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By e mail initially to Peter Gell peter.gell@peterborough.gov.uk

Cc: adrian.day@peterborough.gov.uk

Dear Mr Gell

Amendments to Peterborough's Hackney Carriage Licensing Policy

Thank you for your e mail of 19 December 2013.

The current policy remains a source of concern for Allied.

In short, Peterborough has (rightly) accepted a broader range of taxis should be available locally. That was a decision made following proper consideration and consultation. The licensing conditions were amended accordingly. It was also decided that they should create a universal standard for all newly licensed vehicles, including a requirement for rear swivel seats which some passengers find very useful. Then, without consultation with Allied (or, it seems, anyone else), a decision was made to vary the policy to enable one manufacturer whose vehicle cannot comply the policy to make adjustments to their vehicle to enable it to do so and for their non-compliant vehicles to be licensed in the meantime. Had that concession been consulted upon and extended to all manufacturers, it might be lawful. For reasons that remain obscure, neither happened. The net result is that one manufacturer has ended up with a commercial advantage that brings no benefit to the taxi using public of Peterborough.

In these circumstances, Allied could proceed to propose, then bring, a judicial review and / or a *Francovich* damages claim, as you will know.

However, Peterborough, has taken a positive step towards an inclusive licensing policy, Allied does not want to seek conflict and there is a simple, and obvious alternative which is for Peterborough to extend the one year swivel seat concession to all manufactures' vehicles.

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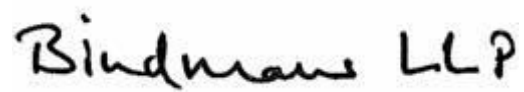
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Please can you ensure that the Licensing Committee gives urgent consideration to this proposal. We would be grateful for confirmation that will happen, and precisely when, within 14 days.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bindmans LLP". The script is cursive and somewhat informal.

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