

MAYOR OF LONDON

Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP

Secretary of State for Transport
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London SW1P 4DR

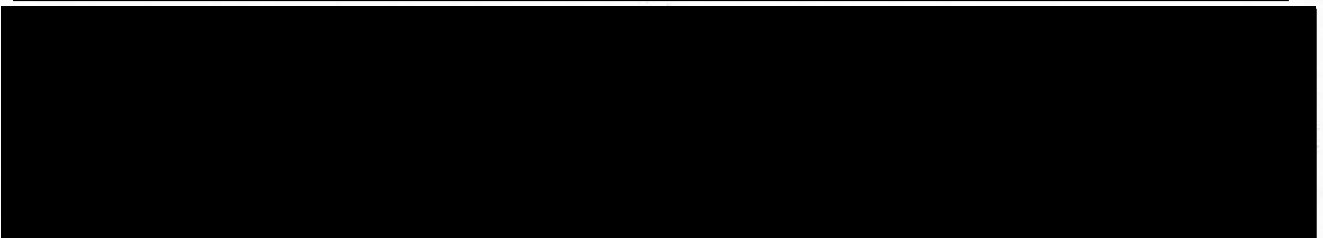
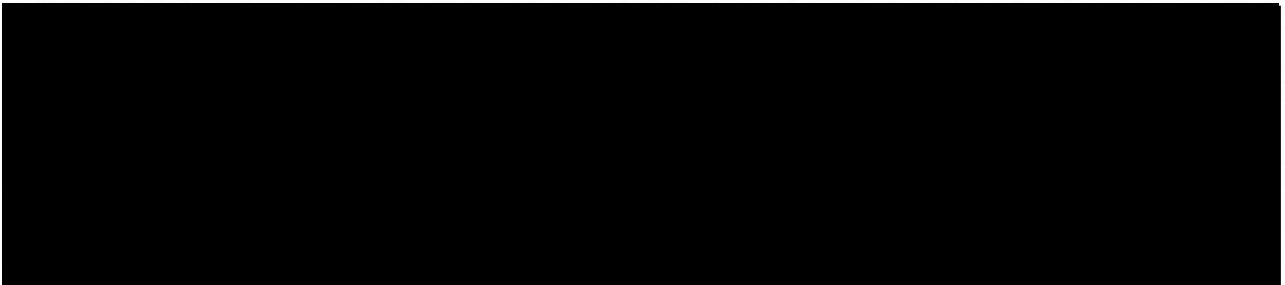
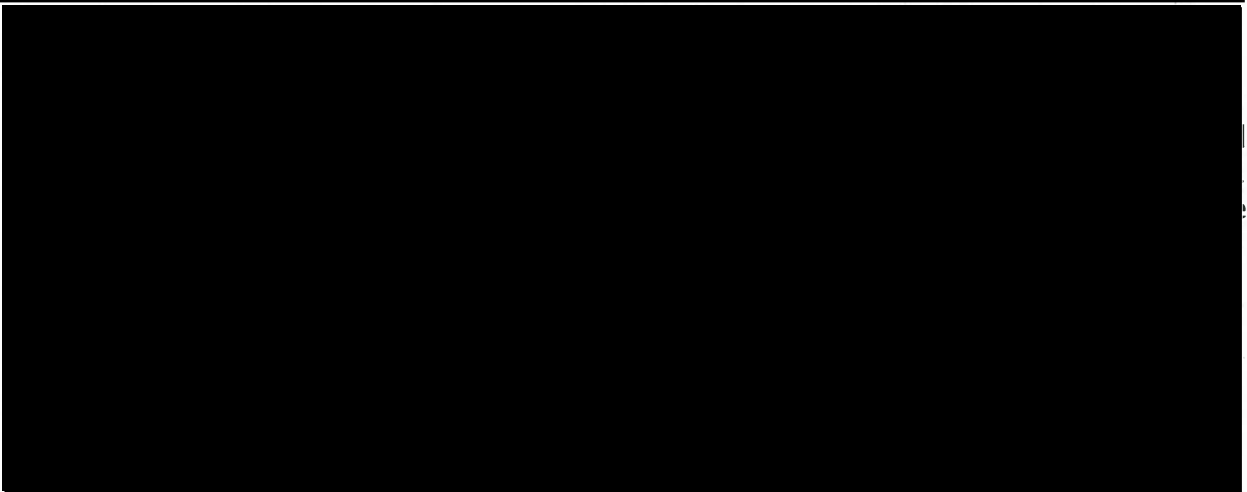
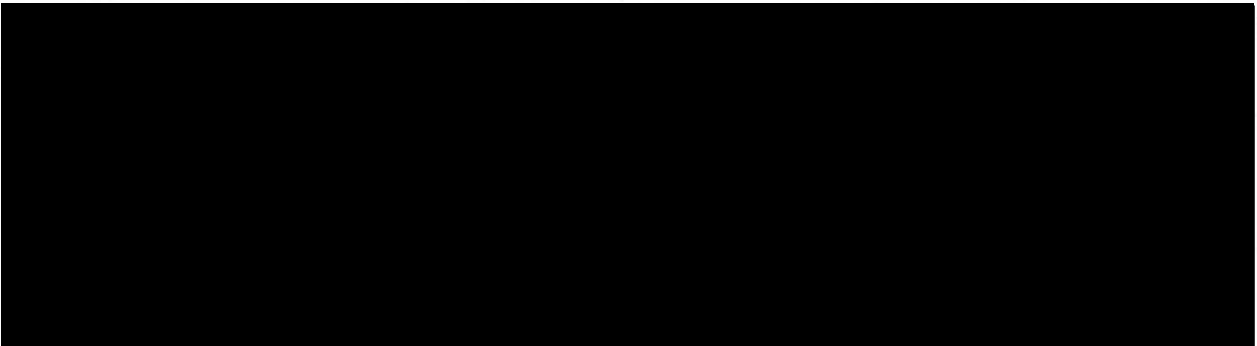
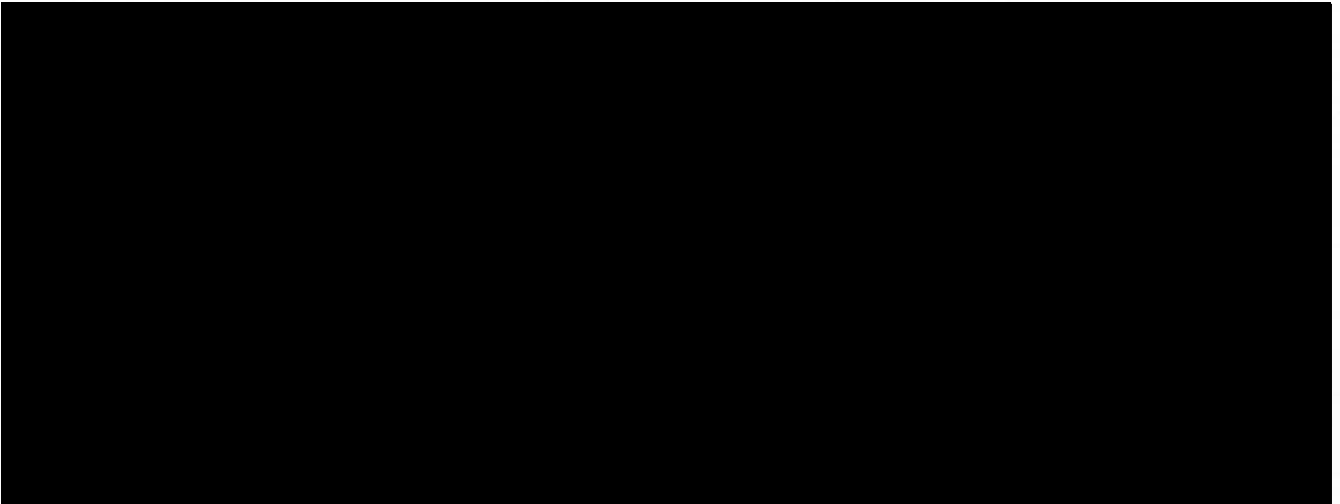
Date: 13 JUN 2017

Dear Chris,

Many congratulations on your reappointment. I would like to take this opportunity to restate my commitment to working closely with you and your department to deliver a world class transport network in the capital. Building a productive working relationship between our teams will be absolutely crucial to keeping London moving over the years ahead.

I am launching my statutory Draft Transport Strategy later this month. I thought it would be helpful to outline some of the key issues within the strategy, and I would welcome a discussion with you in person on these at the earliest possible opportunity.

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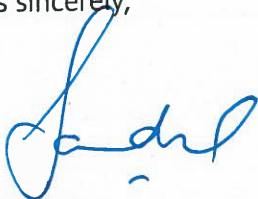
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Private Hire Vehicles

You will be aware that I have growing concerns about the number of private hire drivers licensed in the capital. TfL is legally obliged to issue a licence to any driver that meets the criteria. The number of London licensed drivers has doubled in recent years, exacerbating London's congestion and air quality challenges. In addition, I am increasingly concerned at the growing number of private hire drivers who are working outside of the area for which they are licensed. This undermines our ability to effectively regulate private hire activity or to impose specific conditions for drivers licensed in London. To address this, I would like to work with your department on a two-stage solution – firstly for TfL to be given the power to cap the number of private hire drivers and vehicles licensed in the capital, and, secondly, to change the law so that private hire bookings must start or end in the jurisdiction for which the vehicle and driver is licensed.

I am also increasingly concerned about the employment conditions of London's private hire drivers. I have asked TfL to consider the extent to which this can be addressed through private hire regulation. These concerns are symptomatic of the gig economy and I would welcome the opportunity to engage closely with the Government on any action resulting from Matthew Taylor's review on modern employment practices.

Yours sincerely,



Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London

Cc: Rt Hon Gavin Barwell, Chief of Staff, 10 Downing Street