

Department for
Transport

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Dear Mr Jääskeläinen,

UK Response to the Pan European Public Consultation

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a response to the European Commission's public consultation on the deployment of pan European eCall. I am responding for the UK Department for Transport.

The Department is not in a position to complete the questions within the consultation; but we would like to take this opportunity to remind you of our position on the mandatory deployment of eCall.

We are supportive of technologies that improve road safety, but the benefits of each technology have to be measured against the cost of their implementation. In the case of eCall we have not been able to establish a positive benefit to cost case for mandatory deployment in the UK. We would therefore oppose any proposals for the mandatory fitment of eCall to new vehicles. We could perhaps accept a voluntary approach to deployment (offering consumers choice) if this can be implemented without a negative impact on the industry or on our existing emergency services.

We currently have two vehicle manufacturers offering private eCall systems in the UK, and we will continue to support vehicle manufacturers who wish to deploy systems on a voluntary basis where these comply with the principles adopted by our emergency services.

However there is a lack of clarity at EU level on how these private systems system can co-exist with any pan European eCall. We note the comment in the consultation about the wider use of eCall in vehicle types other than cars. While this technology may present opportunities there must be a positive benefit case for any deployment and a full Impact Assessment underpinning any proposals.

Yours sincerely,

DMacdonald

Donald Macdonald