



Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 001456
Date 29 August 2017

UBER

Request:

Wolverhampton City Council has licensed UBER Britannia Ltd (UBER) as a private hire operator.

In the course of determining such an application, a council is entitled to ask for such information as it may reasonably require to enable it to determine the application.

Can you please answer the following questions:

- (1) Did the Council exercise its right to ask UBER questions? [Yes](#)
- (2) If the answer to question (1) is 'yes', please advise what questions were asked? [UBER were invited into the Council to discuss their application and the information provided on their application form. They were interviewed to ensure they understood and could comply with the Licensing Authorities procedures including; Guidelines Relating To Relevance Of Convictions And Breaches Of Licence Conditions; Private Hire conditions for Operators, drivers and vehicles.](#)

Having granted a licence, a council is entitled to ask questions of the licence holder to satisfy itself whether there have been any material changes since the licence was granted.

- (3) Has the Council exercised its right to ask UBER questions since the grant of the licence? [No](#)
- (4) If the answer to question (3) is 'yes', please advise what questions were asked?

For the avoidance of doubt, I appreciate the answers to such questions may be regarded as being commercially sensitive, so I do not ask for the answers given by UBER to any questions that may have been asked by the Council.

I do not ask for copies of correspondence passing between the Council and UBER, because I am not concerned with who was corresponding with whom or when. In the circumstances, all I ask for is a list of all the questions asked and am not concerned as to whether they were asked all at once or whether questions initially asked resulted in the posing of further questions. If, however, it is easier to the Council to

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

provide a suitably redacted copy of the correspondence it sent posing such questions, I would be happy to receive the requested information in that format.

I appreciate that such questions may have been asked wholly or in part as a result of legal advice received by the Council, but in precisely the same way that such questions would have ceased to be subject to legal professional privilege when they were asked of UBER, I do not consider that such questions could be exempt from disclosure under the legal professional privilege exemption. I confirm that neither do I do seek to see a copy of any legal advice that may have been received by the Council in relation to any questions that may have been asked of UBER by the Council.