Sandra Gidley

Royal Pharmaceutical Society

66-68 E Smithfield

London

E1W 1AW

25 March 2020

Dear Ms Gidley

As General Secretary of the Licensed Taxi Drivers’ Association, representing London’s black cab trade, I would like to offer you and your members the support of London’s more than 20,000 black cabs in this time of national emergency. London’s taxi trade stands ready to support the efforts of Britain’s pharmacies to ensure that everyone has access to the medical supplies they need. I am also writing to Jo Churchill MP, Minister of State for Prevention, Public Health and Primary Care, to offer this assistance.

As you will know, the ongoing coronavirus crisis has created a high level of demand in our nation’s pharmacies, with pharmacy professionals under great strain to maintain levels of service. With the public advised to stay at home as much as possible, the demand for pharmacy deliveries has also increased, placing additional pressure on already stretched resources. At the same time, the coronavirus situation has also rendered over 20,000 self-employed, knowledgeable, professional and enhanced DBS-checked cabbies in London essentially redundant through the loss of trade.

I am aware that the Royal Pharmaceutical Society is doing everything it can to support the nation’s pharmacists at this difficult time. London’s fleet of over 20,000 purpose built black cabs can help. Black cabs are designed to be easily cleaned and sterilised, with a partition that would separate passengers or goods from drivers. I am writing to ask you and your team what we can do to help the delivery of medicines, particularly to support those who are unable to get to a pharmacy to collect their medicine.

Times such as these require communities to pull together. Cabbies are essential to this and are committed to playing our part to support others in need.

Please contact me on 020 7234 3663 or ltda@newingtoncomms.co.uk to discuss what action we can take to ensure we keep London moving.

Yours sincerely



Steve McNamara

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