

Equality impact assessment

E621328889

Date assessment completed 08 Jun 2024

Title of equality impact assessment Roof Signs on Private Hire Vehicles

Service Communities and Environment

Team Licensing

Focus / aim of equality impact assessment

Do private hire vehicles require a pre-booked only roof sign

Names and roles of officers completing the assessment

Adam Sherwood, Premises and Taxi Licensing Manager

Contact telephone number of lead officer 01279 446010

Policy / service / function details

This is a review policy/service/function

What is the purpose of the policy / service / function?

To review whether the introduction of roof signs on PHVs has been a success and following new government guidance whether the roof signs should remain a condition of the vehicle licence.

Who are the key stakeholders?

Private Hire trade, members of the public, HDC Licensing Authority

Are there any other documents / strategies linked to this policy / service / function?

Private Hire Driver and Vehicle Licensing requirements undertaken by HDC Licensing Team

Who is affected by the policy / service / function?

Private Hire trade, hackney carriage trade, members of the public

Who has been involved in the development of the policy / service / function?

Harlow Council's Licensing Committee

Which staff carry out the policy / service / function?

Harlow Council Licensing Team

Quantitative and qualitative data

Quantitative

Quantitative Research is used to quantify the problem by way of generating numerical data or data that can be transformed into usable statistics. It is used to quantify attitudes, opinions, behaviours, and other defined variables – and generalise results from a larger sample population.

What quantitative (numerical) data do you already have about those who use or will use the policy / service / function?

no data available

What gaps are there in the quantitative data?

n/a

What other quantitative data do you need?

n/a

Qualitative

Qualitative research is a process of naturalistic inquiry that seeks an in-depth understanding of social phenomena within their natural setting. It focuses on the "why" rather than the "what" of social phenomena and relies on the direct experiences of human beings as meaning-making agents in their everyday lives.

What qualitative data do you already have about those who use or will use the policy / service / function?

6-week consultation for licensees, 6-week consultation for members of the public that included promotion with elderly residents in Supported Housing Schemes and all passengers in private hire vehicles through a QR code being displayed in the vehicles.

What gaps are there in the qualitative data?

none

What other qualitative data do you need?

none

Consultation

Number of formal or informal consultation that have taken place or that you are planning to hold to inform your Equality impact assessment 2

Title of consultation	Date	Who did you consult with?	What were the main issues raised?	Gaps in data	If further consultations are needed to fill these gaps – state with whom, by whom, when and how is this going to be done?

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Roof signs on private hire vehicles - licensees	08/03/2024	Private hire trade, hackney carriage trade	Roof signs	none	n/a
Roof signs on private hire vehicles - members of public	08/03/2024	members of public	roof signs	none	n/a

Protected characteristic groups from the Equality Act 2010

Assessment of Impact – Based on the data you have analysed and provided, and the results of the consultation or research you have undertaken, list below how the policy or function will or does work for each of the following equalities groups.

Protected characteristic groups from the Equality Act 2010 - Age, Disability

What do you know?

Roof sign may be of assistance to elderly or disabled passengers to identify the licensed vehicle.

What do people tell you?

A few comments regarding that a roof sign does make a vehicle more easily identifiable but confusing that not all vehicles have them.

What does this mean?

Removal of roof sign may make identification of private hire vehicle more difficult. However, vehicles have a licence plate, door stickers on front doors, passengers receive a SMS text with vehicle details prior to booking.

What can you do?

Ensure PHVs display correct signage in line with licence conditions, whether the roof sign remain a condition or not.

Assessment of overall impacts and any further recommendations

A roof sign may offer some help to identify a vehicle, however, likewise the sign also is the cause of some confusion for members of the public as to whether the vehicle can be booked 'off the street' or not, which has serious implications with legality of a journey. Very few authorities nationally have a roof sign on PHVs which they will need to review as well, and new guidance recommends PHVs not to have the roof sign without reasons to justify.

Action plan

Number of action plans 0

Project Manager

Project Manager Adam Sherwood

Date 08 Jun 2024

Assistant Director Tanusha Waters

Date 08/06/2024