145 Cont

## **Hackney Carriage Association**

(C/O 186 Headfield Road, Dewsbury, WF12 9JH)

Catherine Walter

Taxi Licensing Office

Vine Street Huddersfield HD1 6NT

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2012

Dear Catherine Walter

RE: the age limits of the London cabs and the other vehicles used for taxis.

We suggest that the age limit of 15 years on the London cabs and the other vehicles (used for taxis) be removed to an indefinite period.

As taxi drivers it is already difficult financially to earn a decent living as we are in an economic climate which has been hard hit by the recession. We are suffering plenty hardship by having to work long hours daily and still struggling to make a reasonable wage.

The London cabs that we own are expensive vehicles and having to replace them would put a huge strain on our finances, again which has been a result of our countries unfortunate recession and unemployment.

We recommend that after the 15 year age limit of the London Cab and the 12 year limit on the other cars is up, a test on the cosmetic appearance of the cab (paint work, interior etc.) as well as the mechanical fitness of the cab/car be conducted thoroughly. We understand that if the vehicle does not meet the required standards after the 15 and 12 year limits for cabs and cars respectively, then these vehicles should not be allowed to operate as taxis.

We hope you and the committee give this matter some serious consideration and remove the age limits on the taxis.

Yours Sincerely

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Hackney Carriage Association Chairman

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## Extract from an email from Mr Akooji Badat regarding age limits

please also put forward a report to the committee as per my proposal at the last trade meeting cleck town hall for the like for like taxi and p. hire vehicle, which in brief for the good of all concerned especially customers and to introduce a better quality of vehicles irrespective of more concern on age,,

the proposal is to allow for example a existing taxi which still has age left for taxi life but could be completely out of taxi life, in return for a like for like another vehicle which is not the required initial entrance required age limit, but within the required i think 10 years age limit [meaning more than 4 or 5 years old but under 10 years old, the current whatever age limit is ongoing] my proposal is because there are lots of quality cars which could be brought in to the trade but age limit rule defies it and ultimately taxi drivers although reluctant to change cars end up keeping existing vehicles which are already high mileage etc etc and many reasons which i will give later on. thanks akooji badat