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LICENSING  
 RECEIVED

Ms Suzanne Fisher  
 Licensing Officer  
 Licensing Department  
 Darby House  
 Telford & Wrekin Council  
 Lawn Central  
 Telford  
 TF3 4JA

Date: 4 August 2011

Dear Suzanne,

**Re: Review of Licensing Conditions**

I am writing to you in regards to the review of the taxi licensing condition within the Telford & Wrekin area that you are conducting. It has come to my attention that you are planning to hold a meeting to review the licensing conditions of taxis within your area on the 7<sup>th</sup> September without a corresponding enquiry into vehicle type or specification first.

The London Taxi Company is concerned about you decision to do this as it seems to be an improper way in which to conduct this procedure. In order for the Council to make a fully formed decision on the licensing conditions within the Telford area it must be aware of all the facts and issues to make a fully formed decision. As any changes will likely impact on equality, transport and environmental issues of the Council, it seems logical that members of the licensing committee review all alternative before they make their decision.

Under this current proposal the Council will amend its licensing conditions then look at what vehicles are available which is the wrong way around surely. Judicial rulings and best practice guidance on this issue both state that when considering licensing vehicles Councils must have due regard to all issue involved and that this is a positive duty. A council should neither rule in or out any policy automatically without investigating all alternatives and this would require a review of vehicle types.

We, therefore, feel that should you continue with this process the decision of the Council would be fundamentally flawed and may be liable to a judicial review. We do not feel that this would be a good situation for either ourselves, the taxi industry in Telford or the Council so urge you to reconsider this process and hold a vehicle review before the licensing committee discusses this matter.

Yours faithfully

**Julian Francis**  
 Government Affairs Manager  
 The London Taxi Company

