



**Alpha Hire and Hackney Welfare Society**

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To: **The Chief Executive  
Tom Riordan  
Civic Hall  
Calverley Street  
Leeds LS1 1UR**

Our Ref: **AH2.786/MD/KH**

Your Ref:

Date: **1<sup>st</sup> July 2012**

WE PREFER ANY RESPONSE TO THIS  
CORRESPONDENCE TO BE BY EMAIL  
AND ANY ATTACHMENTS TO BE IN  
PDF FORMAT

**Dear Sirs**

**Re: EQUALITY OF TREATMENT FOR MUSLIM PRIVATE HIRE AND  
HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS  
UNLAWFUL APPLICATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
(MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976 SECTION 61(2B)**

We are an organisation catering for the welfare of private hire and hackney carriage drivers and proprietors. We have had related to us a number of complaints concerning the abuse of your Council's powers of suspension and revocation of private hire and hackney carriage driving licences by your Council's offices.

Our organisation has undertaken an investigation and regrettably found an absence of any confidence in any officer from your Council's Licensing Department. Whether the lack of confidence in your Council's Licensing Department is the product of victimisation at the hands of anti-Muslim your Council's licensing officers is not for our organisation to comment on though we do warn your Council that the perception of anti-Muslim sentiments which we noted during the course of our investigation is not helpful to good community relations and adds to tensions.

Whatever maybe the ultimate reason for the lack of confidence in your Council's Licensing Department, it should not be a matter of dispute that private and hackney carriage drivers deserve to be treated according to the law and not by some imagined power, invented by your Council's Licensing Department. In the light of this we have proposed an "Equality Resolution" for your Council to adopt so that the excesses of your Council's Licensing Department's Officers may be curbed and private hire and hackney drivers have some assurance that they are not to be

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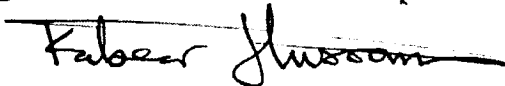
subject to the arbitrary whims of your Council's Licensing Department.

As part of our organisation's commitment to "participatory democracy" we also sought support from the trade for the adoption for the "Equality Resolution" and we most happy to present to you signed support for the adoption of the "Equality Resolution" by some two hundred and fifty private hire and hackney carriage drivers which we enclose for your kind inspection.

Our specific purpose therefore in writing to you is that we would like for you to use your good offices to relate our proposal and its support to the members of your Council's Licensing Committee and perhaps arrange a short meeting with our organisation where we may resolve matters of concern in the trades with your Council.

We are committed to having matters resolved through dialogue, though we do reserve our position on exploring other options should dialogue with your Council be unproductive.

Yours



**Kabear Hussain**  
**(Director)**

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