

2 Instructions

- 2.1 On the 5th November 2011 I was contacted by the Director of the company, Mr Riaz Butt who requested assistance regarding the Public Inquiry.
- 2.2 On Tuesday 8th November 2011 I attended at the operating centre and had a meeting with Mr Butt and the Transport Manager Mr Brian Gallier.
- 2.3 I later instructed Mr Michael Cunningham of Backhouse Jones Solicitors.

3 Background

- 3.1 M Travel Minibuses Ltd is the holder of a standard national operator's licence authorising the use of twenty vehicles.

There are currently twenty two vehicles in possession. This number is made up of fifteen vehicles in use, five additional vehicles which have recently been purchased and awaiting modification, and two coaches which are long term off the road.

The five vehicles awaiting modification are a second batch purchased from an operator in the London area. These vehicles are fitted with a centre exit door which is not acceptable to Transport for Greater Manchester. The operator has successfully removed the centre door and added extra seats on previous vehicles and had the vehicles re certified.

- 3.2 In early 2011 the operator recalls Vehicle Examiner Garlick attending unannounced at his premises and examining a number of vehicles. This resulted in all the vehicles examined being found to have no defects but he has no documentation for this visit.
- 3.3 On the 25th July 2011 Vehicle Examiner Garlick again attended unannounced at the operating centre and examined five vehicles and found them to be in a roadworthy condition without even an advisory item.

At this visit Mr Garlick examined all the vehicle files and found all to be satisfactory.

To support this a combined PG 13 F & G was issued which listed every item contained on that document as satisfactory with no item requiring advice. I would submit that this operator was compliant at