



52 HEBREW ROAD

BURNLEY

BB10 1NQ

15th July 2008

To Peter Henderson

Dear Sir,

Further to your letter dated 27th June 2008 i would like to make my members views clear on the planned changes.

Firstly i would like to say that our members are in favour of the new proposal for a local knowledge & essential skills test, to obtaining a badge to drive a hackney carriage or a private hire. We believe that the drivers of the vehicles at the moment do not have the necessary or basic understanding of English & have trouble communicating with the public. Also i would like to stress that we would like the driving of hackney carriages to be a profession & not just a job, the quality of service needs to be improved for the general safety of all passengers & drivers alike. We feel that the time frame you are proposing is far too long & the courses should be completed within a year of the executive approval. We also would like to say that we have no objection for a fee to be applied, further more it would be of great importance for the course to be held locally within the borough. I would be grateful if you could forward me on the contents of the award & maybe we could contribute too on any additions to the course. We are aware that a number of Private hire firms & hackney carriage drivers are opposing the proposal, due to the fact that a number of their drivers can not speak or write English & this is an issue that really needs to be addressed.

With regards to the changes in vehicle safety, I would like to make a few comments, firstly could you clarify the definition of what the council define as a serious fault? I know that

you have said tyres, brakes, steering & suspension but how serious does the fault need to be?? We feel that there should be an immediate suspension of the licence, but to take the vehicle off the road indefinitely would be a bit harsh. You need to give the owners more of a chance to rectify the problem.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mr Mohammed Ibrar'. The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial 'M' and a trailing flourish.

Mr Mohammed Ibrar