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Ref: NE/NB/Licensed Taxis

Date: 20 March 2017

Mr Joe Sellars
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Dear Mr Sellars

Subject: Using Licensed Taxis – Prom Awareness Campaign

In light of the forthcoming Proms that are taking place in North Lincolnshire, I am writing to all secondary schools to raise awareness of the dangers of using unlicensed vehicles.

Although the operation of unlicensed vehicles occurs throughout the year, the incidence of such activity is likely to increase during the Prom period.

The council has had to take enforcement action, often culminating in legal proceedings on a number of occasions to curtail the activities of unlicensed operators.

Council Licensing Officers are urging parents and students that are looking to hire a vehicle (whether hackney carriage or private hire, max 8 passengers), to take a few simple precautions before doing so:

- Check with the local authority that they are licensed
- The driver will be displaying a badge
- The vehicle will carry an identifying plate on the rear of the vehicle, a miniature of which should also be visible inside the front of the vehicle and door signs

Some operators have exemptions from displaying the external plates however they must still display the miniature in the front window.

Apart from the obvious risks of personal attack or robbery, if you are involved in an accident whilst travelling in an unlicensed vehicle, you will not be covered by insurance. Properly licensed drivers in this area have had a Enhanced Disclosure and a Medical Examination to determine them fit and proper people.

If you are unsure the company you are using is licensed, please contact the Licensing Division at licensing@northlincs.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Nicola Ellis
Licensing & Mediation Officer