

The Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer  
HM Treasury  
1 Horse Guards Road  
London  
SW1A 2HQ



16 March 2020

Dear Mr Sunak,

I am writing as the General Secretary of the Licensed Taxi Drivers' Association to you to request urgent financial assistance for black cab drivers who are facing an unprecedented drop in demand for our services. As I'm sure is the case across the country, the government advice to only travel if necessary has rendered over 20,000 self-employed cabbies in London essentially redundant.

Black cab drivers are the backbone of London, keeping business and communities moving, and I have no doubt they will be again when this crisis eventually abates. In the meantime however we are in urgent need of support.

Without income, my members and their families will struggle to pay their bills and to afford finance payments. We need to see tax concessions and financial support for self-employed workers including London black cab drivers as a matter of urgency.

I am requesting a meeting with you at your earliest convenience to discuss what action the Government can take to ensure that taxi drivers and our families are not plunged into dire straits. With such a sudden fall in custom, we cannot afford to wait.

Please contact me on 020 7234 3663 or [ltda@newingtoncomms.co.uk](mailto:ltda@newingtoncomms.co.uk) to arrange a meeting on this.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve McNamara', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Steve McNamara  
**General Secretary, The Licensed Taxi Drivers' Association (LTDA)**