

ESSENTIAL REFERENCE PAPER 'B'

Dear Licence Holder,

PROPOSAL TO LIMIT THE NUMBER OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLES

At the request of the Hackney Carriage trade we undertook an unmet demand survey of East Herts District to see if there was any significant unmet demand for Hackney Carriages. The conclusion of the report was put before the Licensing Committee last night for their consideration.

The report concluded that there was no significant unmet demand for Hackney Carriages within the District and that there is an oversupply of vehicles. The report can be viewed at:

<http://democracy.eastherts.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=120&MId=3649&J=1>

Based on the evidence put before them the Licensing Committee took the decision that the number of Hackney Carriage vehicle licences issued by this authority should be limited. Following further consideration Members proposed that the figure at which licence numbers should be capped is 200.

This figure is below the number of Hackney Carriage vehicle licences that are currently issued.

When the cap comes into force please do not worry that we will be immediately revoking vehicle licences to bring the numbers down as this is not the case. The number of Hackney Carriage vehicle licences will be allowed to gradually diminish over time as a result of not issuing any new licences and vehicle licences lapsing, being surrendered or being revoked.

During the unmet demand survey a number of you responded suggesting figures for limiting the number of Hackney Carriage vehicle licences that should be issued. We would like to hear your

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thoughts regarding the proposed figure for the limit of 200 vehicles so we are opening a 4 week consultation during which you can share your views and reasoning. Responses will be put before the Licensing Committee for consideration before a final decision regarding the level of the limit is made.

The consultation opens on 26th August 2019 and closes at midnight on 19th September 2019.

Responses should be made in writing to:

licensing.taxis@eastherts.gov.uk or by writing to: Licensing, East Herts Council, Wallfields, Pegs Lane, Hertford, Hertfordshire, SG13 8EQ.

Yours sincerely

LICENSING TEAM

Housing and Health Services

Email: licensing.taxis@eastherts.gov.uk