

## Partnership Activities: April – end June

This paper provides an update on LowCVP activities since the last Bus Working Group meeting and is provided for information only.

The following highlights are identified:

- Successful annual conference attracts over 200 delegates
- Cars NOT Carbon Marketing Challenge – winners announced
- Survey of member attitudes shows Secretariat performing well
- RTFO Carbon & Sustainability Reporting Guidance completed and piloting commences
- LowCVP hosts joint conference on emissions trading for road transport with the Energy Institute
- LowCVP provides input to the : Bus Review and RTFO Consultation
- LowCVP membership passes 250

### 1. Successful annual conference attracts over 200 delegates

The LowCVP annual conference, held on the 28<sup>th</sup> June at the DTI Conference Centre, London attracted around 200 delegates and received widespread positive feedback (Detailed feedback will be reported at the meeting, based on a survey currently taking place).

Speakers at the conference included Professor Julia King (King-Stern Review), Caroline Lucas MEP, Lee Scott MP and Lord Oxburgh. Due to the Cabinet reshuffle, Graham Pendlebury (DfT) spoke in the slot originally earmarked for the Transport Secretary.

Graham Smith reported the results of the latest survey of the fuel economy label roll-out and Greg Archer announced the findings of the first LowCVP stakeholder opinion survey (see details below).

During the afternoon session, the winning entries of the Cars NOT Carbon competition were announced by Philip Sellwood (of the Energy Saving Trust; one of the competition's sponsors.) All PowerPoint presentations given at the Conference are now available on the LowCVP website.

Two press releases were issued based on news being announced at the event; one on the LowCVP stakeholder survey and the second on the competition. There has been media pick-up and more is expected. (See: <http://www.lowcvp.org.uk/lowcvp-viewpoint/press-releases.asp>)

There were a number of exhibitors at the conference, most of whom who paid for the opportunity of exhibiting or provided support 'in kind' (CENEX, Vectrix, LiftShare, Carmen Data, Green TV, City Car Club, Local Transport Today). There was also an exhibition of the winning entries to the Cars NOT Carbon competition.

Both delegate and exhibition fees were charged for the conference. Post-event financial analysis is expected to show that the conference covered its costs and returned a modest surplus to the Partnership.

## **2. Cars NOT Carbon Marketing Challenge reaches a successful conclusion**

The Cars NOT Carbon competition has been successfully completed. Over 40 entries were received by the competition deadline. The judging panel (see Cars NOT Carbon winners brochure) met in early June and awarded 'winner' and 'commended' status to entries in most of the competition categories (for both students and agencies).

An exhibition of the winning work was prepared and presented at the annual conference on 28 June. Following the awards ceremony there was a break-out session to enable further discussion of the competition and the associated issues, led by communications industry experts.

The work of the winning and commended entrants is displayed on the LowCVP website along with a press release announcing the results of the competition. The winning student entrants will shortly be taking up their placements with leading agencies as a part of their prize for winning the competition.

The competition attracted four leading sponsors – Energy Saving Trust, Asda, Transport for London and City Car Club – and a good range of media partners and other supporting organisations. The costs of the running the competition were partly offset through sponsorship revenue.

Full details of the initiative are at: [www.lowcvp.org.uk/carsnotcarbon](http://www.lowcvp.org.uk/carsnotcarbon)

## **3. Survey of member attitudes shows Secretariat performing well**

The results of the first survey of member attitudes has been published as part of the annual conference. The survey covered stakeholder attitudes on a range of issues from European new car CO2 regulation to biofuels, to car advertising and marketing. 57% of the responses to the 20-question survey were from representatives of the auto and fuels industries, while 19% were from the NGO and research communities. Amongst the highlights of the survey:

- 92% think that there should be a sector-specific emissions target for road transport
- 75% think the UK is either an 'average performer' or a 'laggard' in terms of initiatives to cut carbon from road transport while 25% think it is a "European or Global leader"
- 68% of respondents think the Department for Transport gives insufficient priority to environmental (low carbon) transport issues.
- Most of the experts surveyed think the 'EU Government' and 'environment groups' have made the biggest contribution to cutting carbon from UK road

transport emissions while ‘the media’ and ‘the fuels industry’ have made the least.

85% of members found the Secretariat “somewhat” or “very effective”. A full set of the results is available in SG-P-07-15

#### **4. RTFO Carbon & Sustainability Reporting consultation commences**

The Secretariat has successfully delivered the second phase of the work to operationalise sustainability reporting as part of the RTFO. The background documents on reporting principles and a carbon certification methodology have been peer reviewed and translated into Technical Guidance for fuel suppliers under the RTFO.

Piloting of the draft Technical Guidance commenced on May 15<sup>th</sup> and is being undertaken by:

- Harvest Energy
- Neste Oil
- Greenergy (with Green Spirit Fuels)
- Petroplus (with Argent Energy)
- Petroplus (with D1 Oils)
- BP (with Biofuels Corporation)
- Gasrec (for biomethane)

A formal 12-week consultation on the Technical Guidance, led by the Department for Transport, has commenced along with announcements regarding future Government policy. LowCVP has been asked to consider the feasibility of establishing a Kitemark scheme.

The Partnership has also been involved in a range of activities to increase awareness of biofuels sustainability issues including:

- Addressing the second meeting of the All Party Parliamentary Renewable Transport Fuels Group
- Organising a seminar as part of the World Biofuels Congress in Brussels (March)
- Collaborating with the Waterfront Conference Company in hosting a UK event on biofuels (April)
- Joining a joint EU-Latin America Seminar on biofuels as part of an EU delegation (June)
- Participating in the International Symposium on the Low Carbon Fuel Standard of California (June).

#### **5. LowCVP hosts joint conference on emissions trading for road transport with the Energy Institute**

The LowCVP organised a joint event with the Energy Institute on May 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss the prospects for introducing the road transport sector to an emissions trading scheme (EU ETS or other) – the first public event on this subject. The Energy Institute played host to the event at their conference facilities in central London. The

event was organised around the Department for Transport’s discussion paper which outlined the various potential emissions trading mechanisms. LowCVP stakeholder groups – including spokespeople for the motor and fuels industries, an environment NGO, academic and think-tank representatives and Tim Yeo MP, chair of the Environment Audit Committee – were invited to present their early thoughts on the DfT proposals. This was a fee paying event (with large discounts for LowCVP and EI members) which attracted around 55 delegates. The LowCVP achieved a £3k profit from the event. All presentations from the event are on the LowCVP and EI websites.

**6. LowCVP provides input to Bus Review and RTFO Consultation**

LowCVP has finalised input to the Bus Review and RTFO Consultation. The Bus Review “Putting Passengers First” has the objective of halting the decline in bus patronage outside London, in order that buses are able to play a key role in tackling congestion, sustaining future transport growth, and reducing the environmental impact of transport. LowCVP was asked by the DfT to focus on the role technology could play in reducing carbon emissions from buses. The submission was developed from a workshop and reviewed by the Bus Working Group and Steering Group and has been submitted to DfT.

LowCVP has also prepared a response to the RTFO Consultation which focused on the future direction of the RTFO and primarily the widespread support for the introduction of minimum carbon and sustainability standards. The response was reviewed and discussed by members of the Fuels Working Group, Commercial Vehicles Working Group and Passenger Cars Working Group and draws on the considerable experience LowCVP has in the area of carbon and sustainability standards. The final response has received approval from the Board and has been submitted to the DfT.

**7. LowCVP membership passes 250 organisations**

Membership of LowCVP has now reached 252 organisations.

Recent approved requests for membership are:

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| 1. Biofuels Matters Ltd                    | FWG        |
| 2. Buying Force Ltd                        | Fleets SWG |
| 3. Capoco Design Ltd                       | BWG        |
| 4. Commercial Move Management Ltd          | PCWG       |
| 5. Go-Biofuels Ltd                         | FWG        |
| 6. HPI Ltd                                 | PCWG       |
| 7. Lubrizol Ltd                            | FWG        |
| 8. Lysanda Ltd                             | CVWG & IWG |
| 9. Oxonica Agency Ltd                      | FWG        |
| 10. Provecta Car Plan                      | PCWG       |
| 11. Scottish Environment Protection Agency | FWG        |
| 12. Veolia Water UK Plc                    | Fleets SWG |
| 13. IAM Motoring Trust                     | PCWG       |
| 14. National Non-Food Crops Centre         | FWG        |
| 15. FP7 Surface Transport NCP              | IWG        |

16. Five Bar Gate  
17. Energy Solutions

FWG  
FWG

## 8. Communication activities

LowCVP representatives have spoken at the following events:

- 3/4 Greenfleet event
- 17/4 LowCVP / Waterfront Biofuels Conference
- 20/4 Imperial College Seminar
- 24/4 Royal Society Biofuels event
- 23-27/4 EU-Latin America Biofuels Seminar
- 9-10/5 World Refining Conference – Brussels
- 18/5 International Symposium on the Low Carbon Fuel Standard
- 23/5 All Party Parliamentary Renewable Transport Fuels Working Group
- 5-8/6 Eceee Conference – Nice
- 7-9/6 OECD Biofuels roundtable – Paris

The LowCVP Director also appeared on BBC News 24 on the evening of the Budget to discuss the reasons for and effects of the changes to VED.

The LowCVP has also produced articles for:

- Energy World (biofuels)
- EAST magazine (biofuels conference report)
- Environmental Industries Commission Guide 2007 (biofuels and the RTFO).
- Petroleum Review (emissions trading event report)
- EAST magazine (biofuels and RTFO update).

## 9. Other Activities

The Secretariat has participated in a range of other member / government lead activities including:

- 12/4 Meeting Citroen
- 18/4 DTI seminar
- 18/4 Green NGO biofuels meeting
- 8/5 Meeting with Think
- 8/5 Meeting with Ergon Group
- 16/5 ETAC meeting
- 24/5 EST Investor Roundtable
- 1/6 TfL Freight Group
- 7-8/6 Toyota technology event
- 12/6 Meeting IPPR
- 15/6 Biofuels carbon calculation workshop: UK, NL, DL
- 20/6 Sustainable Consumption and Production workshop
- 21/6 Cenex Board meeting
- 22/6 Meeting EC biofuels

- 29/6 Meeting RMIF – survey results
- 2/7 Meeting TfL – biofuels
- 3/7 Government liaison meeting
- 4/7 European Parliament hearing
- 6/7 SMMT car CO2 results presentation
- 10/7 Meeting BMW

## **10. Working Group Activities**

Issues addressed during the most recent meeting are detailed below.

### **11.1 Fuels Working Group**

The FWG last met on the 26<sup>th</sup> June. The meeting discussed a range of issues including:

- The RTFO update (DfT)
- Carbon and sustainability update
- Update on EU, national and international initiatives on biofuel sustainability standards
- Discussion of future workplan
- Update on ECAs for biofuel plants.

The work programme remains focussed on biofuels sustainability issues but the group recognise the significant contribution of this work to emerging European and international proposals.

The next Fuels Working Group meeting is on the 4<sup>th</sup> October the agenda has yet to be determined.

### **11.2 Bus Working Group**

The Bus Working Group met on the 14<sup>th</sup> February. The meeting discussed:

- Bus Review “Putting Passengers First”
- Public procurement of low carbon buses
- Update on the Ecobus project bid preparation
- Economics of low carbon bus drive-lines
- Amendments to the workplan
- LowCVP’s strategy 2007-10

The work programme is focused on taking forward aspects of the Powering Future Vehicles Strategy recommendations made by the partnership relating specifically to buses.

The next meeting in June will consider:

- Forward commitment feasibility study
- Economics of low carbon bus drive-lines
- Ecobus project – consortium bidding for EU funding

### **11.3 Commercial Vehicles Working Group**

Working Group met on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May and considered:

- Options for reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for freight haulage – Alan McKinnon from Herriot-Watt University outlined research into the carbon footprint of road freight and areas of potential improvement
- Work plan review – the group discussed potential future areas of activity based upon Alan McKinnon's presentation which points to areas outside of LowCVP's traditional areas of activity
- Greater participation from commercial vehicle manufacturers – the Group is developing this through the SMMT's Commercial Vehicle Group.

The Group also received updates on the technology road map, CO<sub>2</sub> ranking of commercial vehicles and discussions with HMT regarding Enhanced Capital Allowances for low carbon commercial vehicles.

The next meeting is planned for the 5<sup>th</sup> September and will focus on the following issues:

- Technology road map – draft report
- CO<sub>2</sub> ranking of commercial vehicles – proposal incorporating computer modelling aspects
- Enhanced Capital Allowances – for low carbon commercial vehicles
- Future work plan items

### **11.4 Passenger Car Working Group**

The Working Group met on the 6<sup>th</sup> June and the meeting focussed upon:

- Perspective on the successor to the Voluntary Agreement
- Proposed advertising code of conduct.
- Developing the work plan in light of the EC communication on car CO<sub>2</sub>
- Advertising code of conduct proposals

The next meeting is planned for the 12<sup>th</sup> September. The focus of the meeting has yet to be decided.

### **11.5 Innovation Working Group**

The Working Group met on the 27<sup>th</sup> June. The meeting focussed upon:

- Work plan – The proposed work plan for the Partnership and the IWG for the current financial year.
- Government policy briefing – updates on the Low Carbon Transport Innovation Strategy, Public Procurement Programme, Innovation Platform and the King/Stern Review.

- Technology Road Map – the Group agreed to host a review of what was required of a technology road map and when should it be produced.
- Engaging with Investors – EST updated the Group on plans for an investor event in the autumn and provided feedback on a successful Investor Roundtable Debate held in May. There was a presentation of the marketing plan behind the newly launched Clean Tech Magazine.

The Group also approved Dave Greenwood as deputy Chair of the Group and received an update from Cenex on its activity.

- The next meeting will be on the 24<sup>th</sup> October, the focus of the meeting has yet to be determined.

### 11. Future LowCVP meetings

Dates for future LowCVP and meetings in 2007 are detailed below

	<b>Board</b>	<b>SG</b>	<b>BWG</b>	<b>CVWG</b>	<b>FWG</b>	<b>PCWG</b>	<b>IWG</b>
<b>July</b>		11	25				
<b>Aug</b>							
<b>Sept</b>	19			5		12	
<b>Oct</b>		10			4		24
<b>Nov</b>	27		7			14	
<b>Dec</b>		12			6		