



15th December 2017

Dear (Councillors),

I write to you with urgency on the subject of Uber's latest breach of data and the clear and serious adverse effect(s) upon "Passenger/Public Safety" locally as it would appear that once again this "Operator" has concealed or "forgotten to report" serious issues regarding safety to the Council.

It is widely reported that some 57 million account holders and some 600,000 driver details were stolen in 2016 and that this has only recently (November 2017 – some one year later) now been admitted by Uber.

Your attention is drawn to Wes Streeting MP's speech in Parliament in the following link: <https://twitter.com/wesstreeting/status/933700413416787968>

On the basis of this latest tardy admission by Uber, we would suggest that the question for anyone involved in 'Taxi/Private Hire Licensing'.

Can anyone now say with any conscience, conviction of furthermore with any regard for Local Public or Passenger Safety that they are still on the belief that Uber remains or is in any way a "Fit & Proper" company to be licensed as an "Operator", operating licensed vehicles?

The security breach is alarming enough in itself, but the fact that it seems it has been **knowingly and recklessly concealed** by Uber from licensing regulators is surely sufficient grounds for the immediate "Revocation" of their licences on the basis of dishonesty and withholding information!

We would regard any lack of action by the Councils to amount to their condoning of this behaviour.

Finally, it is noted that not only was this serious breach in 2016 **NOT** revealed to the General Public or Licensing Regulators until one year later, it has also now been revealed it appears that Uber paid a financial "ransom" of some description to the hackers, in order to keep this matter "quiet" and away from the "eyes & ears" of the General Public and Licensing Regulators. The further revelation that Japanese tech investor "SoftBank" was seemingly told about Uber's data hack before anyone affected by it is equally shocking, what's more concerning and seems to point to a blatant disregard for the safety or security of the General Public.

Are these the actions of a "Responsible Licensed Operator"?

Unite the Union which is the largest union in the UK with 1.4 million member's is calling upon all local authorities to revoke Ubers licence to operate a private hire service because they are unfit to do so.

Regards.

Bobby Morton
National Officer