

## Air Quality and Climate Change Programme

**Goal:** To promote integrated policies and practices that reduce the negative effects on health and the environment of both air pollution and greenhouse gases.

**National and EU Air Quality Strategy:** To encourage the setting of best practical targets at an EU and UK level for emission reductions and ensuring that appropriate policy linkages are in place

	Objective	Actions
1	To encourage EU Air Quality legislation to set practical emissions targets, consistent with our overall aims.	<p>Increase the role of Environmental Protection UK in European campaigning and lobbying</p> <p>Work with partners within the European Environmental Bureau (EEB) to develop policy and approaches</p> <p>Increase European wide participation and networking at Environmental Protection UK events</p>
2	To push for the full implementation of actions laid out in UK Air Quality Strategy.	<p>Monitor implementation of the strategy action plan in partnership with relevant bodies (e.g. IAQM)</p> <p>Annually review the AQS and action plan</p> <p>Address any failures via direct discussion with DEFRA and appropriate ministers, identifying remedial actions and publicising any significant failures</p>
3	To persuade Government that funding and incentives for new large plant and domestic low carbon technologies must not support measures that worsen air quality.	<p>Support the proper assessment of new technologies</p> <p>Raise public awareness of air quality issues associated with new technologies</p> <p>Use relevant groups (e.g. CTF, AQ Committee, etc) to lobby funding bodies and regulators to support the best overall technologies</p>
4	To encourage continuous improvements in energy efficiency standards for buildings in both the industrial, commercial and domestic sectors.	<p>Support the development of appropriate regulation and its enforcement</p> <p>Work in partnership with industry, trade associations and lobby groups to encourage the adoption of best practices</p> <p>Encourage links between LA officers working on air quality and other areas such as climate change and energy efficiency</p>
5	To encourage policy integration on air quality, climate change and transport at all levels of Government in Europe and the UK	<p>Assess strategic plans and documents for AQ and climate change content and push for greater integration of the two issues</p> <p>Create a best practice bank of AQ/ Transport Plan integration and produce guidance</p>

**Transport:** The reduction of emissions and exposure to air pollutants from transport AND the reduction in demand for road transport.

	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Actions</b>
1	To encourage the introduction of a package of incentives (financial and non-financial) that support the early uptake of Euro 5 (and VI HGVs), then Euro 6 compliant vehicles.	Review success of measures to encourage early uptake of Euro 4 vehicles and likely availability dates of compliant vehicles
		Produce a suggested package and present to bodies such as the Treasury and LGA, through groups such as CTF and the Transport Round Table
2	To support the introduction of incentives (financial and non-financial) that encourage vehicles that have emissions of NOx and PM significantly below the Euro 5 and 6 (from 2009) standards, and comparatively low CO2 emissions (Low Emission Vehicles).	Study LEV schemes in operation within the UK and other countries
		Research the possible air quality impacts of a UK LEV scheme
		Distribute findings through events, press, etc and lobby Government through groups such as CTF and the Transport Round Table
3	To identify emerging vehicle technologies that significantly reduce air emissions (local air pollutants and CO2) and noise, and lobby for suitable incentives (financial and non-financial) to be introduced at both national and local levels.	Use independent research to identify technologies, their potential for improving air quality and their current/ potential market.
		Work with the EEB and CTF to identify suitable areas for technology targets to be positioned (e.g. Euro standards revisions, CO2 targets, noise legislation)
4	To encourage investment by Government and network operators to provide increased capacity on the most highly used national rail and bus services.	Work with transport groups such as Transport Round Table to monitor investment and lobby Government when needed
5	To push for the development of regional refuelling networks for hydrogen vehicles, and to support improved availability of sustainably produced biomethane as a transport fuel.	Help to establish and develop the UK Biomethane for Transport group
		Work with key contacts (e.g. Transport for London, Welsh H2V project) to study the effects of hydrogen fuelled vehicles on air quality, and distribute findings to members
		Work with the Powering Future Vehicles Strategy group to ensure full implementation of the 600 fuel cell buses by 2012 target and the associated infrastructure
6	To encourage action to reduce light vehicle CO2 emissions through technical and behavioural improvements	Work with the EEB to lobby the European Parliament and Commission, and the UK Government, for a 120g/ km limit by 2012, and progressive but cost effective limits in subsequent legislation.
		Develop links with UK transport groups, and use to lobby UK MEPs

	behavioural improvements	Produce (or work in partnership to produce) guidance on the use of Quality Freight Partnerships
		Monitor implementation of proposed 'smarter driving' addition to the driving test and follow up through the DVLA and DfT if needed
		Discuss research background and success of 2007 'smarter driving' communications campaign with the DfT, and use to open discussions with motoring bodies such as insurance companies, RAC, AA, etc
7	To encourage the adoption of measures to reduce traffic emissions (e.g. Low Emission Zones, Emission Influenced Congestion Charging), where they are shown to be cost effective	Work with the local authority LEZ group and the GLA to monitor the success and effects of the London LEZ, and LEZs elsewhere in the UK and Europe.
		Produce guidance based on the London LEZ and research into other methods of reducing vehicle emissions (e.g. engineering, traffic exclusion and emissions influenced congestion charging).
		Encourage Environmental Protection UK member local authorities to apply best practice relevant to their areas.
		Hold an event on LEZs, Emission Influenced Congestion Charging, etc as tools to implement AQMAs
8	To encourage those responsible for the procurement and licensing of fleet vehicles to stipulate ambitious minimum environmental and quality standards	Map timescales for major tenders. Research AQ (and other standards) provision and results in previous contracts
		Distil existing research on air quality impacts of rail transport. Open up dialogue with rail regulators and operators
		Research best practice for AQ in transport procurement by local authorities
		Produce guidance on AQ in transport related contracts, and promote via partnerships, press and launch event
9	To support the introduction of stringent controls on emissions from international and national shipping	Develop partnerships within the shipping industry through groups such as Shipping Emissions Abatement and Trading (SEAaT)
		Push for improved modelling of air quality impacts of both international shipping and inland waterways
		Lobby at an EU and UK level for sulphur limits in fuels, or abatement options, applicable to all UK and EU waters
		Develop an understanding of technical, trading and regulatory means of reducing shipping emissions and push for best practicable options
10	To support the reduction of air emissions from aviation	Lobby the International Civil Aviation Organization to set demanding standards for aircraft engine NOx and CO2 emissions in partnership with international bodies (e.g. IUAPPA)
		Develop best practice guidance for airport operations to reduce emissions
		Lobby for reduction in aviation tax 'perks', e.g. VAT zero rating, tax on fuels, etc
		Push for demand management measures such as CO2 and NOX emissions trading, and greater taxation of aviation
		Develop an Environmental Protection UK position on aviation operations and expansion plans, and challenge airport expansion at both the UK policy and individual planning application levels where such expansions are not cost effective

**Local Air Quality Management:** To strengthen the capability of Local Authorities to reduce air pollution and reduce people's exposure to it.

	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Actions</b>
1	To push for best practice on Air Quality, transport and Climate Change policy, and the integration of the three, to be highlighted under the Comprehensive Performance Assessment framework for local services in England.	Identify local authorities with good practice in this area, research the benefits and produce guidance To produce guidance on best practice integration of air quality, transport and climate change strategies. Make contact with relevant bodies such as the LGA and LACORS to push guidance Make contact with the Audit Commission to ascertain current position of AQ within CPA and lobby to increase its standing
2	To promote practices that minimise the effect of outdoor air pollution on indoor air quality.	Promote the use of the Building Research Establishment practical design tool through Environmental Protection UK events and publications
3	To ensure that all Environmental Protection UK member Local Authorities have been offered training on air quality, its effect on health and the duties of Local Authorities.	Analyse current environmental training provision for elected members and identify best practice examples Work with Environmental Protection UK members to identify the level and type of training needed, opportunities for delivery and synergies with other training (e.g. climate change) Research funding opportunities and produce training materials for elected members. Promote through members, organisations such as the LGA, and the press.
4	To encourage local and national government to provide adequate funding to ensure that Air Quality Management Area action plans are fully implemented	Bi-annual review of AQMAs and implementation of action plans Questionnaire sent to all Local Authorities with AQMAs Results collated by the AQ Committee and a report produced Report sent to DEFRA, Scottish Executive, Welsh Assembly, Northern Ireland Assembly, the Local Government Association then distributed more widely. Report followed up by meetings with these organisations.
5	To encourage all Local Authorities to allocate adequate funding to carry out their air quality duties.	Actively participate in the DEFRA led review of LAQM Commission research to determine current level of resources needed for local authorities to carry out their AQ functions and the level of deficiencies. Include monitoring of resources in actions included in 4 above Further discussions with Local Authorities who are failing to adequately cover their duties, outcomes presented to the Air Quality Committee and summary with suggested action presented to CLG, LGA and DEFRA
6	To encourage Local Authorities to assess and manage emissions from domestic and commercial combustion.	Identify local authorities with good practice in this area Identify and make contact with relevant partners (e.g. boiler manufactures, CORGI, etc) Produce guidance for members and hold event to launch Lobby for powers for LAs to implement recommendations

**Development Planning:** To encourage the adoption of Environmental Protection UK guidance on Air Quality and development planning at every stage of development.

	Objective	Actions
1	To push for Local Development Frameworks, Regional Spatial Strategies (and the Welsh Spatial Plan) and Supplementary Planning Documents to contain policies based on Environmental Protection UK planning guidance.	Develop a map of RSS review timetables and processes
		Build contacts within regional assemblies and introduce Environmental Protection UK planning guidance
		Review Environmental Protection UK guidance document
2	To encourage Local Authorities, the Secretary of State and the Planning Inspectorate to base their policies and principles on Environmental Protection UK planning guidance.	Identify relevant PPSs, TANs and SPPs where Environmental Protection UK guidance should be integrated
		Build contacts within DCLG, the Scottish Executive, WAG, and the Northern Ireland Planning Office to push Environmental Protection UK guidance
		Identify professional groups that should be targeted and build contacts with their professional bodies
		Encourage the development of case law and enforcement experience
		Respond to relevant consultations
3	To encourage developers and financiers to submit planning applications that contain the policies and principles in the Environmental Protection UK planning guidance.	Build contacts within the building and development industry
		Identify key environmental issues in development
		Hold events to promote guidance to developers in partnership with other building and environment groups (e.g. BRE)
4	To encourage all member Local Authorities that have declared an Air Quality Management Area to produce Supplementary Planning Guidance on air quality.	Create best practice bank of SPGs and determine which Local Authorities have SPGs/ SPDs for air quality
		Co-ordinate a working group to produce a standard example SPG and accompanying advice leaflet
		Hold a planning and air quality follow up event and promote guidance
		Review situation and plan further action if necessary
5	To encourage Local Authorities to require the production of a travel plan for all medium and large organisations (public and private sector) submitting a planning application, and that plans are policed with penalties if necessary.	Make links with groups promoting travel plans such as the Association for Commuter Transport
		Develop a best practice bank of local authorities who have used travel plans as an instrument within AQMAs, and develop guidance within this area
		Hold an event on planning, transport, air quality and climate change to launch guidance