

# Air Quality Measures in Greater London Region

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“Workshop in Regional Initiatives for Air Quality”

Note, this presentation contains my own views,  
not those of the London Government

# UK National Legislation

- EU → National → (Regional) → Local
- Local Air Quality Management
  - by local authorities (LAs)
  - Government and regional guidance
  - some attainment dates earlier than EU DD (NO<sub>2</sub>, 2005)
- Industrial Regulation
  - by Environment Agency / local authority
- Transport & Planning systems
- Smoke Control Areas, Nuisance Control

# London

- Mayor of London / Greater London Authority (GLA) - only since 2000
- 2,466km<sup>2</sup>, pop 7.4 million, 33 LAs
- **Significant problem meeting EU DD, esp. NO<sub>2</sub>**
- Largest source Road Transport
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: NO<sub>2</sub> = Gas
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: PM<sub>10</sub> = Imported
- Produced 'Air Quality Strategy for London' in 2002
- Gives guidance to local authorities
- Works together with Transport, Landuse Planning, Energy, Noise, Waste, (Economy, Biodiversity, Culture)

# Leading by Example

- **Buses** (~7,000), Tendered
  - All at least Euro II + particulate trap by end 2005
- **Taxis** (~20,000), Regulated
  - All at least Euro III equivalent by 1/1/2008
- **Road Maintenance Vehicles**
  - **Under contract**, all at least Euro III
- **Buildings and Tube**
  - Using Renewable Electricity
- **Contracts / Purchasing**
  - Environmental Policy, requires this as a consideration (/requirement for vehicles)

# Traffic Reduction Measures

## Under Transport Strategy

- Improved Public Transport
- Improving walking & cycling
- Travel Plans
- Parking Control
- Co-ordination of road maintenance
- Congestion Charging in Central London
- Locally: Clear Zones

# Traffic Reduction Measures

## Under Landuse Planning Strategy

- Parking limits
- Appropriately located developments
- Refusing inappropriate development
- Travel Plans for all new developments
- Energy efficiency and use of on-site renewable electricity (15%)
- Planning agreements
  - Locally: Low Emission Schemes - **very interesting**

# Persuasion

- “Soft measures”
- Easy access, objective information on options available
- Newspaper/Journal articles
- Through Trade Organisations
- Promoting Best Practice - Mayor useful
- Vehicle Emissions Testing
- Only effective if cost neutral / beneficial → national Government (/EU)

# Regional Guidance & Support

- GLA tailored and 'fleshed out' National Guidance
- Raised standard of LA AQ work in London
- Gave minimum actions, and monitor progress
- Allow flexibility and innovation
- Useful to back up LA officers
- Share best practice, information, modelling
- Hands-on and Ad-hoc support



# Regulation - Low Emission Zone (LEZ) 1

- LEZ = banning older vehicles from an area
- London: plans are in progress, building on large feasibility study
- Not a 'magic bullet', but help significantly, and most effective tool
- Already exist in Sweden and Japan
- Important that other cities learn from London's work, to reduce delay for LEZ introduction
- **If many cities introduce LEZs, could encourage early introduction of EV/VI - V. beneficial**

# Low Emission Zone (LEZ) 2

- **Feasibility Study concluded:**
- LEZ in 2007 covering lorries, buses, coaches; emissions standard Euro II + particulate trap
- Tighten in 2010; lorries, buses, coaches = Euro III + particulate trap (possibly + NO<sub>x</sub> abatement); vans and taxis = 10 year age limit
- Cover all Greater London (2,466km<sup>2</sup>)
- Not on its own meet EU DD, but only way to significantly approach them
- Enable other interventions to have more impact

# Some particular comments

- Focus on measures - asap! Beware set-up times
- Regional more in touch with LAs cf National
- Cycle-beating - EII/III; particulate trap/NO<sub>x</sub> abatement
- Transboundary; EU/National need to work together
- As much as possible done at highest level
- National
  - (consistent) cost neutral/beneficial
  - enabling legislation
  - promoting best practice and information to operators
- Political will / leadership

# Further information:

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