The Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP, Prime Minister, & The Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP, Health Secretary
10 Downing Street
London

SW1A 2HQ

19 March 2020

Dear Mr Johnson, Mr Hancock

I am writing as the General Secretary of the Licensed Taxi Drivers’ Association to you to offer the support of London's 20,000 black cabs to support the transport of key workers and deliveries of essential goods.

The government advice to work from home and only travel if necessary, and the gradual shut down of the London Underground and bus operations, is making it harder for key workers to get to work at hospitals and schools. It has also rendered over 20,000 self-employed knowledgeable, professional and DBS checked cabbies in London essentially redundant through loss of trade.

I am also aware that your government will be having to urgently consider how it can procure transportation for both key workers and the delivery of essential goods.

London’s fleet of over 20,000 purpose built black cabs can help on both these fronts. Black cabs are designed to be easily cleaned and sterilised, with a partition that separates the driver from passengers or goods.

We ask you now to work with us to help put them to immediate use. Through companies such as Freenow, Gett, Taxiapp and Sherbet we operate state of the art dispatch, monitor and control systems to record and direct these vehicles as required.

Time such as these require communities to pull together. Cabbies are essential to this, and are desperate to play their part, both to support frontline services and those in need. I am requesting a meeting with you at your earliest convenience to discuss what action the Government can take so we can ensure London keeps moving.

Please contact me on 020 7234 3663 or ltda@newingtoncomms.co.uk to arrange a meeting on this.

Yours sincerely,



Steve McNamara

**General Secretary, The Licensed Taxi Drivers’ Association (LTDA)**