



Licensed Taxi Drivers Association Limited, TAXI HOUSE, Woodfield Road, London W9 2BA  
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**Heidi Alexander**  
**Deputy Mayor for Transport**  
**City Hall**  
**The Queens Walk**  
**London, SE1 2AA**

8<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Dear Heidi,

### **Outsourced Private Hire Topographical Testing**

I write concerning the above following the revelations of fraud and deception highlighted by the BBC this week.

I understand that Pearson's are now investigating further centres that they oversee and that other providers such as Highfields and ICT are also conducting investigations into some BTEC colleges. Also, you will be aware that Ofqual have reservations about 'how some awarding organisations manage and oversee centre assessments'

The decision by TfL to suspend the acceptance of BTEC's as part of the exemption process was a good one, but given all of the above and in the interests of public safety and confidence in the licensing process the suspension should be made permanent.

To restore confidence and to prevent any more instances of this kind occurring again in the future any, and all, testing of any kind relating to Taxi or Private Hire licensing should only be carried out by TfL staff, at premises approved by TfL.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Steve McNamara', with a small blue dot to the right of the signature.

Steve McNamara  
General Secretary