



LOWCVP NEWS

4 February 2020

LowCVP comments on announcement of 2035 end to petrol and diesel car sales

Commenting on [today's announcement](#) from the Government about bringing forward the end of sales of cars and vans with petrol and diesel engines, LowCVP Managing Director Andy Eastlake says:

"We welcome the Government's proposals to bring forward the target for the ending of the sale of IC-engine cars from 2040 to 2035. The target will be challenging for industry and drivers, but if we are to meet the 2050 net zero commitment we must raise our level of ambition in road transport.

"The intent from Government is to give some real clarity on this target and to really gather the widest views before responding in the summer

"With this in mind, we believe that in this proposal 'zero means zero'; the desire is for all new cars and vans to emit nothing under all circumstances as soon as feasible. The timing is what we need to pin down. Clearly this will present a number of challenges, but also opportunities."

"Latest information on the fall in battery prices points to electric vehicles achieving price parity with conventional cars within the next five years. But there are already very significant fuel and other cost savings for EV drivers so switching is already a good financial proposition for many.

"In simple terms for the typical driver the aim is that your next car should have a plug, and the one after that should have no engine!

"However, there's a big job to be done; by the manufacturers in switching over production facilities over a short timescale and by organisations like LowCVP and others in making sure drivers, the energy system and key market players are fully prepared for the electric transition.

"This shortened target will heighten ambition and focus minds to meet the challenges ahead."

NOTES TO EDITORS

The **LowCVP** (www.lowcvp.org.uk), which was established in 2003, is a public-private partnership that exists to accelerate a sustainable shift to lower carbon vehicles and fuels and create opportunities for UK businesses. Nearly 200 organisations are engaged from diverse backgrounds, including automotive and fuel supply chains, government, vehicle users, academics, environment groups and others.

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