

Burnley Private Hire Association,  
C/o ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~,  
120 Colne Road,  
Burnley.

We the undersigned as representatives of all the private hire offices in the Burnley area wish to lodge formal objection to the proposals put forward by Peter Henderson and Karen Davies to be heard by the licensing committee on July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

After consultation with all the members we feel that the introduction of compulsory vocational training for hackney carriage and private hire is excessive. The members feel that a knowledge test would be beneficial to all new drivers, but that drivers who currently hold a private hire badge and who have never had any complaints received about them should be granted exemption from such, as many of our members sat such a knowledge test prior to 1998 when the council for their own reasons discontinued this practice.

We also feel that to expect drivers from the borough to travel to Chorley to access this training is also unreasonable.

The members of the association also wish to lodge objection to the report by Mr Henderson in regard to test failure vehicles. Whilst we are in agreement that failures of a serious nature are unacceptable we feel that revoking or refusal to renew a private hire licence is again excessive. Whilst the failure rate within private hire is still high at 38% we feel that we are being penalised again because of the much higher failure rate of the Hackney Carriage.

The members of the association are more than

willing to co-operate and work with the licensing office to help improve and provide the best service possible that we can and we are willing to compromise and find workable solutions to issues that arise but at present we feel that the current proposals are excessive to say the least.

We would also like to request consultation on the possible introduction of an extra M.O.T. Testing station for the Burnley Borough.

Written on behalf of the operators of the  
Private hire offices in Burnley.