The Low Emission Zone

Samantha Kennedy
Strategy Manager: LEZ
Air Quality in London

- Air pollution is a serious problem in London
  - 1,000 premature deaths per year
  - 1,000 hospital admissions per year
- Affects most vulnerable parts of society
- Majority of Londoners concerned about poor air quality and want to see it improved
- Particular problems with emissions of particulate matter (PM) and nitrogen oxides (NO$_x$)
- Worse in central London, main roads, Heathrow
- Road traffic major source of emissions
- Trucks, buses, and coaches largest individual emitters
Background to proposals

Mayoral obligation
2001 – Feasibility Study into reducing traffic emissions
2003 – Detailed study into implementing LEZ
2004 – LEZ is Mayoral manifesto commitment
2005 – Strategic Review into LEZ
2005 – TfL asked to consult with public and stakeholders on Strategy Revisions (principle of a LEZ)
2006 – Mayor approved Strategy Revisions, with modifications, following public consultation
2007 – Consultation on Scheme Order (details of LEZ)
May 2007 – Mayor Approves LEZ Scheme Order
What is the London Low Emission Zone?

• Environmental zone covering 1580 square kilometres
• Discourages the most individually polluting vehicles from being driven in London
• Requires heaviest diesel-engine vehicles to meet strict emissions standards to drive within London
• Operates 24 hours a day, 365 days per year
• The LEZ does not ban vehicles from London, non-compliant vehicles can pay a charge
# Vehicles Affected by the LEZ

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Includes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HGVs &gt;12t</td>
<td>Feb 2008 Euro III</td>
<td>Heavy diesel-engined vehicles &gt;12 tonnes</td>
<td>- Goods Vehicles</td>
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<td>Jan 2012 Euro IV</td>
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<td>- Motor Caravans</td>
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<td>- Motorised Horseboxes</td>
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<tr>
<td>HGVs 3.5t &gt; 12t</td>
<td>July 2008 Euro III</td>
<td>Heavy diesel-engined vehicles between 3.5 and 12 tonnes</td>
<td>- Goods Vehicles</td>
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<td>Jan 2012 Euro IV</td>
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<td>- Motor Caravans</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Motorised Horseboxes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buses &amp; Coaches</td>
<td>July 2008 Euro III</td>
<td>Heavy diesel-engined passenger vehicles &gt; 5 tonne</td>
<td>- Vehicles with more than eight seats, plus the driver's seat</td>
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<td>Jan 2012 Euro IV</td>
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</table>
| Large Vans                  | Oct 2010 Euro III for particulates | Diesel-engined vehicles between 1.205 tonnes unladen and 3.5 tonnes | Includes:  
  - Ambulances (over 2.5 tonnes)  
  - Motor Caravans (over 2.5 tonnes) |
| Minibuses                   | Oct 2010 Euro III for particulates | Diesel-engined passenger vehicles below 5 tonnes | Includes:  
  - Vehicles with less than eight seats, plus the driver’s seat |
Options for Compliance

Options available to operators include:

– Certifying a Euro I/II engine on TfL’s Eligible Engine’s list meets the standards
– Fitting an approved abatement device
– Converting the engine to gas with a spark ignition.
– Fitting a new compliant engine in the vehicle
– Buying a new or compliant second-hand vehicle
– Reorganising fleet so only compliant vehicles travel in zone
– Or paying the daily charge (online, by phone or post)

Operators driving a non-complaint vehicle without paying the daily charge risk a Penalty Charge Notice.
Certifying a Vehicle as Compliant

Vehicles can be certified as compliant to the LEZ emissions standards by a national body: Vehicle and Operator Services Agency (VOSA) if they have:

- An approved abatement device fitted
- A Euro I/II engine on TfL’s eligible engine list
- A conversion to gas with a spark emission

- VOSA have 94 national test stations
- Inspections take approx. 15 minutes.
- Certification lasts a minimum of 12 months.
- Future tests can be scheduled as part of the annual vehicle inspection to minimise vehicle down time.
100% Discounts/Exempt Vehicles

• Few exemptions so as to maintain the benefits of the scheme
• Exemptions/discounts have been granted where there are problems with retro-fitting or identifying the emissions of vehicles:
  – UK and Foreign Military Vehicles (green fleet)
  – Historic Vehicles (registered pre 1973)
  – Non-Road Going Vehicles
  – Showman’s Vehicles
Registrations

The following vehicles must register with TfL to enable them to travel within the zone without charge:

• **NI registered vehicles**
  – If they meet the required emissions standards (e.g. are Euro III certified or have been issued with an RPC from DVA testing)
  – If they qualify for a discount or exemption (see later)

• **Non-GB Registered vehicles**
  – if they meet the required emissions standards
  – If they qualify for a discount or exemption (see later)

• **GB Registered vehicles**
  – Eligible Showman’s vehicles must register to qualify for a 100% discount
  – In the event TfL has classified a vehicle as non-compliant, but the operator can provide documentary evidence that the vehicle does meet the required standard.
How will LEZ operate

- The LEZ is a charging scheme – but most will avoid paying the charge by driving a compliant vehicle.
- There will be signs at entry points and in the zone.
- Vehicles which are subject to the LEZ are detected using fixed and mobile cameras.
- TfL checks vehicle registration against a register of compliant vehicles.
- Non compliant vehicles have to pay a daily charge £200 per day for HGV, buses and coaches £100 per day for vans and minibuses.
- Charging day midnight to midnight, 365 days a year.
- Payment can be made by phone or internet, up to midnight on the next **working** day after entering the zone.
Enforcement of the LEZ

- Vehicles which are non compliant, or which are not on the register will be sent a Penalty Charge Notice:
  - £1000 (reduced to £500 if paid within 14 days) for HGVs, buses & coaches (subject to LEZ in 2008)
  - £500 (reduced to £250 if paid within 14 days) for heavier LGVs & minibuses (subject to LEZ in 2010)

- Our agent, EPC, has agreements with vehicle registration authorities in a number of European countries to obtain vehicle and keeper information

- EPC already successfully collects outstanding foreign penalty charges for CC, in countries where they can gain access to keeper details.

- Since data needed to identify the vehicle characteristics is not available, non-GB registered vehicles which are compliant need to register with TfL.

- The first time vehicles are observed in the zone they will be sent a warning letter, giving them the opportunity to register
Helping Operators Understand the LEZ

- Online Compliance Checker allows operators to check the status of their vehicles by entering their license plate.
- 732 entry signs were installed at every entry point to the LEZ, and 322 enforcement cameras were installed at strategic points across the capital.
- TfL set up a dedicated enquiries service to help vehicle owners understand how they can comply with the scheme. To date over 33,000 calls since May 2007.
- TfL established a comprehensive registrations process for foreign registered vehicles. To date some 20,000 vehicles from 43 countries have registered with TfL.
High Impact Public Information Campaign

- Two rounds of public consultation generating over 16,000 responses.
- Direct mailing to over 1 million people in the UK through commercially available lists.
- Warning letters to some 100,000 affected vehicles observed in the zone sent via DVLA.
- Leaflet and website available in 23 languages
  - Poster and newspaper advertising in European, National, and specialist press such as Commercial Motor. Targeted campaigns at groups such as horse boxes and motor homes.
  - Posters on the roadside, on ferries, at ports and motorway service stations
  - Leaflets at VOSA vehicle test stations
  - Face to face meetings and exhibitions at various locations including motorway service stations, ports, DIY stores, as well as key destinations such as Smithfield Market.

92% of all HGV operators aware of the scheme at launch, according to TfL research.
Global Media Coverage

The LEZ was the lead story on BBC London and ITV’s London Tonight on 4 February, and featured on the Politics Show on 3 February.

The LEZ also featured in press coverage all over the world, including the USA and Australia, Japan & China.

“London’s low emission zone will add to its reputation as a leader in sustainable transport policies, following its congestion pricing scheme.”
Reuters 1 February 2008.

“This is an ambitious project with a worthwhile goal, which deserves to succeed”

Polluting trucks entering London have to pay $400
Wall Street Journal Europe 5 February 2008

London launches £200-a-day ‘dirty lorry’ entry charge
Guardian 4 February 2008

Truck pollution fine for capital

Dirty truckers’ zone toll
The London Paper 5 February 2008

London’s new low emission zone will be a breath of fresh air
Surveyor 31 January 2008

“This has been so much publicity about the LEZ… you’d have to have been living in a cave for the last 12 months not to have picked up something about it”
Motor Transport 7 February 2008
Key achievements of the LEZ

- A 71% reduction in the number of vehicles not meeting the LEZ standards and driving in the zone since June 2007.
- High levels of operator action means that 93% of all HGVs over 12 tonnes driving in the zone meet the Euro III standard for PM.
- By 2012 the LEZ is expected to bring forward by three to four years the reductions in particulate matter emissions that would otherwise be achieved by the natural vehicle replacement cycle.
- The benefits are doubled when affects beyond the zone boundary are taken into account: the cleaner vehicles drive outside of London too.

“Traffic pollution is a major problem for people with asthma in London, with 66% telling us that it aggravates their condition, sometimes resulting in debilitating asthma attacks.”

Neil Churchill, Chief Executive of Asthma UK

“I believe that the actions taking place in London are making it easier for us in the rest of the UK […] to challenge dangerous levels of pollution.”

Dr Nathan J Pittam, Scientific Officer (Air Quality Management), Chelmsford Borough Council
What will the LEZ achieve?

**Health impacts**

- The LEZ will improve the health of many people who live, work and visit London:
  - Defra estimates that up to 5362 years of life expectancy lost across London would be gained.
  - EU Café estimates that the LEZ will bring:
    - 350,000 fewer cases of lesser respiratory symptoms
    - 34,000 fewer cases of respiratory medication use
    - 256,000 fewer restricted activity days.

“Any initiative which reduces harmful emissions for Londoners is a positive step forward... Improving the air we breathe should mean fewer premature deaths, reduced hospital visits, and fewer GP consultations for people with respiratory disease.”
Dr Keith Prowse, Chairman of British Lung Foundation
LEZ Enquiries Go Live!

www.tfl.gov.uk/lezlondon

Phone (within the UK): 0845 607 0009
Phone (outside the UK): +44 (0) 207 310 8998
Text phone: 0207 310 8999
Email: lezlondon@tfl.gov.uk
Post: Low Emission Zone Contact Centre,
PO Box 4544, Coventry CV6 9DW