

MEDIA NOTICE

24 March 2009

LowCVP's Response to Environmental Audit Committee's Report on Environmental Labelling

The LowCVP welcomes the Environmental Audit Committee's new report on environmental labelling which states that "carbon labelling may prove the single most important environmental measure in promoting behavioural change at home, at work and in business".

The LowCVP, which brokered the introduction of the colour-coded environment label for new cars, also welcomes the EAC's support for the extension of the colour-coded label to the second-hand car market. The LowCVP is already working to facilitate the extension of the label to this market and plans to make an announcement later this year.

Greg Archer, the LowCVP Director, said: "I agree with the Committee's conclusion that a robust system of environmental labelling is an important element in any strategy to cut carbon emissions across the economy. However, in the car market in particular, it is crucial that the labels and their associated comparative data are used not just in the showroom but in all the right media so that information reaches people at the right time in their decision-making."

Notes to Editors

The Environmental Audit Committee is a cross-party group of MPs which is charged with considering to what extent the policies and programmes of government departments and non-departmental public bodies contribute to environmental protection and sustainable development.

Background: The Low Carbon Vehicle Partnership was established in January 2003 with funding from the DfT and the (then) DTI with a mandate to accelerate the shift to low carbon vehicles and fuels. The establishment of a stakeholder partnership was one of the central actions arising out of the Government's 'Powering Future Vehicles' strategy that identified greenhouse gas emissions reduction as a priority of future transport policy. The Partnership now comprises over 300 members representing government, the motor and fuels industries, vehicle users, environmental groups, consumer representatives and others. The Partnership is coordinated by a secretariat based in central London.

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