December of this year.

Updated by Trevor Durham, Licensing Manager. 07/07/2016