



CENTRAL TAXIS

Central Taxis Environmental Policy

Central Taxis recognises that it has a responsibility to the environment beyond legal and regulatory requirements. We operate a business in which our day to day activities have an immediate effect on the environment, and we are committed to reducing our impact and continually improving our environmental performance. To achieve this aim we have developed a certified comprehensive environmental management system to ISO 14001 Standard, which forms integral part of our business strategy and operating methods.

We are dedicated to sourcing ways in which to make our business greener and are committed to reducing the emissions from our vehicles wherever possible. We are currently in the process of assessing our fleet in relation to the European Emission Standards and participate in a carbon capture project with the CarbonNeutral Company. This project allowed Central to become the first black taxi company in Scotland to be awarded CarbonNeutral certification.

Principles

- Central Taxis complies with and in many instances exceeds all relevant regulatory requirements and other requirements to which we subscribe.
- As a company we take steps to reduce the risk of pollution to the environment.
- We continually improve and monitor environmental performance and reduce and improve environmental impacts.
- Environmental factors are incorporated into business decisions.
- We provide adequate training to all employees to ensure they behave in an environmentally responsible manner and are aware of this policy.

Transport

- Each new vehicle added to our fleet must be Euro 5 Compliant.
- We will continue to research opportunities for reducing emissions from our vehicles.
- Central Taxis use an accredited program to offset the greenhouse gas emissions generated by our activities.
- All Central Taxis drivers are encouraged to undertake Fuel Good Driver Training which aims to reduce fuel consumption by 15% annually.

Energy

- We have reduced energy consumption by over 5% in the last year and are currently installing light sensors in areas such as kitchens, bathrooms and hallways in our business premises to conserve energy.

Paper

- We provide 50% of our customers with online invoices.
- We have minimised the use of paper in our offices and recycle 100% of all paper where possible.

Culture

- We involve staff in the implementation of this policy, for greater commitment and improved performance.
- This policy is annually updated in consultation with staff and other stakeholders.



CENTRAL TAXIS

- We provide staff with relevant environmental training.
- We operate an intensive waste management scheme focused on the importance of recycling.

Monitoring

- We have established procedures to identify, monitor and maintain documented data on the following environmental indicators:
 - Energy consumption
 - Water consumption
 - Waste production
 - Vehicle emissions, including staff travel
 - Legal compliance
 -
- We will work with the Green Business Partnership to achieve ISO14001 and ISO9001 certification.
- Central Taxis participates in the Cycle to Work scheme which provides tax free bikes for employees commuting to work through the Government's Green Transport Initiative.

Achievements

Since the implementation of our Environmental Policy, Central Taxis has demonstrated its commitment to the environment in a variety of ways, including:

1. We have developed partnerships with the CarbonNeutral Company and the Green Business Partnership to ensure that our business is adhering to its environmental pledge. As a result of this, Central Taxis has become the first black taxi company in Scotland to be awarded CarbonNeutral certification and have achieved NQA certification for our Environmental Management System (ISO14001) and Quality Management System (ISO9001).
2. As part of our CarbonNeutral certification process, we conducted a business-wide Greenhouse Gas (GHG) assessment, to measure the CO2 emissions associated with energy consumption, pre-booked customer travel, employee business travel, company-owned vehicles, employee commuting, third party deliveries and waste disposal.
3. We have made a commitment to reducing the amount of paper used in our operations. We now supply over 50% of our customers with email invoices. This has reduced our office paper consumption by approximately 40,000 sheets per year. We have also eliminated the use of carbon copy slips for the processing of account journeys. This has eliminated approximately one million slips, twenty-three thousand A5 envelopes and over five thousand divider cards on an annual basis.
4. We employ a recycling company to dispose of our waste including paper, packaging and metal cans. We also have designated areas in each of our offices where employees can use receptacles provided to dispose of their waste in an environmentally friendly way.
5. We ensure that our taxis do not travel unnecessary distances to pick-up passengers. We achieve this by using a dispatch system which dispatches bookings to the closest available vehicle in the location of the pick-up point.
6. We believe strongly in educating our drivers and staff on the importance of running an environmentally sustainable business. As such, we have implemented an 'Understand your Environment' module as part of our overall training course for all new drivers. This module encourages drivers to understand their impacts on the environment and suggests changes



CENTRAL TAXIS

such as switching to carbon neutral bio-diesel and ensuring that engines are switched off when our taxis are not on jobs.

7. We have joined Scottish Business in the Community and we are currently working on a range of ideas to get our staff volunteering on green projects in and around Edinburgh.
8. Each new vehicle welcomed to the Central Taxis' fleet, is Euro 5 compliant. All Vehicles are also tested on a yearly basis by the CAB office which operates under regulations issued by the City Of Edinburgh Council.
9. A recent refurbishment of our main control room used environmentally friendly materials where possible, including water-based paints. This office was installed with energy-efficient equipment including light sensors which ensure that lights are switched off automatically if a room is not in use.