

PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE: 4th August 2015

Report of the Head of Regulatory Services

**REQUEST FOR THE APPROVAL OF AN ICABBI GPS TAXI MANAGEMENT
& DISPATCH SYSTEM**

1. Background

- 1.1 At its meeting of 6 March 2012 the Committee approved the Autocab GPS taxi management and dispatch system for use in private hire vehicles. As a result the following condition was added to the City of Cardiff Council's Private Hire Vehicle Licence Conditions:

Condition 14: 'A GPS taxi management & dispatch system consisting of a mobile vehicle data head and a central dispatch system manufactured by Autocab UK may be fitted in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to private hire vehicles.'

- 1.2 An application has been made by Dragon taxis to approve the use of a similar system manufactured by iCabbi, for use in private hire vehicles.

2. Details of the System

- 2.1 The iCabbi system consists of a mobile data head (PDA) and a central dispatch system. The PDA in the vehicle displays the fare calculation.
- 2.2 As with the Autocab system the system cannot be considered a taximeter as it does not comply with the Measuring Instruments (Taximeters) Regulations 2006.
- 2.3 Full details of the system can be found on the company's website: <http://www.icabbi.com/>

3. Consultation

- 3.1 The trade consultation procedure was undertaken in accordance with the consultation procedure on any policy matters. The draft reports intended for consideration were made available at the licensing offices for any interested party to provide written submissions.

4. Achievability

This report contains no equality personnel or property implications.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 The iCabbi System does not comply with the EU Measuring Instruments Directive and consequent UK regulations, therefore, it cannot be considered for use as a taximeter in hackney carriages. However it could be considered for use in private hire vehicles subject to amendment of the Council's Private Hire Vehicle Licence Conditions as set out in the Recommendation.

6. Financial Implications.

- 6.1 This report contains no financial implications

7. Recommendation

- 7.1 It is recommended that the Committee consider the approval of the iCabbi management and dispatch system for use in private hire vehicles.
- 7.2 If approved, it is recommended that Private Hire Vehicle Licence Condition 14 be amended to read as follows:
'A GPS taxi management & dispatch system consisting of a mobile vehicle data head and a central dispatch system, of a type approved by the City of Cardiff Council, may be fitted in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to private hire vehicles.'
- 7.3 That the Head of Regulatory Services is authorised on behalf of the City of Cardiff Council to approve GPS taxi management & dispatch systems for use in private hire vehicles.
- 7.4 That the Head of Regulatory Services is authorised to make minor administrative changes to the Taxi Licensing Policy and Conditions.

Dave Holland
HEAD OF REGULATORY SERVICES

14 July 2015

This report has been prepared in accordance with procedures approved by Corporate Managers.

Background Papers: Report of the Head of Regulatory & Supporting Services, 6 March 2012: Public Protection Committee – Request for the Approval of the GPS Taximeter

APPENDIX A