



NEWS RELEASE

15 July 2009

Low Carbon Vehicle Partnership response to the Government's Low Carbon Industrial Strategy

The Low Carbon Vehicle Partnership is greatly encouraged by today's announcement – published as part of the Government's low carbon transition plans – that carbon emissions from UK inland transport will be reduced by up to 14 per cent by 2020 compared with 2008 levels. Transport represents over a fifth of domestic carbon emissions and without a significant contribution from the sector the targets set out under the Climate Change Act will be extremely difficult to reach.

The carbon reduction from transport is an expectation based on current policies and strategies defined in the Department for Transport's strategy paper ('Low Carbon Transport – A Greener Future') published today alongside the Government's Low Carbon Industrial Strategy. The overall strategy is a significant statement of the Government's intent to deliver policies to underpin the carbon reduction targets.

The LowCVP has actively called for a carbon reduction target for the road transport sector - over 90% of members in a recent survey* supported a target. Today's announcement goes a considerable way towards meeting that call.

The LowCVP welcomes the decision to create a new Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV), comprised of government officials from DfT, BIS, DECC, DCLG and HMT with the aim of streamlining the approach to policy-making in this area and helping to deliver the policy package outlined in the new strategy.

Greg Archer, the LowCVP Managing Director said: "I welcome the explicit acknowledgement in today's announcements of the importance of carbon reductions in the transport sector in terms of the overall reduction targets.

"The LowCVP provides a unique structure for validating and strengthening the work of the new OLEV and we will welcome the opportunity to work with officials under the new, streamlined structure when it is set up in the autumn."

* <http://www.lowcvp.org.uk/lowcvp-viewpoint/press-releases.asp>

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Notes to Editors

The Government documents referred to in this press release are published at:
<http://www.hmg.gov.uk/lowcarbon>

The Low Carbon Vehicle Partnership was established in January 2003 with funding from the DfT and the DTI (now BIS) and a mandate to accelerate the shift to low carbon vehicles and fuels and create opportunities for UK business. The Partnership's aims are:

1. To facilitate cross-sectoral engagement between industry and other stakeholders with the purpose of:
 - Developing collaborative initiatives that develop the market for low carbon vehicles and fuels;
 - Building understanding and consensus regarding the optimum pathways to low carbon road transport;
 - Influencing Government and other decision makers on the future direction of policy and optimum delivery mechanisms.
2. To encourage research, demonstration and commercialisation of low carbon automotive technologies in the UK and assist UK businesses to participate in emerging markets.
3. To contribute towards the setting, and achievement, of UK Government's targets for carbon reduction from the road transport sector.
4. To facilitate an effective flow of information within and between industry and other stakeholders to:
 - Raise awareness of recent developments and new opportunities;
 - Improve understanding and awareness of key issues;
 - Increase stakeholder knowledge of the mission of the Partnership and its achievements.

It delivers on these aims through initiating practical initiatives amongst its members, providing advice to Government and other decision makers and through research to understand and address market barriers.

For further information:

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