



Department
for Transport

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From the Parliamentary
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Our Ref: MC/216191
Your Ref: MW/GR

08 FEB 2018

Dear Geoff

Thank you for your letter of 20 December 2017 to Chris Grayling, about taxi and private hire vehicle (PHV) Licensing. I am replying as the Minister responsible for this issue.

The Government attaches the utmost priority to passenger safety in the licensed taxi and PHV trade. The Department will consult on statutory guidance enabled under the Policing and Crime Act 2017. This guidance will contain robust standards that we expect all licensing authorities to adopt; these will ensure all passengers, particularly children and vulnerable adults, are protected when using taxi and PHV services. Also, we will be consulting on revised best practice guidance which will include recommendations to licensing authorities to assist them in setting appropriate standards to enable the provision of services the public demand.

At a Westminster Hall Debate on the 'Regulation of working conditions in the private hire industry', my predecessor, John Hayes, announced his intention to set up a working group to consider how PHV and taxi licensing authorities use their powers, and produce focussed recommendations for action. The Task and Finish Working Group is considering the regulation of the trade as one of its key areas for discussion and will report its findings to Ministers early this year.

Yours sincerely

NUSRAT GHANI

