

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE

ORIGINATING SECTION: PUBLIC PROTECTION SERVICE

REPORT TO: LICENSING COMMITTEE

14:06:2017

TITLE : HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE UNMET DEMAND SURVEY

1. PURPOSE

To enable members to consider the findings of the latest unmet demand survey conducted by Ian Millership - CTS Traffic and Transport.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

For members to consider the unmet demand study and determine what actions to take in light of the findings.

3. KEY ISSUES

As Members will be aware, this Council currently has a policy of restricting the number of Hackney Carriage Vehicles. To maintain this policy the Council must provide evidence that there is no significant unmet demand for hackney carriage services within the area. It is necessary 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.

Members are asked to consider whether to maintain the existing policy on restricting hackney carriage licences to 70.

4. RATIONALE

Following a consultation with the trade and the taxi forum last year a decision was made to commission a further unmet demand study.

In November 2016 CTS were commissioned to undertake the study. A copy of the full report is appendix 1.

CTS have concluded that there is no significant unmet demand for hackney carriage services and the Council can justify maintaining the current limit of 70 vehicles.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

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

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of the survey will be borne by the hackney carriage vehicle owners, recovered through licence fees over the coming 3 years.

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 stakeholders and a selection of the public have been consulted. Details of the consultation undertaken and its findings are included within the survey.

10 . CONTACT OFFICER

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