

Andrew Noble

Postgraduate Teaching Assistant

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About

Title of thesis: **'The Effectiveness of Local Government Regulation of the Taxi Trade'**

Supervisor: [Dr Adrian Hunt \(/staff/profiles/law/hunt-adrian.aspx\)](/staff/profiles/law/hunt-adrian.aspx)

Availability

Feedback and Office Hours: Fridays 10:00am-11:00am, Room 126, Law Building

Qualifications

- LLB (Hons), University of Sheffield, July 1987
- Post-graduate Certificate in Education (Post-Compulsory), University of Central Lancashire, June 2007

Biography

After gaining his law degree at the University of Sheffield in 1987, Andy Noble worked as a solicitor in private practice for eleven years in a number of firms in Lancashire and West Yorkshire, specializing in personal injury claims and other general litigation. Until recently, Andy was a self-employed taxi driver based in Lancaster, a job which he had held for eleven years, but during this period Andy had also spent five years as a part-time lecturer in law at Lancaster & Morecambe College teaching tort, contract, criminal law, employment law, police powers and constitutional law to level 3 (A level) students.

Teaching

- Public Law (LLB)

Doctoral research

PhD title 'The Effectiveness of Local Government Regulation of the Taxi Trade'

Supervisor [Dr Adrian Hunt \(/staff/profiles/law/hunt-adrian.aspx\)](/staff/profiles/law/hunt-adrian.aspx)

Course [Law PhD / PhD by Distance Learning / MPhil / MJur \(/postgraduate/courses/research/law/law.aspx\)](/postgraduate/courses/research/law/law.aspx)

Research

Abstract of thesis:

Taxis are a widely used and heavily regulated area of public transport in England and Wales, but one which has been neglected by law academics and researchers. The original contribution to knowledge provided by this study is the finding that effectiveness of regulation of the trade relies upon local authority regulators creating and implementing their own system of 'law' outside the legislative framework and the trade acquiescing in that regime. Taking a qualitative-based empirical approach, this study critically assesses the taxi licensing regime through the views, attitudes and beliefs of those involved in the day-to-day application of the law. Many aspects of taxi regulation involve the exercise of local authority discretion, but the current system grants discretion in areas which ought to be confined by rules and often that discretion is exercised improperly. Whilst some degree of local administration of the system is desirable, many elements of taxi regulation would benefit from national standards to ensure consistency and uniformity. Although the study found a number of important exceptions to these general conclusions, on the whole the most effective methods of regulation were found to be those which operated beyond the legal framework and in which the trade acquiesced.

Publications

- 'No Case to Answer? : Investigating the Effectiveness of the Case Law Method for Teaching Non-Law Students' (2008) 1(1) Journal of The Further Education Alliance 23
- 'New Direction for the Fit and Proper Person Test?' (2011) 86 Licensing Review 15