

ORIGINATING SECTION: PUBLIC PROTECTION SERVICE

REPORT TO: LICENSING COMMITTEE

16:07:13

TITLE : HACKNEY CARRIAGE UNMET DEMAND SURVEY

## 1. PURPOSE

To enable Members to consider the findings of the survey conducted by CTS traffic and transportation ltd.

## 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

For members to consider the CTS's report and consider what actions to take in light of the findings

## 3. KEY ISSUES

As Members will be aware, the Council currently has a policy of restricting the number Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licences issued. However, in maintaining such a policy the Council must provide evidence that there is no significant unmet demand for hackney carriage services within the area in order to be in a position to refuse any new applications for additional licences. It necessary then to commission an independent survey to assess the level of demand, such surveys should be conducted by an organisation specialising in this area of work.

## 4. RATIONALE

In February this year CTS were commissioned to undertake an unmet demand study, the results will be presented to members by Mr Ian Millership who undertook the survey on behalf of CTS

Copies of the full report will be made available for members on, or prior to the committee meeting.

CTS have concluded that there is no significant unmet demand for hackney carriage services at this time.

Members will therefore need to consider whether to maintain the existing policy on restricting hackney carriage vehicle licences or perhaps review the policy on restricting the number of licences issued.

In an interim statement issued by the Law Commission in April 2013, it looks likely that local authorities will maintain their powers to limit hackney carriage fleets.

## 5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Should members be minded to propose a review to the current policy on restricting hackney carriage vehicle licences, then it would be necessary to consult all current stakeholders in that process.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The cost of the survey will be borne by the hackney carriage vehicle owners, recovered through licence fees.

## **7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Current unmet demand studies are necessary to support Council decisions when determining hackney carriage applications. It is generally agreed that the survey results remain valid for 3 years.

## **8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

N/A

## **9. CONSULTATIONS**

In conducting the survey, all stakeholders and members of the public have been consulted, and the findings are included in the survey.

Further consultation with stakeholders would be required if Members are minded to review the current policy.

## **10 . CONTACT OFFICER**

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