

- 8 OCT 2018

Customer Services

Dear Sir

We are writing to object to the following change in the licensing regulations.

- HACKNEY CARRIAGES ARE TO HAVE A ROOF SIGN AFFIXED AT ALL TIMES

We are objecting for the following reasons:

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The public rarely know or understand the rules regarding the flagging down of a Taxi - a sign on the roof to them usually means they can get in it or at least approach the vehicle as they must be working. Taking off the sign when not working as private hire vehicles as they do with their panels is a clear indication to the public that the vehicle is not working. The light being lit is immaterial as in daylight it's hard to see if its lit or not.

SAFETY & SECURITY

We believe that as these lights are only affixed by a magnet shows that they are designed to be taken off. We also believe that there are certain times where it would be safer to remove them, for example when going on motorways and travelling at high speed. Why take the risk of it coming off? And, who would be liable if they did? Also, by leaving the roof signs on at all times we would be opening ourselves up for them to be stolen or damaged - they are not cheap items to replace.

LEGISLATION & ENFORCEMENT

We believe by removing the sign when not working enforcement would be easier. A quick visit to the ranks or taxi bases would make it clear who was and wasn't working or who was breaking the rules.

This would also negate the need for officers to try and pull over vehicles - a procedure that should be left to the police or take our details as we drive past. It would also avoid confusion & confrontation with the Traffic Wardens who insist our signs are removed when we're parking in normal bays to clearly indicate we're not working (ie Front Street/NatWest).

With having the sign on all the time wherever we go enforcement officers would assume we're working which would surely increase the amount of complaints or enquires and investigations into drivers - could Gedling cope with this?

Why add more rules and regulations when the ones that already exist aren't enforced? (Authority & No on rear of sign).

We hope you listen and understand our objections and reconsider this particular regulation change.

Signature

Badge No

