

Activity Report

October 2010 – January 2011

This paper summarises key activities since the last BWG Meeting. It is provided for information only.

1. Summary

- Spending review produces good outcome for LowCVP
- Partnership delivers innovative approach to biofuels ILUC challenge
- HGV Technology Challenge success
- Innovation programme support Automotive Council agenda
- Draft recommendations for Low Carbon HGVs presented to DfT
- Parliamentary briefings raise awareness of opportunities and challenges
- LowCVP invited to lead development of a biomethane in transport strategy

2. Spending review

The value of the Partnership to the Department for Transport (DfT) has been acknowledged in an announcement that it will continue to support the Low Carbon Vehicle Partnership following the Coalition Government's Comprehensive Spending Review. The Environment Annex of the DfT's press release states that the Department will be "supporting the key elements of the carbon-saving transport programmes that are delivered by the Energy Saving Trust and the Low Carbon Vehicle Partnership, while working with both organisations to achieve efficiencies."

Managing Director Greg Archer said in response that, "The Board of the Partnership thanks the Department for this significant vote of confidence in our work. There have clearly been very difficult decisions to make in a wide range of areas but the Government has indicated that it is committed to decarbonising vehicles through transforming markets for low carbon technologies. We will continue to work with the Department to ensure our programmes remain effective, efficient and in line with Government policy."

The Partnership is awaiting confirmation from BIS whether it will also continue to support LowCVP.

3. Partnership delivers innovative approach to biofuels ILUC challenge

LowCVP has submitted a response to the EU consultation on Indirect Land Use Change Impacts of Biofuels. The response formulated over several workshops held in consultation with the DfT, acknowledged that increased demand for biofuels in the EU will displace some existing agricultural activities contributing, indirectly to land use change (iLUC). It recognises that the current evidence-base was limited but that effects are real, and emissions can be

significant for some biofuel feedstocks and that regulatory action is needed. The paper commented that significant delays, or ineffective interventions, will continue to erode public confidence in biofuels increasing the uncertainty in markets and undermining the investment needed to ensure RED and FQD targets are delivered.

The submission went on to propose a new risk-based framework to manage iLUC. LowCVP also chaired a seminar in Brussels to discuss the quality of the evidence and held bilateral meetings with key stakeholders to explain and disseminate its approach.

4. HGV Technology Challenge a success

The LowCVP Technology Challenge has successfully concluding and held its main event to introduce the selected winners to a gathering of executives from OEMs and fleet operators. Twenty-one entries were assessed by 8 relevant experts, including a major fleet operator as well as innovation and technical specialists, against criteria developed around the needs of the sector.

The winners of the 'Low Carbon Technologies for Trucks' Technology Challenge were announced on 16th November at the ECO2 Transport event. Prior to their main audience the winners themselves took part in a workshop on the 18th November held at Millbrook and also supported by Ricardo and Highbury, where they were given expert advice on the context of their technologies, market drivers for the sector, how to manage their intellectual property and how to convey their messages on the day. On the 1st December, at SMMT the winners presented at a very successful seminar, to an audience of executives from: Cummins, Dennis Eagle, DAF Trucks, Wincanton, Volvo Trucks, Daimler, Dennis Eagle, DHL Supply Chain, GKN UK, Leyland Trucks, Ricardo, Royal Mail, Serco Solutions, TDG, Tesco, Unipart, Iveco. Winner received their award from Neville Jackson, Chair of LowCVP. A brochure featuring the winners has been created and published at will be circulated to relevant contacts globally.

5. Innovation programme further supports the Automotive Council agenda

LowCVP's innovation work programme has produced a scale for conveying a technologies readiness for market and manufacture. Known as Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs) and Manufacturing Readiness Levels (MRLs) these scale have drawn upon successful scales developed and used by NASA, US DoD, UK MoD, and Technology Strategy Board. Their purpose is to provide a common language for technology developers, providers of support, OEMs, Investors, Partners and Customers. The ten levels within each scale range from first principles being observed in the laboratory to multiple applications and six-sigma production. The TRLs have been reviewed by Automotive Council members who will publish the TRL guide together with LowCVP, SMMT and BIS, for common use by the UK automotive industry. LowCVP is also supporting work shaping the Low Carbon Virtual Tier 1.

6. Draft recommendations for Low Carbon HGVs presented to DfT

The first phase of the LowCVP's work on accelerating the market for low carbon HGVs is drawing to a close. The activity has included commissioning research in to the HGV market and attitudes of HGV operators, the development of a technology road map for low carbon HGVs, an investigation of the various forms of physically testing fuel consumption for whole HGVs and the role of computer modelling, and the development of the framework for certifying a low carbon HGV. The research was completed in June and during the summer the secretariat, in conjunction with members of the steering group overseeing this activity, drafted a set of recommendations to be presented to DfT on accelerating the market for low carbon HGVs. The draft recommendations have been presented to the Members Council and the Board and comments incorporated. In October, the draft recommendations were presented to officials from various divisions of DfT and were well received. The final recommendations are to be presented to DfT in November.

7. Parliamentary briefings raise awareness of opportunities and challenges

LowCVP organised a Parliamentary lunch for MP's, Lords and Ministerial Special Advisors at the House of Commons in November. The event was also attended by a small group of LowCVP Board members headed by the chair. The event was hosted by Alan Whitehead MP and included representatives of both House's and a DECC SPAD. The purpose was to provide a platform to informally discuss developments in vehicle and fuel technologies and policy developments and was well received by those attending. The LowCVP MD has also held separate meetings with members of key Select Committees.

8. Also of note

- The MD addressed the European Auto. Summit in Brussels in November. Attended by around 100 delegates his presentation focused on LowCVP's consumer attitudes and information work including the optimum forms of information and incentives for influencing low carbon choices
- LowCVP ran a series of seminars as part of the ECO2 Transport event at Earls Court in November. On the opening day a panel debate on low carbon fleets including representatives of OLEV and Commercial Group attracted around 40 delegates. On the second day a series of seminars by the Low Carbon Champions winners attracted around 60 delegates in total
- The MD received a high level delegation from the Chinese Ministry for Transport who expressed interested in creating a Chinese LowCVP and understanding how this could be achieved
- The MD has joined the steering group for an RAC Foundation project on ultra-low carbon vehicles and facilitated at a workshop to support the project
- The MD judged the EDIE and Rushlight Awards and was a guest at the ACFO Fleet Awards

- The Secretariat has participated in 76 other member / government-led activities since October:
 - Events 13
 - Meetings with Government Department or Agency 12
 - Ministerial or Parliamentary activities 6
 - Activities with members 18
 - Activities with other stakeholders 17
 - International activities 3

9. LowCVP Future Meeting dates are:

	Board	Members Council	IWG	FWG	PCWG	BWG
Jan	19			25	27	
Feb			3			8
Mar		16				
Apr	6					
May				17	19	
Jun		15	30			28
Jul	6					
Aug						
Sept		22			15	
Oct	13			25		27
Nov			8		24	
Dec		7				

Annex – Secretariat activities October 2010 – January 2011

Date	Item	Event	Gov. Dept or Agency	Minister or Parliamentary	Member	Other stakeholder	International
4 th Oct	Meeting Tom Brake MP		√				
4 th Oct	DfT ILUC webinar		√				
5 th Oct	Meeting Greenpeace				√		
5 th Oct	Climate Clinic – Conservative	√					
7 th Oct	Regional FTA Conference presentation	√					
8 th Oct	Meeting DfT Commercial Vehicles		√				
12 th Oct	All Party parliamentary Climate Change Group meeting			√			
13 th Oct	Briefing for DfT - Local Sustainable Transport		√				
13 th Oct	Meeting with DfT / BIS re programme		√				
14 th Oct	Meeting Rolls Royce					√	
15 th Oct	Meeting BIS / Auto Council re projects					√	
19 th Oct	SMMT Parliamentary reception			√			
21 st Oct	Meeting Peter Aldous MP			√			
21 st Oct	Ministry of Transport – China briefing						√
22 nd Oct	BBSRC Scenarios workshop					√	
25 th Oct	British Chamber of Commerce and DG Move ILUC seminar “Biofuels and ILUC: Is the science right”	√					√
27 th Oct	IDA meeting					√	
28 th Oct	LC Tier 1 Workshop with Auto Council					√	
1 st Nov	DfT Bus Service Advisory Group		√				
2 nd Nov	LC Vehicles Forum Warwick	√					
3 rd Nov	ACFO Fleet Awards Dinner					√	
4 th Nov	QUEST seminar					√	
4 th Nov	EDIA Awards Dinner					√	
8 th Nov	Mckinsey report launch on H2					√	
9 th -10 th Nov	Automotive Summit	√					√
12 th Nov	Lunch Shell				√		
15 th Nov	Meeting Simon Wright MP			√			
15 th Nov	ECO2 panel	√					

Date	Item	Event	Gov. Dept or Agency	Minister or Parliamentary	Member	Other stakeholder	International
16 th Nov	ECO2 champions seminars	√					
18 th Nov	Technology challenge winners training event	√					
19 th Nov	RAC Foundation Steering Group				√		
19 th Nov	Climate clinic meeting					√	
22 nd Nov	Parliamentary Lunch			√			
23 rd Nov	RAC Foundation Workshop				√		
23 rd Nov	Imperial College Lecture				√		
23 rd Nov	SMMT dinner				√		
25 th Nov	Meeting Fuel harmonics				√		
29 th Nov	Cenex Strategy Day				√		
30 th Nov	Cenex Board meeting				√		
30 th Nov	Imeche E Future fuels conference	√					
1 st Dec	Technology Challenge Winners Event	√					
2 nd Dec	DfT biomethane meeting		√				
3 rd Dec	Camden Green Fleet Event					√	
3 rd Dec	Meeting SMMT				√		
7 th Dec	FTA regional conference	√					
7 th Dec	US-UK biofuels webinar		√				
9 th Dec	Motability seminar				√		
10 th Dec	ACFO seminar					√	
10 th Dec	Meeting Nissan				√		
14 th Dec	Meeting Martin Horswood MP			√			
14 th Dec	Meeting Michelin					√	
15 th Dec	Biomethane conference - ADDBA	√					
16 th Dec	DfT labelling meeting		√				
20 th Dec	DfT Bus Service Advisory Group		√				
22 nd Dec	Meeting DfT - Labelling				√		
4 th Jan	Meeting DfT – Biomethane				√		
10 th Jan	Meeting BP				√		
11 th Jan	EST Reception				√		
11 th Jan	Meeting ACT Travelwise					√	
13 th Jan	Meeting RMI				√		

Date	Item	Event	Gov. Dept or Agency	Minister or Parlia- mentary	Member	Other stake- holder	Internat- ional
14 th Jan	Biomethane workshop - DEFRA		√				
17 th Jan	Meeting Blake Ludwig				√		
17 th Jan	Meeting CCC		√				
20 th Jan	Dinner Michelin					√	
20 th Jan	APSE Presentation	√					
26 th Jan	Visit ITM Power					√	
27 th Jan	Rushlight Awards					√	
Total		13	12	6	18	17	3