

**BOLTON, BURY, BUNLEY, PRESTON,
HACKNEY ASSOCIATION, (INCORPORATING,
PRESTON, HACKNEY CARRIAGE ASSOCIATION, & BURNLEY
HACKNEY OWNERS ASSOCIATION)**

Samantha & Charles Oakes
38 Shireburn Ave
Tongfold
Bolton, BL2 2SX
Phone 01204 371928
Fax 01204 370115
Mob- 07969803722
bbha007@btinternet.com

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Page 1 of 1

You're Ref: report for committee 12th September 2008

Our Ref:

1 September 2008 ~~18 August 2008~~

Dear Mr. Henderson.

Vocational Training

The association in its response pre-empted the report, we are aware of cab Business Solutions and Runshaw College.

The Hackney trade is not the sole provider of Disability Transport in Burnley, and would be true to say does not make the bulk of the trades work.

The report over states the case for the Disabled, this we suggest is done to ensure that member's of council will agree the report on the 12th September 2008, with none of the trades issues addressed.

Theses issues are?

1. Unless we are wrong council cannot as it say in the report to require all new and existing hackney Carriage drivers, to pass by 2011.

Council can not change a hackney carriage driver's license with out a change of by-law. The act say's that drivers need 12 mouths driving experience and be fit and proper; it does not say a driver need NVQ or BTEC.

2. The council as reported that an increase in complaints as been a factor in this report but as yet given no figures are information as to what the complaints were we would be interested to see the complaints from the disabled groups.

The Trade is not a charity and dose not proved solely for the disabled.

We do not have a problem if the council wishes to encourage driver to take the coarse if they wish, it is not been made compulsory by law.

Why should drivers who have been in the trade for many years be told by people who have never in most cases not the job how to run the business, and who is going to train the public on how to treat the drivers When they get into a cab, we see know benefit other then to benefit the people who provide the training as unless the training is made for all driver would not prove training, that is to say if council made it for new drivers it would

seem that the provider would not be interested in offering training.

Council most ask it self why did the council stop the "local Knowledge Test" if standards of driving are so bad, how many prosecutions by the police have taken place in the last 18months it should be more like 3 years .

This trade is older then any one of us to day and as got on well over the years and in some respects better with out this short of interference no one can train drivers for what happens every day out there, no matter what training you get when 5 drunks, man or women, young are old, working class, middle class, upper class. I have had more trouble from the later, than the first and that is fact.

In Summary

This association and along with Region 5 & 6 of the National Taxi Association to which I am the Secretary of region 5 & 6, are against any compulsory training.

It is also as to taken in to account that all drivers may not get funding, and cost could be as much as £2.000 to take the course, if that is the case and as it is local councils that are in forcing this condition the council should pay.

Nothing in this report take issue with the lose of work and money when drivers are sitting the course, loss of wages, which will impact on the ability to make payment i.e. cab payment that will still have to be met.

And if a driver dose not get funding the cost of the course on top.

Yours Sincerely,

C. Oakes

Chairman Bolton, Bury, Preston, Hackney Association.

bbha007@btinternet.com