

Appendix C

Summary of representations received

Approximately 270 letters were sent to Hackney Carriage and Private Hire license holders. 101 representations received giving a 37% response rate.

There were 97 objections related to delimiting.

Detail of objections received

A petition signed by 91 members of the taxi trade strongly opposed delimitation, and requested that a further unmet demand survey be undertaken that the trade will contribute towards. Ten of these petitioners also wrote individual letters (see below)

Table summarising objection letters received

Received 11 March	Letter from a private hire operator. Concerned that there are not enough ranks for existing Hackneys let alone a further 45, drivers'. Hours will be longer or would be forced out of a job. The last survey was carried out when there were a third too many taxis already, happy to pay for a three yearly survey. Leisure Park is where people have to wait due to customers soiling vehicles leading to driver reluctance to pick up there. (also on petition)
Received 15 March	Letter from hackney carriage driver. Concerned there are not enough ranks or space for current numbers to queue. Drivers' hours are long and will get longer, public will suffer due to safety issues resulting from long hours and poor vehicle maintenance.
Received 16 March	Letter from a hackney carriage driver. Concerned there are too many taxis in Stevenage (including those with North Herts Plates). Asked for a survey that trade would pay for. (also on petition)
Received 17 March	Letter from hackney carriage driver – worried about damage to the trade (does not own Hackney Carriage License) (also on petition)
	Letter from hackney carriage driver. Concerned that move to delimit will put family drivers out of business, decrease quality of service, increase drivers' hours, increase air pollution. (also on petition)
	Copy of same letter as above from another hackney carriage driver. (also on petition)
	Letter from Private Hire operator. Agrees more taxis are needed, would like more information on the selection process and in particular the general standards of drivers vs the hackney carriage Guide.
Received 18 March	Letter from hackney carriage driver. Concerned delimiting will lead to financial hardship, longer drivers' hours,

	poorer vehicle maintenance. Requests an unmet demand study be carried out (that the trade had signed a petition saying they would pay for) Requesting a delay for 3 years (also on petition)
Received 18 March	Letter from hackney carriage driver. Concerned drivers' hours will lengthen and safety and vehicle maintenance will worsen. Private hire vehicles meet the demand – only the Leisure Park is where people have to wait due to drivers being abused. (also on petition)
Received 22 March	Letter from hackney carriage driver. Concerned would lead to poor safety due to longer drivers' hours. Struggling to earn a living now and too many taxis already – not enough ranks. Would like meeting with hackney trade.
Received 24 March	Letter from hackney carriage driver. Drivers' hours lengthened leading to fatigue and accidents, concerned ranks are overcrowded and this would worsen, refers to the original report that stated no unmet demand. (also on petition)
Received 30 March	Letter from hackney carriage driver. Concerned that there are already too many hackney and private hire taxis in Stevenage, drivers' hours will increase, poorer vehicle maintenance. Believes an unmet demand survey should be carried out (that the trade can pay for) (also on petition)
	Letter from hackney carriage driver, concerned delimiting will affect their livelihoods and that there are problems with private hire drivers touting for business at the moment. Would like a public survey. (also on petition)
Received 31 March	Letter from hackney carriage driver. Comments on the selection process, would like to see 45 Hackney plates to go to longest serving private hire who are given until January 2009 to comply with vehicle requirements. Would like to see old plates returned to Council rather than sold.