

**From:** Mohammed Albayouk  
**Sent:** 23 March 2018 2:15 PM  
**To:** HCO  
**Subject:**

**My name is Mohammed I have Taxi license and private hire operator license. I believe that the Council should renew Uber's license for 5 years for the following reasons:**

### **1. Uber helps provide better driver conditions for licensed Brighton and Hove drivers**

- It is important that drivers have good conditions in the city.
- Competition between operators should be encouraged to raise standards for drivers
- The arrival of Uber has improved conditions for drivers, as they have a better choice of operators to work with.
- Uber has provided a safer option for Brighton & Hove drivers; cashless payments mean that drivers do not have to carry cash late at night, drivers can be safe knowing that all trips are GPS tracked and Uber gives drivers using the App complete control and flexibility to take breaks when you want. This means you can be fully rested and safe when on the road.
- Uber also offers more flexibility and choice on what car to drive, which helps lower driver costs and make more money. Drivers are not forced to rent vehicles from Operators at very high rental rates

### **2. Uber is improving safety and standards for passengers in Brighton & Hove**

- Our experience driving with many operators over the years is that Uber is raising standards of service in the city which is something that the Council should encourage
- The Uber App gives transparency and accountability to service with the 2-way rating systems so you are able to track and see who the good and bad drivers are.
- Also because all trip details are recorded it allows any disputes to be solved more easily, so drivers and riders are treated fairly.
- Because drivers and riders know everything is recorded by the App it creates a more safer and better environment for all
- Uber is the only operator to offer lower fares in the city, which is a great thing for customers
- The service is extremely popular with Brighton & Hove passengers who are always commenting how great the service is in the City and how they have come to rely on it

### **3. Uber is providing valuable choice for drivers**

- For many years drivers have had very little choice in the city, with the few firms that are controlled by a small number of people - this has led to an environment of mistreatment, bullying, discrimination and unfairness for drivers
- Having more operators in the city empowers drivers and allows them the freedom to choose a different operator to work with if their current one does not treat them well

- In order to try and stop Uber growing, existing Operators and their drivers have regularly and routinely threatened and harassed Uber partner-drivers - even sending legal letters to drivers telling them that they will never be able to work for another operator in the city.
- If Uber does not have its license renewed then many drivers will be left with no work

### **Do not believe the campaign of misinformation about Uber**

- Since Uber launched in Brighton & Hove there has been a campaign of misinformation about Uber in an attempt to stop the firm growing or to remove its license.
- The Uber Drivers Association urges the Council not to take note of these unfounded claims and renew Uber's license
- The Council should be made aware that:
  - Many firms in Brighton & Hove use cars licensed in other areas to complete jobs in Brighton & Hove, for example using cars licensed in Lewes. They complain about Uber cars from other areas picking up in the city but this is not illegal and they do it as well.
  - Since Uber launched many Brighton & Hove licensed drivers have wanted to join the App but have been threatened and intimidated if they do. By being told that they will never work in the city again and that Uber will make sure that Uber loses its license. Uber must be granted a 5 year license to give licensed drivers reassurance in their future.
  - Whenever an Uber driver is working in the city they are the victim of constant abuse and harassment from local drivers. This harassment extends to making false claims that drivers are committing offences on the road.
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Finally I would like to say that me and other drivers been banned to work with our local companies for life. So if you refuse to renew Uber license this means That me and other drivers will be jobless.

Mohammad.