

Berrow, Claire

From: Poole, Ady
Sent: 19 August 2010 16:44
To: Berrow, Claire
Subject: FW: Review of conditions attached to Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles

Attachments: Steve's document



Steve's
document (115 KE)

For your attention
Adrienne Poole
Licensing Assistant
Environmental Health and Trading Standards Council Offices PO Box 233 Bath Street
Hereford
HR1 2ZF

01432 260549

-----Original Message-----

From: tuscanyc gebbia [mailto:tramonto@btconnect.com]
Sent: 19 August 2010 15:02
To: Taxi Licensing
Subject: Review of conditions attached to Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles

Mr S. D. Williams

Underoak,

Grafton Lane

Hereford

HR2

8BW

Ms Claire Berrow
341466
Licensing Officer,
Taxi Licensing Regulatory Committee
@tesco.net
Environmental Health and Trading Standards,
Herefordshire Council
August 2010

Tel 01432

email; stever007

17th

Dear Ms Berrow,
I refer to your letter to me dated 20th July, 2010

I am writing to appeal against the decision made by the Taxi Licensing Department effectively requiring me to remove one of the seats from my Volkswagen Sharan reducing it from a six seater to a five seater vehicle. Originally, you told me during a telephone conversation, that I would have 'grandfather rights' for this vehicle. However, two days before my vehicle went for plating, and too late really to do anything about it, I was told that this was not going to be the case.

I understand that this decision has been made for safety reasons. Hundreds of thousands of Volkswagen Sharans have been sold in the UK in the last few years, - is there an implication now that these vehicles are unsafe in six-seater format? Insurance companies do not consider these vehicles unsafe, otherwise I would not be able to easily obtain insurance, which is not a problem. I believe that this 'U

turn' decision is just another case of local government interference in every aspect of health and safety policy.

Mr. Eric Pickles, M.P. Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, has indicated he would like to sweep away such interference by local government. I am in the process of writing to Mr. Eric Pickles, M.P. to look into this petty bureaucracy, which is taking Health and Safety too far.

Having driven a taxi for five years, (including an incident when my vehicle was written off by an out of control car and disembarking the passengers was not a problem) I consider this ruling to be excessive.

Had I have known you were going to make this decision I would not have purchased this vehicle in the first place, and now unfortunately this decision is going to have a significant detrimental effect on my business. It is hard enough to make a living with so many taxis on the road as it is.

I await your response before I decide what course of action is left open to me.

Yours sincerely

Stephen D. Williams