

Report to:	TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	21 January 2016

LICENSED HORSE DRAWN HACKNEY CARRIAGES SCRUTINY REVIEW FINAL REPORT

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 The Committee to consider the Licensed Horse Drawn Hackney Carriages Scrutiny Review final report.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To approve and forward the final report to the Executive.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 The report is presented to Tourism, Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee in accordance with the Scrutiny Protocol.

- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

Not applicable

4.0 Council Priority:

- 4.1 The relevant Council Priority is 'The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool'.

5.0 Background Information

- 5.1 The review topic was chosen following a referral from the Public Protection Sub-Committee regarding reviewing the Council's policy on licensed horse drawn hackney carriages following an increase throughout 2014 in the number of complaints about the amount of horse droppings on the Promenade and about carriage drivers driving down the middle of the road and going through red lights. There had also been an increase in the number of queries concerning the welfare of the horses whilst on the Promenade. In addition, in October 2014 a serious incident took place where a horse was startled and bolted down the Promenade. The carriage in question collided with members of the public on the Promenade and a six year old boy had his collar bone broken as a result.
- 5.2 A previous scrutiny review of the licensed horse drawn hackney carriages service had been undertaken in 2007. Since then, the layout of the Promenade has changed significantly and, in light of the above mentioned increase in complaints, it was therefore considered appropriate for the issue to be considered in detail once more.
- 5.3 Following an initial meeting of the Panel to establish a Chairman and to agree the scope for the review, an 'in a day' review approach was utilised. This meant that the Panel only held one meeting to which all key officers and representatives of the service were invited. All evidence was considered before the Panel came to its conclusions and recommendations.
- 5.4 The final report attached as Appendix 9a details the Panel's findings and recommendations.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 9a - Licensed Horse Drawn Hackney Carriages Scrutiny Review final report.

6.0 Legal considerations:

- 6.1 Contained within the body of the report.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

- 7.1 Not applicable

8.0 Equalities considerations:

- 8.1 Not applicable

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 Contained within the body of the report.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 Contained within the body of the report.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 Not applicable.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 Contained within the body of the report.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None