

Proposal to: Oxford City Council

On behalf of: Kevin Merry Carriages

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> May 2010

### Introduction:

We are seeking permission from the City Council members to allow us to trade in the city centre. Our business is Kevin Merry Carriages, we have been running a successful horse and carriage business for over 10 years, during which time we have provided a range of carriages for hundreds of weddings, funerals, country rides and summer balls.

We have seen across many beautiful cities of the world that carriage rides offer the tourist a novel and pleasurable way to see the city's sights in style. We believe that there is the opportunity in Oxford to provide our tourists and members of the public with a similar, stylish, environmentally friendly Oxford experience. Particularly because, in days gone by, travel by carriage was a very popular mode of transport, we feel that this will help Oxford's tourists "connect" with the city's rich history.

### Health & Safety

We recognise that having large animals in a city centre with many pedestrians, will inevitably lead to health & safety concerns. Friesian horses are, by nature, compliant creatures and have been bred for over 300 years specifically to pull carriages. Kevin's horses have been under his guidance and instruction for many years. He has over 30 years experience of working with horses, including the breaking in of horses for some of the most highly regarded racing stables in the world. This is a practice that requires patience, a high level of skill and, most importantly, a finely tuned sense of empathy with horses. During the course of Kevin's 10 year history of running his horse and carriage business, he has never experienced a horse getting out of control. However, in the highly unlikely occurrence of such an event, Kevin would be able to draw upon his vast experience to control the situation swiftly and safely. Our horses are very experienced with traffic, the recently introduced 20 mph speed limit within the city will make carriage travel even safer and as an extra precaution, Kevin has even fitted disc brakes to the wheels of the carriages.

With regards to insurance, all required insurance is in place to transport members of the public together with public liability insurance with the N.F.U.

Finally, we would reserve the right to refuse anyone who we believe to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs, indeed anyone who we believe would compromise the welfare of the horses and safety of the driver, assistant and general public.

## Horse Welfare

The welfare of our horses is of great importance to us, as is all animal welfare. Kevin Merry Carriages donates a portion of its profits to a charity set up specifically to assist in rehabilitation of maltreated horses. Because of our concerns over the proper treatment of our horses, we would propose the following considerations;

That we would ensure sufficient water is available for the horses to drink throughout the day. The provision of hay would not be necessary as our horses feed early morning and in the evening.

The horse's working day would not extend 7.5 hrs per day. We envisage that the proposed route would take approximately 30 minutes to complete. The horses would be perfectly capable, without being under duress, of managing 4 consecutive routes. This 2 hour period would be followed by a 30 minute rest during which we would provide our horses with water and loosen the girth belts to give maximum comfort.

## Transport to and from site

In order to transport the horses and carriage into Oxford, we would use one of our horse boxes and our flat bed transporter for the carriage. These would be parked at a pre-determined location in North Oxford (within the ring road) and from there we would ride the carriage into town. There would be a second vehicle parked in close proximity to our ideal "pitch" to store water and refreshments for the team.

## Location

We would ensure that we were mindful of other trader's business areas and would not want to encroach on their "territory" or carry out our business in such a way as would have a negative impact on them. Broad Street is a popular destination for tourists providing access to Balliol and Trinity

Colleges as well as close proximity to the Sheldonian theatre and the Bodleian Library. The passage of traffic is limited, making it one of the quieter streets and therefore an obvious ideal location to offer our service. The ideal pitch would be on the opposite side to the main row of shops. This being the quieter side of the street, it would also have less impact on pedestrians. The site would also have the added advantage of being opposite the tourist office.

### Waste Collection

We would ensure that any droppings between rides would be collected and disposed of immediately. However, most horses tend to go whilst moving. It would be impractical to keep stopping & starting tending to the droppings, so we would ensure that at the end of the day, we would collect any droppings made by the horses, to ensure that the streets were left clean.

### Routes and Schedules

The route would take approximately 30 minutes and would take passengers from the pick up point from Broad Street, tour a number of the major sites throughout the city centre and return the passengers to Broad Street. **We do not intend our service to pick up passengers from one point and drop off at another.**

We would look to operate a route no greater than 1 km radius from our desired location of Broad Street. To avoid the more heavily congested roads whilst ensuring that our passengers had the opportunity to pass the major attractions and colleges. We are aware that there are several streets in Oxford which are “restricted access” but as yet are unsure as to whether this applies to horses and carriage. Therefore, should our application be successful, we would take advice and instruction from the Council’s highways department before finalising the specific route.

We would look to initially offer the carriage service on Sundays from May through to September. However, should the rides prove as popular as we expect, we have the capacity to extend our service to Saturdays and throughout the week if permissible.

As indicated in the Horse welfare section, we would not want the horses to work beyond approximately 7.5 hours daily, inclusive of rests. We would envisage that rides would be available from 10:00 am through to 5:30 pm. During very warm periods, should we be so lucky, the rides would run to

avoid prolonged exposure to heat. In all circumstances, we would stop taking passengers at least 1 hour before lighting up time.

We would have 3 staff members present; Kevin as the driver and his assistant to accompany him on the ride. The assistant's duty would be to provide the passengers with information on the city's sights and colleges during the tour.

A 3<sup>rd</sup> staff member would be permanently stationed on Broad Street. Their duties would include any clearing up after the horses if necessary as well as publicising the carriage rides to passing tourists and general public.

### Publicity

Leaflets would be produced and distributed to the tourist office on Broad Street as well as hotels, guest houses and B & B's throughout Oxford. In addition, we would look to place promotional literature with other attractions around the city including websites with links to our own.

### Summary

We very much hope that you can see the value of our enterprise in attracting tourism to Oxford, adding to the city's cosmopolitan charm and allure. In fact, we hope that it becomes an Oxford attraction in its own right!

The comments we have made so far hopefully will show you that our proposal is a considered one. However, we would welcome from you any suggestions to help it become a successful one. And finally, we would be happy to take anyone from the council on a "dry run" of our horse and carriage tour of the city and colleges. Not only will you have a wonderful experience but will forever have the distinction of being the first people to have enjoyed what we hope will become a long tradition.

Further information on the services currently being offered by our company, together with additional images, can be found on our website. [www.kevinmerry.co.uk](http://www.kevinmerry.co.uk)

Niels Paige  
Kevin Merry Carriages  
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### HORSE DRAWN OMNIBUS LICENCE

#### Guide Conditions

1. The guide of a Horse Drawn Omnibus (hereinafter called “the guide” and “the Omnibus” respectively) and the holder of the vehicle licence (hereinafter called ‘the proprietor’) shall ensure that they are aware of their duties and responsibilities in respect of the vehicle, driver and the Licensing Authority. He/she shall comply with the provisions of The Town Police Clauses Act 1847 and 1889, Part II of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and any Bye-laws and conditions in respect of the licensing of horse drawn vehicles.
2. The guide will be required to be certified medically fit and have the physical ability to handle a Horse Drawn Omnibus.
3. The guide shall not permit children under the age of 14 years to travel in the Omnibus unless accompanied by an adult.
4. The guide shall not allow passengers to be carried in the Omnibus unless a driver is in attendance whilst the Omnibus is in motion.
5. If the guide is convicted of an offence he/she must inform the Licensing Officer in writing within 7 days of conviction, giving full details.
6. The guide shall not allow any animal to be conveyed in the Omnibus unless it be an assistance dog.
7. The holder of any licence must provide the address of his/her normal place of abode and if the address changes he/she must give notice in writing to the Licensing Office with seven days of such change.
8. The holder of any licence shall co-operate with any Officer of the City Council and undertake to comply with any reasonable request or instruction given by the aforesaid Officer.
9. The holder of any licence shall co-operate fully in the investigation of complaints by any authorised Officer and shall attend at the Offices of the Council and produce any information reasonably requested during the course of the investigation.
10. Holders of any licence should be aware that the council does not take responsibility for informing licence holders of the expiry of the licence and that refunds are not made for any unexpired periods of a surrendered licence.
11. The Licensing Authority reserves the right to amend, delete or add any conditions to the Licence by way of written notice to the Licensee.

## **Driver Conditions**

1. The driver of a Horse Drawn Omnibus (hereinafter called “the driver” and “the Omnibus” respectively) and the holder of the vehicle licence (hereinafter called ‘the proprietor’) shall ensure that they are aware of their duties and responsibilities in respect of the vehicle, driver and the Licensing Authority. He/she shall comply with the provisions of The Town Police Clauses Act 1847 and 1889, Part II of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and any Bye-laws and conditions in respect of the licensing of horse drawn vehicles.
2. The driver of a Horse Drawn Omnibus shall be over 21 years of age, have held a full driving licence for at least 12 months.
3. The driver of a Horse Drawn Omnibus will have attained a Road Driving Certificate as described in the Department of Transport’s Code of Practice for Horse Drawn Vehicles.
4. The driver will be required to be certified medically fit and have the physical ability to handle a Horse Drawn Omnibus.
5. The driver will ensure that the Omnibus keeps to the prescribed route as approved by the Council.
6. The driver shall not permit children under the age of 14 years to travel in the Omnibus unless accompanied by an adult.
7. The driver shall not allow passengers to be carried in the Omnibus unless a driver’s assistant/groom is in attendance to supervise passengers whilst the Omnibus is in motion.
8. If the driver is convicted of an offence he/she must inform the Licensing Officer in writing within 7 days of conviction, giving full details.
9. The holder of a driver’s licence shall not act as driver of the Omnibus without the consent of the proprietor of the Omnibus.
10. The driver shall not allow any animal to be conveyed in the Omnibus unless it is an assistance dog.
11. The driver shall at all times when driving the Omnibus carry with him a copy of the Bye laws and these conditions and shall make it available for inspection on request by the hirer or any other passenger.
12. The holder of any licence must provide the address of his/her normal place of abode and if the address changes he/she must give notice in writing to the Licensing Office with seven days of such change.
13. The holder of any licence shall co-operate with any Officer of the City Council and undertake to comply with any reasonable request or instruction given by the aforesaid Officer.

14. The holder of any licence shall co-operate fully in the investigation of complaints by any authorised Officer and shall attend at the Offices of the Council and produce any information reasonably requested during the course of the investigation.
15. Holders of any licence should be aware that the council does not take responsibility for informing licence holders of the expiry of the licence and that refunds are not made for any unexpired periods of a surrendered licence.
16. The Licensing Authority reserves the right to amend, delete or add any conditions to the Licence by way of written notice to the Licensee.

## **Proprietor Conditions**

1. The driver of Horse Drawn Omnibus (hereinafter called “the driver” and “the Omnibus” respectively) and the holder of the vehicle licence (hereinafter called ‘the proprietor’) shall ensure that they are aware of their duties and responsibilities in respect of the vehicle, driver and the Licensing Authority. He/she shall comply with the provisions of The Town Police Clauses Act 1847 and 1889, Part II of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and any Bye-laws and conditions in respect of the licensing of horse drawn vehicles.
2. The proprietor must be aware and have a copy of any byelaw relating to the licensing of an Omnibus
3. The proprietor shall ensure that the driver and guide are aware and adhere to the conditions on their licence at all times.
4. The proprietor shall, on ceasing to operate the Omnibus for which a licence is granted or when required to do so surrender the licence to the Licensing Office, together with any plate required to be affixed to the vehicle.
5. The proprietor must ensure the welfare of any animals and that the driver/guide are trained sufficiently to do so.
6. The proprietor must make arrangements for a suitable person to assume the day to day responsibilities in respect of both vehicle and driver should he/she not be readily available to undertake them.
7. The holder of any licence must provide the address of his/her normal place of abode and if the address changes he/she must give notice in writing to the Licensing Office with seven days of such change.
8. The holder of any licence shall co-operate with any Officer of the City Council and undertake to comply with any reasonable request or instruction given by the aforesaid Officer.
9. The holder of any licence shall co-operate fully in the investigation of complaints by any authorised Officer and shall attend at the Offices of the Council and produce any information reasonably requested during the course of the investigation.
10. Holders of any licence should be aware that the council does not take responsibility for informing licence holders of the expiry of the licence and that refunds are not made for any unexpired periods of a surrendered licence.
11. The Licensing Authority reserves the right to amend, delete or add any conditions to the Licence by way of written notice to the Licensee.



### Proposed Route Provisionally Agreed with Oxfordshire County Council

The route should take approximately 30 minutes. The carriage stand is in Broad Street

- Starting from Broad Street right into Catte Street
- Through into Radcliffe Square (authority and key permitting) , round Camera back into Catte Street, straight on to Parks Road
- Left into Keble Road, left into Blackhall Road, left into Museum Road
- Right into Parks Road. Left into South Parks Road
- Right into St. Cross Road, into Longwall Street
- Left into High Street, over Magdalen Bridge to The Plain, back up High Street
- Left into Merton Street, right into Oriel Square
- King Edward Street (authority permitting)
- Left into High Street, right into Turl Street
- Left into Broad Street and back to stand

## **APPENDIX FOUR**

**DRAFT**

**OXFORD CITY COUNCIL**

**BYELAWS**

**Made under section 6 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1889, as incorporated with the Public Health Act 1875, by the Oxford City Council with respect to Omnibuses in the City of Oxford.**

### **Interpretation**

1. Throughout these byelaws :-

“the Council” means the Oxford City Council,

“the district” means the City of Oxford,

“veterinary surgeon” means a Member or Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, and

“vehicle licence” means a licence issued under section 37 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 and any conditions attached to the grant of such a licence in accordance with section 47(1) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.”

### **Provisions regulating the manner in which the number of each omnibus corresponding with the number of its licence shall be displayed.**

2. (a) The proprietor of an omnibus shall cause the number of the licence granted to him in respect of that omnibus to be legibly painted or marked on a plate, of a design and type supplied by the Council, which is prominently displayed at the rear of the vehicle.

(b) A proprietor, driver or conductor of an omnibus shall not :-

(a) wilfully or negligently cause or suffer any such number to be concealed from public view while the vehicle is plying or standing for hire by or used to carry passengers;  
or

(b) cause or permit the vehicle to ply or stand for hire or be used to carry passengers with any such plate so defaced that any figure or material particular is illegible.

**Provisions securing the fitness of the omnibus and the harness of the animals drawing the same.**

3. The proprietor of an omnibus shall cause the omnibus and all of its fittings and equipment to be kept in a clean and safe condition, well maintained and in every way fit for public service.
4. A proprietor or driver of an omnibus shall cause every part of the harness of any animal hitched up to the omnibus to be kept in good order so that the animal is properly and securely attached to the vehicle and under control at all times.

**Provisions regulating the conduct of the proprietors, drivers and conductors of omnibuses plying within the district in their several employments, and determining whether such drivers and conductors shall wear any and what badges.**

5. The proprietor, driver or conductor of an omnibus shall not carry or permit to be carried in such omnibus any greater number of passengers than the number of passengers which it is licensed to carry.
6. A driver or conductor of an omnibus shall behave in a civil and orderly manner and shall take all reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of persons conveyed in, entering or alighting from the omnibus, and of any animal used to draw it.
7. A driver or conductor of an omnibus shall not smoke at any time when the omnibus is being used to convey passengers.
8. A driver or conductor of an omnibus shall at all times when the omnibus is plying or standing for hire by or used to carry passengers wear the badge provided by the Council in such a position and manner as to be plainly visible.
9. A driver or conductor of an omnibus shall not, at any time when the omnibus is plying or standing for hire by or used to carry passengers, operate a radio or other sound-reproducing equipment other than for the purposes of sending or receiving messages in connection with the operation of the vehicle.

10. A driver of an omnibus when plying for hire or carrying passengers shall proceed without delay between the points determined by the vehicle licence issued in respect of that omnibus, and only via any of the stands determined by the said vehicle licence.
11. The proprietor, driver or conductor of an omnibus shall not, in any street within the district, feed or allow to be fed any animal harnessed or otherwise attached to the omnibus, except with food contained in a proper bag or container suspended from the head of the animal or from any centre pole of the vehicle, or which is being held and delivered with the hand of the person feeding the animal.

**Provisions regulating the number and securing the fitness of the animals to be allowed to draw an omnibus, and for the removal therefrom of unfit animals.**

12. The proprietor or driver of an omnibus shall not cause or permit the same to be drawn by more than two animals at any one time, and shall ensure that the two animals are of the same species.
13. A proprietor or driver of an omnibus shall not cause or permit the animal to be used to draw the omnibus unless, within the preceding twelve months, a certificate of fitness, in a form supplied by the Council, has been issued in respect of that animal following an examination by a veterinary surgeon specialising in large animal practice.
14. A proprietor or driver of an omnibus shall not, at any time when the omnibus is plying or standing for hire or being used to carry passengers, drive or allow to be driven or harness or allow to be harnessed to the omnibus any animal in such condition as to expose any person being conveyed or being in such omnibus, or any person traversing any street, to risk of injury.
15. A proprietor or driver of an omnibus shall not cause or permit an animal to draw any omnibus or to be harnessed or otherwise attached to such an omnibus for more than six hours in any one day. And, if the animal is harnessed to an omnibus for a period of three consecutive hours, the proprietor or driver shall ensure that the animal is rested for a period of not less than one hour, during which time the animal must be fed and watered.
16. A proprietor or driver of an omnibus shall not cause or permit any animal which has

previously been used to draw an omnibus for a total of not more than six hours, on any one day, to be used at any other time during the remainder of that day for any other purpose in connection with that or any other omnibus.

17. A proprietor or driver of an omnibus shall ensure that while an animal is being rested in accordance with byelaw 15 above, that the animal shall not remain harnessed, or otherwise attached to an omnibus, or used for any other purpose in connection with an omnibus.
18. (a) The proprietor or driver of an omnibus shall, on being so instructed by an authorised officer of the Council, immediately cease to use, for the purpose of drawing an omnibus, any animal which that officer, after consultation with a veterinary surgeon, specialising in large animal practice, considers to be unfit for that purpose.
- (b) Where a proprietor or a driver of an omnibus has been instructed to stop using a particular animal for the purpose of drawing an omnibus, no such proprietor or driver shall cause or permit that animal to be used again for that purpose until a certificate of fitness has been issued by a veterinary surgeon, specialising in large animal practice, in a form supplied by the Council.

**Provisions for securing the safe custody and return of private property**

19. The driver or conductor of an omnibus shall, before departing from any point fixed by the vehicle licence issued in respect of that omnibus, carefully search the omnibus for any property which may have been accidentally left therein.
20. Any proprietor, driver or conductor of an omnibus shall, if any property accidentally left therein by any person who may have been conveyed in the omnibus be found by or handed to him, take it as soon as possible and in any event within 24 hours, if not claimed by or on behalf of its owner, to a police station in the district and leave it in the custody of a police constable on his giving a receipt for it.

**Provisions for the exhibition on some conspicuous part of every omnibus of a statement in legible letters and figures of the fares to be demanded and received from the persons using an omnibus.**

21. (a) The proprietor of an omnibus shall cause a statement of the fares payable by passengers to be exhibited conspicuously inside the vehicle, in clear legible letters and figures.
- (b) The proprietor, driver or conductor of an omnibus bearing a statement of fares in accordance with this byelaw shall not wilfully or negligently cause or suffer the letters or figures in the statement to be concealed or rendered illegible at any time when the vehicle is plying or standing for hire by or used to carry passengers.

**Provisions preventing importuning and the blowing of or playing upon horns or other musical instruments, or the ringing of bells, by any person travelling on or using an omnibus.**

22. The owner, driver or conductor of an omnibus shall not, at any time when the omnibus is plying or standing for hire by or used to carry passengers, by touting, calling out or otherwise, importune any person to use or to be carried for hire in such omnibus, to the annoyance of any such person or of any other person, and shall not make use of the services of any other person for the purpose.
23. A driver, conductor or any person travelling on or using an omnibus shall not blow or play upon any horn or other musical instrument or ring any bell.

**Penalties**

24. Any person who offends against any of these byelaws shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale, and in the case of a continuing offence to a further fine not exceeding two pounds for each day during which the offence continues after the date of conviction.

**THE COMMON SEAL OF THE )  
OXFORD CITY COUNCIL was )  
hereunto affixed by order of the )  
Council in the presence of :- )**

The foregoing byelaws are hereby confirmed by the Secretary of State and shall come into force on the    day of    2011.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State,

*Department for*  
**Transport**

Daniel Smith Esq  
Oxford City Council

dsmith@oxford.gov.uk

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Our Ref: BAT 2/12/01

23 May 2011

Dear Mr Smith,

**HORSE-DRAWN OMNIBUS BYELAWS**

Thank you for your e-mail of 23 May enclosing for provisional approval draft byelaws relating to horse-drawn omnibuses in Oxford.

The draft byelaws are acceptable.

Subject to the consideration of any objections we might receive, we shall be prepared to submit the byelaws for confirmation on behalf of the Secretary of State for Transport if, having been made by the Council and sealed, they are then advertised and submitted in accordance with the procedure prescribed in section 236 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Yours sincerely,

**Miss P A Brown**



## APPENDIX FIVE

Name	Postcode	Question: Do you have any comments to make regarding the proposal to licence a Horse Drawn Carriage	Question: HDC2 Do you have any comments to make regarding the implementation of the Byelaw YES / NO / OTHER
Brian Lester	OX4 6DS	I feel that the use of horses to pull a carriage is in my opinion detrimental to the horses health and safety. the noise of all the buses that use these streets could scare them causing danger to the horses and passengers. the toxic fumes caused by traffic could affect the said horses health. there's more enough site seeing vehicles now causing congestion on these proposed routes now without causing further delays which in turn cause more pollution which these poor animals would have to endure.	will these operators be allowed to ply for hire. we have already had the saga of the rickshaws in recent years who after being allowed a stand then applied for a hackney carriage license to ply for hire. gladly that was turned down, is this another ploy; when it is proven uneconomical will the owners apply for a hackney carriage license, then stop the service and try to transfer the license to a taxi cab?
Martin Sutton	OX4 2RY	Whilst care has been taken over the route, I am concerned Longwall Street - the Plain - Oriel Street/King Edward Street - Turl Street will add to delays for buses. From this weekend there are fewer buses using High Street as part of the "Transform Oxford" vision to improve the environment for pedestrians. This proposals would appear to be somewhat at odds with that vision. We strongly caution against the High Street being part of the route.	Congestion: cars vans buses & lorries all use the Longwall, South Parks Road route and although a 20mph limit is now imposed in the City centre, it is not enforced. The average speed of a horse drawn vehicle is approximately 7 mph, and there will be no opportunity to overtake the carriage safely along a considerable stretch of an important through route for motor vehicles. This will cause extreme holdups, and consequent frustration to drivers attempting to go about their legitimate business.
Elizabeth Mills OBE	OX4 1LH	I object to the proposal on grounds of public health and hygiene: where the horse stands in the Broad, urine will run in the roadway, into the public drainage system, cause smell and attract flies. Faeces left in the roadway, on the route, will be trodden into the paving, run over by vehicles, and impossible to clear up, as the applicant claims he will do at the end of every day. They will also smell and attract flies.	Congestion: cars vans buses & lorries all use the Longwall, South Parks Road route and although a 20mph limit is now imposed in the City centre, it is not enforced. The average speed of a horse drawn vehicle is approximately 7 mph, and there will be no opportunity to overtake the carriage safely along a considerable stretch of an important through route for motor vehicles. This will cause extreme holdups, and consequent frustration to drivers attempting to go about their legitimate business.
sietske boeles	OX4 1PA		I am not convinced that the proposed Byelaws could be effectively enforced
A Kelsall	OX4 1AY	I would be concerned for the welfare of the horses. The centre of the city is polluted, noisy and busy. This is not good for the health of the people, let alone a horse which will not be given any choice about being there. I think this is not a good advertisement for how Oxford regards animal welfare.	
Mike Ratcliffe	ox3 7lt	This is fine. Can't be any more annoying than the tour buses.	

Gemina	OX3 0DW	I'm against the proposal. Route includes streets with serious traffic congestion - it would be cruel to horses and dangerous. In tourist season pavements often overcrowded - pedestrians forced into roadway (over 65 young Japanese visitors counted in one single group in High Street, near Carfax, in July 2011).	I am against the implementation of the proposed Byelaws. Proposal to introduce horse-drawn carriage rides in Oxford City centre does not make sense, given high volume of traffic, traffic congestion - cruelty to horses.
Roger Evans	OX3 0DW	Totally agree with this proposal, Oxford needs a more varied selection of offers for tourists who come to our great city !	Implement them
Ms Lise Boshier	OX4 1QG	I object.I don't know how without ticking 'other'. I am pedestrian, cyclist, car driver & resident. Using roads on route suggested has been difficult with the amount of traffic and with drivers &tourists who have little road sense. A h-drawn carriage will slow up traffic and be very hard for cyclists to negotiate.Will someone pick up dung quickly so that bikes don't slip over when it's wet ? Is the bottleneck of the Plain roundabout the best place for a slow, tourist, money-,making enterprise ?	Haven't had time to read them will try to do so before the consultation is over.
Susi Golding	OX1 3AS	A Horse Drawn Carriage operation in the city centre would be an additional draw for visitors to the city. The location of the stand on Broad Street needs to be carefully considered. I note that the 'other side of the road to the main row of shops opposite the Tourist Information Centre' has been suggested. This seems to be a reasonable proposal as siting the stand on the same side of the road as the shops and Information Centre would cause additional congestion to what is already a busy area	
Helen Hutchinson	OX4 3BS	I oppose the use of horse drawn carriages for: animal welfare, the risk of accidents, the cost to the tax payer for the regulation and enforcement, hygiene in the street, and the fate of injured and retired horses. This is a very old fashioned, cruel, and unnecessary form of entertainment. Please see Animal Aid's report as to why horse drawn carriages should not be licenced in Oxford <a href="http://www.animalaid.org.uk/h/n/CAMPAIGNS/other/ALL/444/">http://www.animalaid.org.uk/h/n/CAMPAIGNS/other/ALL/444/</a>	
Leah	BN2 3ED	Against the proposal. Dangers to horses and the public. Congestion issues for residents and visitors. Would influence my decision to visit and my opinion of the city, in a negative way.	
Dr. A. Morovat	OX3 9DU	I should like to record my strong objection to the proposal. To use horse-drawn carriages is a backward move and merely a romanticisation. The reality is animal discomfort and cruelty.	

Martin Edward Henig	OX2 0DB	As there is other traffic in the streets there will be considerable risk to the safety of the horses. I fear that many will be injured, perhaps killed, by buses and other vehicles. There may also be an increased risk to pedestrians. I am well aware of the accident potential of bolting horses even before we had motorised transport. Oxford is busy even on sundays and is no longer suitable for horse-drawn carriages.	I am sure you can ameliorate the situation if you go ahead but that is all.
Graham Maynard	OX29 4JS	(No Comment Entered)	(No Comment Entered)
Ann Furtado	OX2 0QT	Excellent idea that will definitely boost the appeal of Oxford for tourists.	
Sarah Beecraft	OX12 8RN	(No Comment Entered)	(No Comment Entered)
Sally Carpenter	OX2 8BG	I am neither a trader nor an animal rights activist. As a bus-user, cyclist and pedestrian, I object strongly on the grounds that these carriages will add to congestion in the city centre, especially for buses in the High Street.	
Bill Allen	ox11 9dp	I have serious concerns as a resident of Oxfordshire, who visits Oxford regularly & as a horse owner, for the following reasons: * Welfare of the horse * Disruption of traffic and congestion indirectly causing additional emissions due to lower speeds on the designated route * Health & Safety of pedestrians in the event of a horse being spooked * Horse allergies/cleaning of urination & faeces, when street cleaning is under pressure. * Fly nuisance * Banned in other major cities worldwide	as above
Jane Marshall	OX4 4JE	As a resident of Oxford I am concerned for the following reasons: * Animal welfare * Traffic disruption and subsequent pollution due to lower speeds * Other cities have already banned this type of enterprise * The unpredictability of horses causing Health & Safety issues * Congestion due to slow speed * Difficulties of removing manure efficiently *	

## Horse Drawn Carriages in Oxford

This document has been produced on behalf of representatives of a joint trades committee made up of Hackney Carriage & Private Hire trades in Oxford.

Concern was raised at a joint trades meeting on May 31<sup>st</sup> 2011 where the prospect of Horse Drawn Carriage licensing was announced by taxi licensing officials, there had up to this point in time, been no consultation with either trade on this subject since 2009?

During the early part of 2011, many local regulations regarding the licensing of taxi, private hire drivers & their vehicles, had been significantly enhanced, the exercise resulted in the long overdue tightening up of control over the type of person & vehicle that would be permitted to obtain a license, taking those tighter controls into account, representatives from both trades are at a loss as to how or why taxi licensing officials have then made approaches to Defra with the view to actually 'relaxing' controls which would result in Horse drawn Carriages & their drivers being permitted to offer hire & reward services in Oxford, an absolute attempt at dual standards.

The trade organisations also are at a loss as to why Taxi Licensing fees have apparently been used in order to achieve this 'relaxation' of controls for one service provider without the applicant being asked to lodge some financial deposit, we are of the opinion that whilst one door has been closed on sub-standard operations in Oxford, the back door will now be opened for all & sundry to apply to operate sub standard services of many different types. Once opened, with today's culture of legal challenge, its always an impossible task to close the door to all other types of operations.

This situation has happened before in Oxford & those who can remember the previous 'small bus' fiasco of the 1990's, where one operator took advantage of a relaxation in controls, will also remember how it led to Oxford being flooded with over 140 unlicensed saloon vehicles & their drivers operating Hire & Reward Service without being properly vetted or licensed, legislators (Defra) eventually realised that they had presented themselves with more safety issues than they had ever imaged, had to eventually close the loopholes that they had unwittingly allowed, the joint trades committee are of the opinion that this is about to happen again if the licensing of horse drawn carriages is permitted in Oxford, others would follow & chaos would soon be upon our streets once again.

We are deeply concerned over the effects such an operation would have on the already congested streets and public transport corridors such as bus lanes, horse drawn carriages would (because they would be considered to be an 'omnibus' by Defra) be permitted to use bus/taxi priority routes before & during their operation each day, presumably the operation would need to access the city from the outskirts of Oxford & would therefore be able to travel the whole length of one or more of the major arterial routes into Oxford, can you imagine a horse drawn carriage, travelling at around five miles per hour along the whole of length of the Woodstock or Banbury Road bus/taxi lanes? normal traffic flows would actually be flowing faster during rush hour than buses & taxis who were following horse drawn carriages in bus lanes, a facility originally designed to allow less congested access into the city not slower, to license one of these unusual operations, would we feel, open the floodgates to many other unusual forms of hire & reward transport, once open, refusal to allow others would become extremely difficult to refuse or control.

Of the existing 700+ hackney carriage & private hire vehicles, all, are required to comply with disability & elderly access regulations, carry fire extinguishers, first aid kits, weather resistant bodywork, heating systems, the list goes on, exactly how many of those requirements would be applied in order to obtain a horse drawn carriage license? Which section of Oxford City Council would regulate & enforce the regulations, how would the cost of their enforcement be separately accounted for by whichever office dealt with the operation?

Continued on page two.....

If it was decided that the taxi licensing office were to regulate & enforce the horse drawn carriage, there is no doubt that additional staff would be needed in that section, if not, then the service already provided to the taxi & private hire operators & drivers would be reduced, would the 'alternative' hire & reward service operators pay licence fees which reflected the actual/true cost of that process as do the two existing services? under existing city council resolution & with present financial restrictions it would have to, then would the applicant be prepared to pay the high fees that this would require?

Although enforcement of the existing trades has been increased over the past few months, it is still not sufficient, any additional drain on licensing officer's time would reduce existing levels of services & enforcement offered to existing license holders, we would then be applying for a reduction in license fees.

We hereby object in the strongest possible terms to the licensing of horse drawn carriages in Oxford.

*Alan Ward*  
City of Oxford Licensed Taxicab  
Association  
COLTA

Licensing Authority  
Oxford City Council

14 JUN 2011

Received

## ALISON Julian

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**From:** Jane Shepherd [jane@algerontrust.org.uk]  
**Posted At:** 19 July 2011 23:25  
**Conversation:** Horse drawn carriages  
**Posted To:** HORSE DRAWN  
  
**Subject:** Horse drawn carriages

There is far too much animal abuse in this country as it is, please don't add to it. It is unrealistic to believe that the welfare of the horses will be as important as making money and who will monitor the conditions and care of these animals? There is too much potential for injury on busy roads and in 2011 horse drawn carriages are an anachronism. Please think very carefully about equine welfare and drop this proposal.

Jane Shepherd  
Algeron Trust  
Linshire Farm  
Whittlebury  
NN12 8XN

**ALISON Julian**

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**From:** CLEMENTS Sophie  
**Sent:** 18 July 2011 11:16  
**To:** ALISON Julian  
**Subject:** FW: HORSE DRAWN CARRIAGES IN OXFORD

*Sophie Clements  
Team Support Officer  
Environmental Development  
01865 252561*

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**From:** SHEARER Carina  
**Sent:** 15 July 2011 09:43  
**To:** environment@oxford.gov.uk  
**Subject:** FW: HORSE DRAWN CARRIAGES IN OXFORD

Carina  
Customer Service Officer  
Oxford City Council

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**From:** Hilary Isaac [mailto:hilary@fahamu.org]  
**Posted At:** 15 July 2011 09:19  
**Posted To:** customerservices@oxford.gov.uk  
**Conversation:** HORSE DRAWN CARRIAGES IN OXFORD  
**Subject:** HORSE DRAWN CARRIAGES IN OXFORD

Please don't do this. Apart from the Animal Welfare issues which are enormous the centre of Oxford is already over-crowded in the summer where on earth would horse drawn carriages be located? We need so many other things to make Oxford a pleasure to come to and this is not one of them. We need better shops, cleaner streets, less badly behaved school parties from abroad but NOT and I would emphasise NOT horse drawn carriages.

Hilary Isaac  
Fahamu  
51 Cornmarket Street  
Oxford  
OX1 3HA  
Tel: 01865 727006

"No one could make a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could do only a little." - Edmund Burke



**ALISON Julian**

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**From:** CLEMENTS Sophie  
**Sent:** 15 July 2011 08:53  
**To:** CRAMER Jill; ALISON Julian  
**Subject:** FW: introduction of horse drawn carriages

*Sophie Clements  
Team Support Officer  
Environmental Development  
01865 252561*

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**From:** CATHERINE THOMPSON [mailto:thompson966@btinternet.com]  
**Posted At:** 14 July 2011 16:17  
**Posted To:** environment@oxford.gov.uk  
**Conversation:** introduction of horse drawn carriages  
**Subject:** introduction of horse drawn carriages

Dear All

I would like to register my objections to the introduction of horse-drawn carriages in Oxford. Any romantic images would be far outweighed by the animal welfare issues that would arise. Please reject this proposal.

Regards

Catherine Thompson



**ALISON Julian**

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**From:** CLEMENTS Sophie  
**Sent:** 15 July 2011 08:52  
**To:** CRAMER Jill; BROME Natalie; ALISON Julian; THORNTON Robert M  
**Subject:** FW: No to horse-drawn carriages in Oxford

*Sophie Clements  
Team Support Officer  
Environmental Development  
01865 252561*

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**From:** Riki Therivel [mailto:levett-therivel@phonecoop.coop]  
**Posted At:** 15 July 2011 06:42  
**Posted To:** environment@oxford.gov.uk  
**Conversation:** No to horse-drawn carriages in Oxford  
**Subject:** No to horse-drawn carriages in Oxford

Dear Sir or Madam,

I oppose the use of horse-drawn carriages in Oxford on several grounds: increased congestion as buses and cars try to safely pass the carriages, manure in the streets, the welfare of the horses. Oxford already has experience with bicycle rickshaws, which are anyway more in keeping with the 'sustainable transport' theme of the city.

Yours sincerely,

Riki Therivel  
28A North Hinksey Lane  
Oxford OX2 0LX

**ALISON Julian**

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**From:** CLEMENTS Sophie  
**Sent:** 15 July 2011 08:53  
**To:** CRAMER Jill; ALISON Julian  
**Subject:** FW: horse drawn carriages

Sophie Clements  
Team Support Officer  
Environmental Development  
01865 252561

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Denise Watt [mailto:denise.watt@qeh.ox.ac.uk] **Posted At:** 14 July 2011 16:47 **Posted To:** environment@oxford.gov.uk  
**Conversation:** horse drawn carriages  
**Subject:** horse drawn carriages

Dear Ox City Council

I'm not very keen on horse-drawn carriages. It looks good but i can't think that the environment of our streets is very 'sympathetic' to horses. traffic is already a nightmare with bikes and cars, never mind cyclists swerving around horses, and offering to collect manure between rides every half hour is not good enough.

Yours,

Denise Watt

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Denise Watt  
Assistant to the Head of Department, Professor Valpy FitzGerald Oxford Department of International Development Queen Elizabeth House University of Oxford  
3 Mansfield Road  
Oxford OX1 3TB  
Email: denise.watt@qeh.ox.ac.uk  
Tel: 01865 281803  
Fax: 01865 281801

[www.qeh.ox.ac.uk](http://www.qeh.ox.ac.uk)

**ALISON Julian**

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**From:** THOMPSON Emma  
**Sent:** 18 July 2011 13:05  
**To:** ALISON Julian; CRAMER Jill  
**Subject:** FW: Ridiculous horse and carriage plan

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**From:** Vicky Mann [mailto:v\_lizzy@hotmail.com]  
**Posted At:** 18 July 2011 11:11  
**Posted To:** licensing@oxford.gov.uk  
**Conversation:** Ridiculous horse and carriage plan  
**Subject:** Ridiculous horse and carriage plan

To whom this may concern,

I am writing to express my objection to this ridiculous plan to introduce these to our city centre. This is nothing but simple exploitation of animals to make money and is not acceptable. I have worked with horses for many years, and regardless of whether or not people deem a particular horse or even breed to be 'bombproof' let me tell you, these creatures are animals. They are unpredictable. I have seen plenty of accidents in my years working with these animals and by allowing them into our already congested city centre you are exposing them to frightening situations and putting not only the animals but the general public at risk. This exploitation of animals at any cost has got to stop. Should some senseless, selfish fool be prepared to back this not only me, but every of the nearly 1000 animal rescue workers I work with in this county will be boycotting the city centre.

Yours sincerely,

Vicky Mann

**ALISON Julian**

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**From:** NICKLIN Sarah  
**Sent:** 19 July 2011 09:41  
**To:** ALISON Julian  
**Subject:** FW: Horse and Carriage

**Sarah Nicklin**

Technician (Planning and Building Control) | City Development | Oxford City Council  
(01865)252186 | [snicklin@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:snicklin@oxford.gov.uk)

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**From:** [stella@stella777.orangehome.co.uk](mailto:stella@stella777.orangehome.co.uk) [mailto:[stella@stella777.orangehome.co.uk](mailto:stella@stella777.orangehome.co.uk)]  
**Posted At:** 18 July 2011 19:22  
**Posted To:** [planning@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:planning@oxford.gov.uk)  
**Conversation:** Horse and Carriage  
**Subject:** Horse and Carriage

Dear Sir/Madam

I wish to strongly complain with regard to horse and carriages being considered at Oxford, this is a time to go forwards not backwards. Also, considering as a nation we don't have the resource to properly supervise the treatment of animals in any context, this must not go ahead, ever.

Yours faithfully

Stella Johns

**ALISON Julian**

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**From:** THOMPSON Emma  
**Sent:** 18 July 2011 13:05  
**To:** ALISON Julian; CRAMER Jill  
**Subject:** FW: Horse Drawn Carriages in Oxford

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**From:** rosemarie marks-crockett [mailto:108rosie@live.co.uk]  
**Posted At:** 17 July 2011 18:53  
**Posted To:** licensing@oxford.gov.uk  
**Conversation:** Horse Drawn Carriages in Oxford  
**Subject:** Horse Drawn Carriages in Oxford

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to express my dismay and outrage upon hearing about the proposal to introduce horse-drawn carriages to Oxford's streets. I have lived in Oxford for 22 years and am very familiar with the treacherous road conditions that already exist and know that introducing horses into the mix is a recipe for disaster.

There are serious animal welfare issues at stake in this too:

[www.animalaid.org.uk/h/n/CAMPAIGNS/other/ALL/444/](http://www.animalaid.org.uk/h/n/CAMPAIGNS/other/ALL/444/)

The tourist industry is thriving in Oxford. We do not need horse-drawn carriages. Find some other way to cash in on all the money flowing into Oxford.

Yours sincerely,

Rosemarie Marks-Crockett

**ALISON Julian**

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**From:** THOMPSON Emma  
**Sent:** 18 July 2011 13:19  
**To:** ALISON Julian; CRAMER Jill  
**Subject:** FW: Horse and Carriage

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**From:** Sonja Talboys [mailto:sonjatalboys@yahoo.co.uk]  
**Posted At:** 18 July 2011 11:59  
**Posted To:** licensing@oxford.gov.uk  
**Conversation:** Horse and Carriage  
**Subject:** Horse and Carriage

I have never heard of such a ridiculous idea as having horse drawn carriages in Oxford. Firstly it is very cruel having these poor horses hanging around, secondly it is dangerous for the horses with all the traffic we have now a days. Saying this is going back to old days is stupid, when horse's and carriages were used there was hardly any other traffic. When idiots come up with these ideas do they consider the animal, NO. So I am hoping that you will reconsider this most idiotic idea. NO NO NO to horse drawn carriages in Oxford or anywhere else. Mrs S Allen

**ALISON Julian**

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**From:** NICKLIN Sarah  
**Sent:** 19 July 2011 09:41  
**To:** ALISON Julian  
**Subject:** FW: Please to NOT reintroduce horse-carriages

**Sarah Nicklin**

Technician (Planning and Building Control) | City Development | Oxford City Council  
(01865)252186 | [snicklin@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:snicklin@oxford.gov.uk)

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**From:** Mirella Colalillo [<mailto:mirella.colalillo@gmail.com>]  
**Posted At:** 18 July 2011 22:31  
**Posted To:** [planning@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:planning@oxford.gov.uk)  
**Conversation:** Please to NOT reintroduce horse-carriages  
**Subject:** Please to NOT reintroduce horse-carriages

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

I have been sadly informed of your City Council's plans to reintroduce horse-drawn carriages.

The horse-drawn carriage industry is not kind nor romantic. It is based on exploitation of the horses to benefit the pockets of few and in many cities it has been banned and other cities are following suite.

Please, I urge you not to reintroduce horse-carriages. Let's continue to evolve as humans and not take steps backwards.

Thank you.

Mirella

**ALISON Julian**

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**From:** NICKLIN Sarah  
**Sent:** 19 July 2011 09:41  
**To:** ALISON Julian  
**Subject:** FW: Horse and buggies in Oxford? Are you kidding?

**Sarah Nicklin**

Technician (Planning and Building Control) | City Development | Oxford City Council  
(01865)252186 | [snicklin@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:snicklin@oxford.gov.uk)

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**From:** Zelda [<mailto:zpenzel@twcmetrobiz.com>]  
**Posted At:** 19 July 2011 02:05  
**Posted To:** [planning@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:planning@oxford.gov.uk)  
**Conversation:** Horse and buggies in Oxford? Are you kidding?  
**Subject:** Horse and buggies in Oxford? Are you kidding?

Gentlemen, Ladies,

Look at the polls!!!! No one wants to see these poor beasts tethered to a carriage and dragging tourists through clogged city streets. That is a foolish "romanticized" notion which has no place in a civilized society, especially now that we have come to understand and appreciate the needs, the intelligence, the beauty of seeing an animal that has not been forced into servitude, to be exploited for money. We are trying our best to rid our city of the suffering that is so evident. Please rid yourselves of this ridiculous anachronistic notion.

Sincerely,  
Zelda Penzel, President  
People for the End of Animal Cruelty and Exploitation~PEACE  
NY, NY



**ALISON Julian**

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**From:** NICKLIN Sarah  
**Sent:** 19 July 2011 09:40  
**To:** ALISON Julian  
**Subject:** FW: Carriages

Sarah Nicklin  
Technician (Planning and Building Control) | City Development | Oxford City Council  
(01865)252186 | [snicklin@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:snicklin@oxford.gov.uk)

-----Original Message-----

From: Ans Laver [<mailto:ans.laver@tiscali.co.uk>] Posted At: 18 July 2011 15:54 Posted To:  
[planning@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:planning@oxford.gov.uk)  
Conversation: Carriages  
Subject: Carriages

Dear Oxford City Council, I am very concerned about your proposal to allow horse drawn carriages into the city. This is not a good idea at all, as there are no facilities for horses in the city centre. Health and Safety (for horses) is involved. Please do not allow this to become a reality.  
Yours sincerely, Mrs J C Laver, Oxford

**ALISON Julian**

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**From:** CLEMENTS Sophie  
**Sent:** 19 July 2011 16:06  
**To:** ALISON Julian  
**Subject:** FW: Horse Drawn Carriages

*Sophie Clements  
Team Support Officer  
Environmental Development  
01865 252561*

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**From:** Viktoria Nealis [mailto:viktorianealis@yahoo.co.uk]  
**Posted At:** 19 July 2011 12:35  
**Posted To:** environment@oxford.gov.uk  
**Conversation:** Horse Drawn Carriages  
**Subject:** Horse Drawn Carriages

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to oppose Oxford Council's plans to introduce horse drawn carriages on Oxford's streets. Not only would they cause congestion, as I understand that they would follow the route of the tourist buses, and their manure could cause a health risk due to flies and also people inadvertently getting some stuck to their shoes etc. but could be a significant risk to public safety, especially when small children are around.

My main objection, however, is that this proposal attaches to it severe animal welfare issues. I understand that London, Paris, Toronto and even Beijing have banned such schemes for this very reason. The horses will be exploited for money-making purposes, for that is obviously what is behind the idea in the first place - how to attract tourists and make money.

Oxford already has a poor reputation for it's complete lack of compassion for animals by allowing its University to continue with vivisection. This fact keeps many people, myself included, away from your historic city and horse drawn carriages would be another very good reason for avoiding it.

Please do not allow this proposal to go ahead.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Viktoria Nealis - London N16 5HF



**PETA**

**PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL  
TREATMENT OF ANIMALS  
(PETA) FOUNDATION**

PO BOX 36678  
LONDON SE1 1YE  
+44 (0)20 7357 9229  
+44 (0)20 7357 0901 FAX  
Info@peta.org.uk  
PETA.org.uk

Consultation Team  
Oxford City Council  
Town Hall, St Aldate's  
Oxford  
OX1 1BX

The Licensing Authority  
Oxford City Council

25 July 2011

Dear Consultation Team,

I am writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and our more than 130,000 UK members and supporters. Having heard that you are currently considering allowing horse-drawn carriages to operate in the city centre once again, we strongly urge you to decide against it.

Horse-drawn carriages are not only cruel but also dangerous to both horses and people, especially in modern cities. Horses are forced to pull oversized loads in all temperatures and often suffer serious leg ailments from pounding on hard surfaces all day. Lameness and hoof deterioration are common, and many drivers, unwilling or unable to recognise signs of lameness, fail to give injured horses a break from working. Even in cities with stringent rules, violations such as overworking horses or failing to provide proper care are common, yet they frequently go unreported.

Horse-drawn carriages are also dangerous to riders, pedestrians and motorists. Horses can become spooked and run out of control, often causing serious and sometimes fatal accidents. In 2008, a bride in Worcestershire sustained major injuries when she was thrown from a horse-drawn carriage after the horse became frightened and ran amok. Just last month, a woman was killed and a number of other bystanders were injured by a runaway horse and carriage at a country fair in Bury St Edmonds.<sup>1</sup> The liability associated with these rides is very real.

Many cities around the world – including Paris, Toronto, Rome and cities across the US such as Las Vegas and Santa Fe, New Mexico – have banned horse-drawn carriages.

Please make the compassionate decision to protect Oxford's tourists, residents and horses by upholding your policy on horse-drawn carriages and refusing this proposal to reintroduce them. May I please hear from you about this important matter? I can be contacted on +44 (0)207 357 9229, extension 238, or at MimiB@peta.org.uk.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I look forward to your speedy reply.

Yours sincerely,

Mimi Bekhechi  
Manager  
People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals

An international  
organisation dedicated to  
protecting the rights  
of all animals.

**PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL  
TREATMENT OF ANIMALS  
(PETA) FOUNDATION**

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Company No: 3135903

Charity No: 1056453

Registered Address:

Lacon House, Theobald's Road  
London WC1X 8RW

## **ALISON Julian**

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**From:** cerihutton@mac.com  
**Posted At:** 21 July 2011 10:25  
**Conversation:** Don't Reintroduce Horse-Drawn Carriages to Oxford  
**Posted To:** HORSE DRAWN  
  
**Subject:** Don't Reintroduce Horse-Drawn Carriages to Oxford

Oxford City Council

I was disappointed and shocked to learn that after more than 70 years without horse-drawn carriages in your city, plans have been set in motion to reintroduce them.

Horses are extremely sensitive to loud noises and unexpected sounds, and busy city streets have plenty of both. Horses and people have been seriously hurt – with some injuries resulting in fatalities – when horses have become spooked and run amok.

There have also been countless incidents in which carriages have been hit by impatient or careless drivers. Accidents have occurred in nearly every city in which carriage rides are allowed. London, Paris, Toronto and Beijing have all banned horse-drawn carriages.

Horses are not tourist attractions; please reject plans to reintroduce horse-drawn carriages to the city.

Yours sincerely,

Ceri Hutton  
76 Market Street  
Ulverston  
Cumbria  
LA12 7LT  
cerihutton@mac.com