

# Equality impact Assessment

Project Information	
<b>Project Name</b> <i>This should clearly explain what service / policy / strategy / change you are assessing</i>	Review of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy 2022
<b>Service Area</b> <i>Main team responsible for the policy, practice, service or function being assessed</i>	Regulatory Services
<b>EIA Author</b> <i>Name and Job Title</i>	Matthew Roberts
<b>Date EIA drafted</b>	27 May 2025
<b>ID number</b> <i>This will be added by the Strategy and Partnerships Team</i>	270525

Executive summary	
<b>Focus of EIA</b> <i>A member of the public should have a good understanding of the policy or service and any proposals after reading this section.</i>  <i>Please use plain English and write any acronyms in full first time - eg: 'Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)'</i>  <i>This section should explain what you are assessing:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>If the EIA is attached to a report, summarise the report.</i></li> <li><i>Provide information on whether any of the following communities could be affected by the policy, practice, service or function, or by how it is delivered?</i></li> <li><i>(age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, and marriage and civil partnership) in addition, TRDC recognises other communities may be vulnerable to disadvantage, this includes carers, people experiencing domestic abuse, substance misusers, homeless people, looked after children, (ex) armed forces personnel.</i></li> </ul>	<p>To assist officers with carrying out their regulatory duties under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 the council has a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy ("the Policy"). The Policy was last reviewed by officers in 2022 and whilst there is no statutory requirement to review the policy, best guidance suggests a review takes place every three years.</p> <p>The review undertaken by officers seeks to incorporate updated guidance as well as amendments to licence vehicle requirements in terms of their age and emissions. The changes to vehicle requirements seek to align with Hertfordshire Climate Change &amp; Sustainability Partnership (HCCSP) who devised a 'Boilerplate Policy' with suggestions for Hertfordshire Councils to follow, to enable a degree of alignment across the county. Further changes are proposed to allow saloon vehicles as Hackney Carriage vehicles (rather than solely 'Black Cabs'), in a bid to boost the trade.</p> <p>The changes to the age and emission of vehicles have potential financial implications for those working within the trade. However, transition arrangements are proposed to avoid the changes coming into effect straight away.</p> <p>The Hackney Carriage trade is important for those with disabilities; however, the changes are unlikely to affect</p>

	the Black Cab trade as all but one already meet the age and emission standards which are proposed.
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Mitigations		
Protected Characteristic	Potential Issue <i>Against each protected characteristics, make a frank and realistic assessment of what issues may or do occur</i>	Mitigating Actions <i>How can the negative impacts be reduced or avoided by the mitigating measures? Is further engagement with specific communities needed? Is more research or monitoring needed? Does there need to be a change in the proposal itself?</i>
Age	Not affected	N/A
Disability	Unlikely to be affected, although the relaxation of Hackney Carriage requirements in terms of vehicles made reduce the availability of wheelchair compliant vehicles.	Initially, to avoid saloon vehicles flooding the trade, it is proposed to place an initial cap of 3 vehicles. As it stands there is only 1 taxi rank in Three Rivers. The idea to relax the requirements is the first step in looking at opening more taxi ranks across the district.  Views of the trade are to be sought before adopting any changes to the Policy.
Gender reassignment (or affirmation)	Not affected	N/A
Pregnancy or maternity	Not affected	N/A
Race	Not affected	N/A
Religion or belief	Not affected	N/A
Sex	Not affected	N/A
Sexual Orientation	Not affected	N/A
Marriage and Civil Partnership	Not affected	N/A
The council recognises other communities may be vulnerable to disadvantage, this includes carers, people experiencing domestic abuse, substance misusers, homeless people, looked after children and care leavers, (ex) armed forces personnel.	Not affected	N/A

Actions Planned
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*It is anticipated that following agreement to commence a public consultation, officers will propose to meet with the trade to discuss the changes and any other opportunities or issues that they current face.*

*This open dialogue is considered to ensure that the changes have a limited impact on the trade but at the same point align with other strategic aims of the council and county.*

*All decisions will be taken at Regulatory Services Committee which are open to members of the trade.*

Additional Information
n/a

**Sign off:**

Equalities Lead Officer	Date

