

APPENDIX C

Representation Number 1

Hello,

I am emailing you with regards to the updated Taxi & private hire policy with my thoughts on the issues surrounding the emissions and upgrading on newer vehicles to meet the O2 carbon emissions.

Firstly I'd like to point out that I am for looking after the environment and becoming a cleaner operator so to say, however like many other things in life this can not just happen overnight!

Just as the government have set a time scale with the non production for petrol and diesel engines we need such a time scale to upgrade our taxi's.

Most of the operators in my area are sole traders (1 man bands) and we do not have the money set aside to just go out and buy newer vehicles to meet the requirements.

If a time scale is put in place such as 5 years and we as operator's have not updated our cars then we are the only one's to blame.

If this is to happen pretty much overnight will there be financial help ?

There are operators that can not get credit for personal reasons & many finance companies will not touch taxi drivers for finance on car, so how would they keep working?

Are we going to get help with getting cars ?

There are operators who have only recently set up so any cash flow is being used to build up their business. They can not just go and buy newer cars.

Introducing these measures could and probably will put a lot of people out of work such as myself.

Who will cover the school contracts ?

Especially when some operators are covering multiple contracts each day.

We are currently still getting over the hit we took during the lockdown we had through covid plus we are going in to a recession.

You are always attacking the taxi industry when infact you could be making more and better changes elsewhere eg; passenger transport use vehicles exempt from carbon emissions testing, that pump out more carbon in 15 mins of running than my car in 1 hour of running.

Bin lorries again blow out black smoke all of the time causing carbon emissions bigger than my 13 year old car which is maintained every 6 weeks.

Why do you have to keep attacking us as not only taxi drivers but as small businesses that are struggling as it is??

Unlike members of the government and local authorities we do not have our cars paid for by the tax payers !! We do it all ourselves.

Why not do random service checks on operators cars? ie: If an operator spends nothing on their cars remove it from the road. (there are many out there)

If another operator such as myself spends thousands of pounds on each car, each and every bloody year take them in to account.

I have a car I'm currently using that has

Oil changes every 6 weeks

3 major services each year

Wheel alignment 3x a year to avoid tyre wear (thus reducing my carbon footprint)

Run on branded tyres to get maximum Miles.

Wheel balancing every 2 months to reduce uneven tyre wear.

Etc; etc;

Regards

Representation Number 2

Good Afternoon,

With regards to the proposed added criteria to the policy, I have a concern with regard to the age and emissions standards proposed.

I have two vehicles that had their plates expire in November this year and am in the process of replacing them with two other vehicles.

Unfortunately the one vehicle will only be ready end February and the other end March 2023

They will both fall short of the reg dates proposed on new vehicles.

Buying the newer vehicles is not financially viable for use in the rural areas that we service due to both road conditions and the fact that our area turn over is due to location not as high as Urban.

Please could you possibly take this into account.

Failing this could you please indicate by what date I need to plate these vehicles.

Kind regards