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Editors Notes

1. The Group Action will bring a claim in the High Court by licensed taxi drivers in London against Uber for loss of income on the basis that Uber has operated unlawfully under the relevant statutory framework between mid-2012 to at least the end of 2017, with the intention of causing loss to the licensed taxi trade.
2. Group Action is a term used in the UK for when multiple claimants sharing grievances with common characteristics join together to seek a remedy against the same or multiple defendants. In other jurisdictions, this is often called a class action. In England and Wales, there are various procedural mechanisms available to bring group actions which are becoming far more regularly used. Group litigation can redress the balance between individuals and large, well-funded defendants as by joining together individuals can benefit from collective strength, expertise and the sharing of costs and risks, thereby facilitating access to justice.
3. The first step in the claim is to sign up as many eligible drivers as possible to participate in the claim. Any taxi driver licensed by Transport for London (TfL) to work in London may be eligible to take part if they operated as a licensed taxi driver for some or all of the period between mid 2012 to at least the end of December 2017.
4. The Group Action aims to demonstrate a significant overall loss of income to licensed taxi drivers collectively following Uber's entry into the London market. The total value of the claim will depend on the number of licensed taxi drivers who participate. We are working with economists and expect that damages could be in excess of £500 million. As we collect data from participants, we shall be able to more accurately and robustly estimate the loss attributable to Uber's unlawful operation.
5. The Group Action is being entirely funded by leading litigation funding firm Harbour Litigation Funding.
6. Mishcon de Reya is a law firm based in London, with significant experience in group litigation. It is taking forward the group action against Uber. In the past few years it has acted for claimant groups in cases involving RBS, Royal Mail and Google.
7. Newington Communications is a corporate and public affairs agency and is supporting Mishcon de Reya in its communications around the group action, to help get as many drivers involved as possible.