
Cabinet Member for City Services

25th July 2016

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member Public Services - Councillor J Innes

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Executive Director of Place

Ward(s) affected:

All – City wide

Title:

Use of Vehicle Technology and Telematics

Is this a key decision?

No – Although the matter affects all Wards of the City it is not anticipated that the impact will be significant

Executive Summary:

Vehicle telematics can provide great benefits in respect of safety, security and vehicle use issues, leading to greater efficiency in the frontline services provided by the Council. The City Council has therefore purchased such a system for all City Council fleet vehicles.

Prior to using any data from the telematics system, officers have prepared a Telematics Policy in line with similar City Council policies on the use of personal data, most notably the use of CCTV data.

This report seeks adoption of the Telematics Policy by the Cabinet Member for Public Services on behalf of the City Council.

The Vehicle Technology and Telematics Policy has been developed in consultation with relevant Trade Unions who were invited to forward any comments or concerns relating to the policy at the Union Core Group meeting on 19th April, none were received.

The policy will be used in conjunction with other relevant Council policies and procedures relating to work undertaken requiring use of Coventry City Council fleet vehicles.

Recommendations:

The Cabinet Member is requested to adopt the Vehicle Technology and Telematics Policy.

List of Appendices included:

Appendix 1- Vehicle Technology and Telematics Policy

Other useful background papers:

None

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

No

Report Title: Use of Vehicle Technology and Telematics

1. Context (or background)

Approval is sought, for the implementation of the Vehicle Technology and Telematics Policy which will allow for the operation of all systems installed in all Coventry City Council fleet vehicles.

The systems, including vehicle telematics, in-cab technology and vehicle cameras (whose use is defined within the Council's CCTV Procedure) are capable of providing invaluable management information which can be used to inform the better use of resources.

The use of telematics will further help the City Council manage the use of its physical assets, which represent a considerable financial investment. For example a single refuse collection vehicle is c. £145k to purchase, and the City Council's annual fuel bill is in excess of £1.5m. The use of telematics data will help drivers to understand how they can drive more efficiently (we expect up to a 15% saving on fuel usage from the use of this data), whilst also providing real time information to our customers on the services that we provide, thus reducing the need for additional contact through the City Council's contact centre.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

2.1 Consideration was given to the devices sought based on their ability to:

- provide additional protection to employees and to fully meet our health and safety obligations,
- to provide efficient services,
- for monitoring to ensure that vehicles are used effectively,
- to ensure that our drivers' practices are fully compliant with Health and Safety legislation and transport industry best practice,
- to provide real time service delivery information, and
- to monitor operational progress.

2.2 It is recommended that use of the vehicle telematics, in-cab technology and vehicle cameras purchased is permitted with immediate effect to allow the benefits described above to be realised.

2.3 It is recommended that the review mechanism presented within the policy documents is noted.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

3.1 The policy has been developed in consultation with all recognised Trade Unions, during this time two separate opportunities have been provided for comments. Where necessary these comments have been incorporated. The most recent period of consultation closed on 30th April 2015, and no further comments were received.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

4.1 Immediate use upon approval.

5. Comments from Executive Director of Resources

5.1 Financial implications

The cost of implementing telematics and in cab technology has been afforded through prior years approved fleet budgets. There are therefore no direct financial implications of approving and adopting the policy as proposed. There are however potential financial benefits achievable through use of the technology which has the capability of providing management information to enable effective monitoring of vehicles to ensure they are operated in the most efficient way.

5.2 Legal implications

It is the duty of the Council as an employer to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare at work of all his employees under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.

The Council as a data controller is required to ensure that the personal data it collects such as information collected by the Telematics system is secured and processed in accordance with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Human Rights Act 1998. The Telematics Policy should ensure that these requirements are complied with.

6. Other implications

6.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's key objectives / corporate priorities (corporate plan/scorecard) / organisational blueprint / Local Area Agreement (or Coventry Sustainable Community Strategy)?

The implementation of the use of the aforementioned technologies will improve customer service, operational efficiencies resulting in potential financial savings and a reduction in carbon emissions.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

Risks will be managed through adherence to the Policy and it's objectives.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

Improved performance and efficiency in services provided by the Council.

6.4 Equalities / EIA

No formal equalities impact assessment has been carried out. However, it is not expected that there will not be any disadvantage to any group if the recommendation is approved.

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment

Reduction in carbon emissions though improved performance of Council vehicles is expected, although quantification of this will not be possible until the telematics data can be accessed, which will be following the adoption of the Policy.

6.5 Implications for partner organisations?

None

Report author(s):

Name and job title:

Layla Shannon
Senior Waste Management Officer

Directorate:

Place

Tel and email contact:

Tel: 024 7683 1235

Email: layla.shannon@coventry.gov.uk

Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
Layla Shannon	Senior Waste Management Officer	Place	06.06.2016	06.06.2016
Andrew Walster	Assistant Director for Streetscene and Greenspace	Place	06.06.2016	06.06.2016
Names of approvers for submission: (officers and Members)				
Phil Helm	Finance Manager	Resources	06.06.2016	06.06.2016
Gillian Carter	Legal Services	Resources	06.06.2016	07.06.2016
Martin Yardley	Executive Director of Place	Place	07.06.2016	07.06.2016
Councillor J Innes	Cabinet Member for City Services	-	24.06.2016	27.06.2016

This report is published on the council's website: www.coventry.gov.uk/councilmeetings