



## **LTDA Response to Institute of Economic Affairs report *Hire Authority: Turning statutory regulation into private regulation for the UK's taxi industry***

**Steve McNamara, General Secretary of the LTDA, said:** "The Licensed Taxi Drivers Association (LTDA) was not consulted during the drafting of this report. We have had no contact with IEA – which may be obvious by the incorrect use of our name and some of the impractical recommendations in the report.

We believe the two-tier system of regulation for taxis and minicabs should be maintained. London's black cab industry provides a world renowned, gold standard service for passengers and we do not want to see our high standards of knowledge, accessibility and passenger safety diluted.

It is also critical that the minicab industry is properly regulated. Its rapid growth in London over that last two years - with more than 100,000 minicabs now on our roads - has correlated with a huge increase in both congestion levels, and the number of accidents and incidents involving minicabs. Failure to strengthen minicab regulations and to allow the industry to "self-regulate" would further jeopardise the safety of passengers and other road users."