

# RTA — READING TAXI ASSOCIATION

Jean Champeau  
Senior Licensing & Enforcement Officer  
Reading Borough Council  
Civic Offices  
Bridge Street  
Reading  
RG1 2LU

31<sup>st</sup> August 2016

Dear Mr Champeau

## HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE EMISSIONS

I write to you to set out the Reading Taxi Association's (RTA) position in respect of the changes and timescales being proposed by Reading Borough Council (RBC) to hackney carriage vehicle emissions policy.

We, the trade accept that it is necessary and essential for all of us to meet our obligation towards the environment but at the same time our members have concerns about our financial ability to meet the requirements of the new proposed policy bearing in mind the current economic climate particularly the post Brexit vote era. Therefore, having considered RBC's proposals and having consulted all of our members, we the RTA would like to see:

1. An age policy of 15 years adopted by RBC from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018, rather than 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021.
2. An age policy of maximum 8 years is adopted from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018 for all new to fleet vehicles.
3. The RTA is not in favour of allowing current and/or new to fleet vehicles to be retrofitted to Euro 4/5 standard as we believe that there is no technology in place to achieve this.

The above would replace the current emissions policy. We hope that RBC will take our concerns/recommendations onboard and allow time for the trade to be financially able to bear the burden of this policy change.

Yours Sincerely,



Asif Rashid  
RTA Chairman