

COMMITTEE: REGULATION

DATE: 23rd FEBRUARY 2011

SUBJECT: PETITIONS REGARDING A LARGE TAXI RANK
AND REQUEST TO ALLOW A MIXED TAXI
FLEET

REPORT BY: HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSUMER
SERVICES

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IMPLICATIONS:

LEGAL	✓	COMMUNITY SAFETY
EQUALITIES		ENVIRONMENT
FINANCIAL		CONSULTATIONS
STAFFING		OTHER

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

PURPOSE

1. To note the petitions received from Mr Raja Maqbool Ahmed and Mr Jamil Ahmed at lead petitioners on behalf of the Hackney Carriage Trade, regarding the requests for a large rank on Manchester Street outside the old pound stretcher shop and to allow a mixed fleet for Hackney Carriage vehicles.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. Regulation Committee is recommended to note the receipt of the petitions and to give consideration to these matters at a future Committee

BACKGROUND

3. Petitions were received from the Hackney Carriage trade on the 26th January 2011 regarding the request for a large 24-hour taxi rank

outside the old pound stretcher shop and along the shops near Gordon Street plus a request to allow mix fleet vehicles for Hackney Carriage.

REPORT

4. Both requests require full and appropriate consideration and the matters have been sent for review to the appropriate services. The rank request has therefore been passed to both the Highways Service and the Engineering and Transportation division for consideration. Given both Services involvement with the EDL/ UAF demonstrations in the Town on the 5th February 2011 it has not been possible to provide an appropriate response to the issue and to produce this before the report submission deadline of the 10th February 2011. It is therefore proposed that the matter is bought to a future meeting of the Regulation Committee once a full review has been completed.
5. The request to allow a mixed fleet for Hackney Carriage vehicle is being dealt with by the Licensing Service and Legal Services. This issue will require extensive review of a range of matters such the Equalities Act 2010, former Regulation Committee decisions, case law and the primary legislation regarding Hackney Carriage and Private Hire. This combined with the Licensing Services involvement with the Demonstrations as detailed above, has also resulted in that the report deadline could not be met and again it is proposed that the matter be brought to a future meeting of the Regulation Committee.

PROPOSAL/OPTION

6. That the petitions submitted by the Hackney Carriage Trades be considered at future meetings of the Regulation Committee.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7. There are the following legal implications to this report as agreed with Clive Tobin, Senior Solicitor, Legal Services on 10th February 2011.
8. There are no specific legal implications to adjourning consideration of this matter to a later meeting of the Committee. This is an issue which requires detailed and careful consideration and it is essential that the Committee is in receipt of all relevant information and advice in order to do so.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100D**

There are no background papers to this report