

LICENSING COMMITTEE (NON LICENSING ACT 2003 FUNCTIONS)

Agenda Item 19

Brighton & Hove City
Council

Subject:	Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Trade Ethnicity Monitoring		
Date of Meeting:	17 November 2011		
Report of:	Head of Planning and Public Protection		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Martin Seymour	Tel: 29- 6659
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Ward(s) affected:	All		

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 To report the results of Ethnicity Monitoring of the Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Trade for 2010/11.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That Committee note the results of Ethnic Monitoring.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 All applications received by the Hackney Carriage Office for the licensing of vehicles and drivers are monitored for ethnic background. The results of this monitoring are shown in appendix 1.
- 3.2 Ethnic monitoring is undertaken to ensure that the waiting list is maintained and operated in a fair and transparent way as recommended by the Equality and Human Rights Commission.

4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION

- 4.1 This matter has been discussed at the council's hackney carriage and private hire consultation forum where all members of that forum are free to express their opinions. The forum members have delegated negotiations to selected representatives. Monitoring is carried out at the request of the forum who are satisfied with the results.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 Financial Implications:

The cost of providing the Ethnicity Monitoring Report is met from within the existing Taxi Licensing revenue budget.

Finance Officer Consulted: Name Karen Brookshaw Date: 26/09/11

5.2 Legal Implications:

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, a public authority such as the council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to—

(a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;

(b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

(c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Ethnicity monitoring of the Hackney Carriage/Private Hire trade will assist in the discharge of that duty.

Lawyer Consulted: Name Liz Woodley Date: 05/10/11

5.3 Equalities Implications:

There are no direct implications in the report. However, in order to improve services to disabled groups all new drivers are required to pass the Btec Level 2 Certificate in Introduction to the role of the Professional Taxis and Private Hire Driver. Drivers are also required to reach a basic standard of literacy. Monitoring assists better regulation principles: proportionality, accountability, consistence, transparency.

5.4 Sustainability Implications:

None.

5.5 Crime & Disorder Implications:

None.

5.6 Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

The transport industry should be safe, profitable and be a positive experience for residents and visitors.

5.7 Public Health Implications:

None.

5.8 Corporate / Citywide Implications:

Tourism needs to provide a warm welcome to visitors and the tourism strategy depends upon effective partnership with transport operators particularly to achieve safe late night dispersal for the night time economy.

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

6.1 None – Monitoring of licence applications only.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 So Committee are aware of the results of the ethnic monitoring of licence applications.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Ethnic Monitoring Report.

Documents in Members' Rooms

1. None.

Background Documents

1. None.