

**TRADE LETTER OF OBJECTION 7 DECEMBER  
2006**

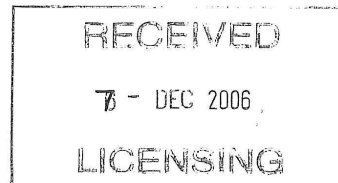
**DARLINGTON HACKNEY/PRIVATE HIRE GROUP**

P Harrison

L Linley

1 November 2006

Pam Ross  
Darlington Boro Council  
11 Houndgate  
Darlington  
DL1 5RF



Dear Sir

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976  
S70 – Variation of Fees and Charges – April 2007

Further to the intention of the Council to publish a Statutory Notice Council. We wish to **OBJECT** to the proposed variation of fees and charges for the licensing of Hackney Carriages and Private Hire Vehicles.

We enclose a schedule of questions seeking certain data etc in order that we might consider that information, and to assist us in preparing our detailed objection.

We trust that, as in 2005/06, we will be allowed sufficient additional time to prepare our submission on receipt of the information requested.

We are concerned that the Council is proposing to increase further its fees for licensing when our Objection to the Council's accounts (2005/06), in respect of aspects of the Licensing of taxis etc., is still not resolved.

We look forward to an acknowledgement of receipt of this letter of objection and provision of the information requested at your earliest convenience.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "PA" followed by a flourish.

Paul Harrison

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "LL" followed by a flourish.

Linda Linley

DARLINGTON HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE GROUP

Darlington Borough Council - Licensing Fees and Charges – Hackney Carriages, Private Hire Vehicles, Drivers and Operators thereof.

Proposed revision of fees to come into effect April, 2007.

Information requested from the Council to allow the Group to consider its response and Objection to the proposed scale of fees.

We ask the Council to provide the following information at the earliest opportunity; pending receipt of which we are unable to formulate our detailed Objection.

We trust that we will be permitted to submit our detailed response as soon as practicable after receipt of the information requested.

- a) Please provide a copy of any report submitted by Licensing officers to the Head of Function or any Council body to request authority to promulgate the proposed fee increases.
- b) Please provide a copy of the financial estimates for the operation of the Taxi Licensing function for 2007/08.
- c) Please provide details of the number of vehicle licences, driver licences and operator licences the Council envisages issuing in the year.
- d) Please provide a copy of the Job description of each member of staff wholly or partly employed in the carrying out of the vehicle, driver and operator licensing function. For staff not wholly employed on such activity please advise the percentage of time charged to the taxi and non-taxi activity in their job descriptions.
- e) Please advise details of the staff and management structure in respect of taxi licensing.
- f) Please advise details of staff costs charged directly to the licensing account for the current year and estimates for 2007/08
- g) Please provide a copy of the Subjective Cost Centre(s) Budget(s) for taxi licensing activity showing the estimated costs for 2007/08 against each relevant nominal ledger cost code. Please also supply a copy of the year to date outturn to the last available accounting period and any forecast outturn for the current financial year.

- h) Please provide details of how recovery of corporate overhead and any other indirect or apportioned charges are calculated for the Taxi Licensing Subjective cost centre(s).
  
- i) Please advise, with respect to licensing of taxis etc., under the Council's Constitution and scheme of delegation, which Cabinet member(s) and Officers have responsibility for the determination of the Council's policies and practice in respect of any matters relating to its powers under the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 and The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

22. 11. 06.

**DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENT  
DEPARTMENT**

11 Houndgate, Darlington DL1 5RF  
Tel: (01325) 388582 Fax: (01325) 388555  
DX 69280 Darlington 6  
Web site: <http://www.darlington.org.uk/council>

Mrs L Linley  
11 Houndgate, Darlington  
DL1 5RF

Date : 7 December 2006  
Please ask for : Ann Marku  
Direct Line : 388559  
Your Reference :  
Our Reference : AM/CS  
Document Name : DL071206CS - AM

Dear Mrs Linley

**Review of Fees Relating to Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Licensing**

I refer to your letter dated 1 November 2006 regarding the proposed increase in the fees relating to Private Hire/Hackney Carriage vehicles and acknowledge that it was received on 7 December 2006.

The information you have requested is being collated and should be ready either for collection or delivery by tomorrow.

I would advise you at this time that the deadline for the receipt of objections is 12 noon on 11 December. Any detailed objection you are intending to submit would therefore need to be received by this date.

Should you have any queries regarding any of the content of this letter please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



**Ann Marku  
Principal Licensing Officer**



Director : John Buxton



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Mr P Harrison  
\* Arks...  
DARLINGTON  
01325

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**Ann Marku  
Principal Licensing Officer**



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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE