



# Steve McNamara

General Secretary  
Licensed Taxi Drivers' Association

**The Licensed Taxi Drivers' Association (LTDA) has served as the professional and authoritative voice of London taxi drivers for over 50 years.**

**With around 11,000 members, we represent almost half of all black cab drivers in London and are the largest organisation of our kind.**

**We are committed to ensuring that our members' voices are heard, protecting the interests of the taxi trade and maintaining the high professional standards of the industry.**

# Private hire vehicles in London

There has been an unprecedented surge in the number of PHVs on London's roads since Uber came to the city.



Black cab numbers have remained static at around 22,000.

The number of PHV drivers has increased from **60,000 in 2011** to **almost 120,000 in 2017** – a rise of over 90%.

Uber drivers regularly **'ply-for-hire'** on the app looking to be hailed by passengers – a right reserved for black cabbies.

This is having an serious impact on increasing congestion in London and is exacerbating the city's air pollution problems.



# Task and Finish Group on Taxi and PHV Licensing

Last year the Minister for Taxis set up an independent Taxi and Finish Group to look at taxi and PHV licensing. The Chair of the Group recently published a report making wide-ranging recommendations for Government.

Independent report

## Taxi and private hire vehicle licensing: recommendations for a safer and more robust system

Sets out the Task and Finish Group's recommendations on taxi and private hire vehicle licensing.

Published 24 September 2018  
Last updated 28 September 2018 — [see all updates](#)  
From: [Department for Transport](#)

### Documents



[Taxi and private hire vehicle licensing: steps towards a safer and more robust system](#)

PDF, 1.55MB, 68 pages

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It called for **new primary legislation** to overhaul the UK's pre-historic taxi and PHV regulation. This would include:

- New laws to **stop cross border hiring**,
- **National minimum licensing standards** for drivers and operators;
- Powers to cities to **cap spiralling PHV numbers**;
- Legal clarity that **taxis alone retain the right to be hailed** on the streets, and that private hire vehicles must be pre-booked.



# What next?

The Government has said it will respond to the Task and Finish Group's report and recommendations "shortly".

However its not clear which they will accept, and which they will not.

The LTDA, Members of Parliament, and others across the industry, will continue to push Government to overhaul taxi and PHV laws without delay.

This is essential to secure the future of the taxi trade, and protect passengers.