

Low Emission Strategy for Derby – A summary

Version:1

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Objective of the Strategy

The Low Emission Strategy (LES) for Derby is proposed as an integrated package of measures designed to reduce air pollutant emissions to support compliance with legally binding air quality limits and the improvement of public health. The LES will also contribute to reducing transport related carbon emissions.

Overall Approach

In developing the LES, three general approaches to how the City Council can drive forward emission reductions were considered:

- Leading by example – as both the custodian of the city and a major employer, by developing its own emission reduction programmes, the City Council will encourage others to follow its lead.
- Regulating change – the Council has a number of regulatory powers, such as taxi licensing, that it can use to regulate for cleaner vehicles or reduce traffic to affect emissions.
- Encouraging change – as well as some regulatory ‘sticks’, the Council can work in partnership with others and provide incentives to encourage change.

In addition to these levers to generate emissions reduction the package of measures developed targets emission reduction at three geographical levels:

- City centre
- Key transport corridors
- City wide

The summary table of measures provided indicates how each of the policy measures are being driven and with what geographical focus. The summary table also shows which measures could be implemented in the short term (by 2020) to support compliance with air quality limits and which are longer term considerations for continuing air quality improvement and carbon reduction.

The LES Policy Measures

A set of 7 policy measures were identified to form the LES through a process of reviewing existing policies and programmes, exploring experience from other cities and stakeholder engagement.

Leading by example

The direct impact of changes to the Council’s own activities will be relatively small in terms of air quality and emissions overall, but as a figurehead and major employer in the city, their actions will set an example for others to follow. Also, the Council’s main offices are located at the core of the city and so impacting their own fleet and staff travel will be more noticeable in this area.

The key actions that the Council will take are:

- Developing a low emission council fleet – with a target of all large diesel vehicles being Euro 6 compliant by 2020 and all vans and cars either electric, hybrid or Euro 6.

- New staff travel plan – reducing the need for commuting by staff to council offices, promoting the use of low emission vehicles with electric vehicle (EV) charge points at council sites and in the longer term working to reduce and charge for staff parking.

Managing demand

Through the Derby Transport Strategy and the Derby and Nottingham Metro Strategy, the Council is working towards reducing car traffic and promoting alternatives through improved public transport and walking and cycling infrastructure. The LES aims to build on this by:

- Wider public engagement – promoting mode shift and active travel and linking this to air quality and carbon emissions; and

Low emission corridors

There are a number of key transport corridors that provide access to the city centre but pass through areas of poor air quality. The Council is working to tackle pollution specifically on these routes through the following:

- Bus priority – to improve the attractiveness of bus services along these routes to reduce car traffic;
- New park and ride – as a longer-term option the Council will look at the potential for new park and ride sites serving these corridors; and
- Working with businesses – to reduce freight demand and promote low emission vehicles.

These corridors will be a focus for low emission buses as per the measure below and EV infrastructure in relation to the EV strategy.

Low Emission buses

Buses are a key alternative to car traffic and making sure these are clean and efficient will be an important part of their role in improving air quality in the city. The city has already secured funding to retrofit buses operating the core part of the scheduled services to a Euro VI emission standard. This funding will be rolled out between now and 2020, working with the bus operators.

In support of this, the Council will also be working with the operators to establish a new bus quality partnership to seek further improvements in bus services and their performance, and explore possibilities for setting emission standards for buses accessing the city centre bus terminals.

Low Emission Taxis

Like the Council fleet, taxis will not have a major impact across the whole city, but they will be important in the city centre, have a greater impact per vehicle than other cars due to the way they are operated and are a highly visible part of the city's transport system. It is therefore important that they work towards being a clean and efficient fleet.

The key measures that the Council are working on to achieve this are:

- Updating taxi licencing – looking at how best to set minimum vehicle emission criteria and encourage the uptake of low emission vehicles;
- Priority ranks – for zero and low emission taxis to provide an incentive for these vehicles; and
- Charging infrastructure – investment in taxi charging hubs and related infrastructure, primarily in the city centre, to support the uptake of zero and low emission taxis.

EV strategy

The Government has a target of no new combustion engine vehicles beyond 2040 and is strongly supporting the development and uptake of electric vehicles. These vehicles can have a significant role to play in reducing both air pollutant emissions and carbon emissions. As such the City Council is working with existing Government policies and schemes, such as the Go Ultra Low funding, to develop an EV strategy for Derby. The core elements of this strategy will be:

- Developing EV charging infrastructure – leveraging Government funding, along with local funding sources, to roll out a comprehensive network of public charge points to support the rapid uptake of electric vehicles in the city; and
- Promotional activities – working with business and residents to provide information on the availability and performance of vehicles and infrastructure to build confidence in EV use.

Clean Air Incentive scheme

Alongside the core LES measures above, the Council, in conjunction with Government, is exploring the possibility of an incentive scheme, referred to as the Clean Air Incentive Scheme (CAIS). The CAIS will provide a further significant incentive for the adoption of low emission vehicles and travel behaviours. The CAIS will target residents and employees in Derby along with small business, and will provide a financial incentive to upgrade or replace older polluting vehicles with new mobility services, such as car club membership, zero emission vehicles or clean air compliant vehicles (Euro 6 diesel or Euro 4 petrol).

A summary table of the LES policy measures, including their impacts, the key delivery mechanisms and the potential timeframes, is set out below.

Summary Table

Measure	Area			Mechanism			Timeframe	
	City Centre	Key Corridor	City wide	Lead	Regulate	Encourage	By 2020	Beyond 2020
Lead by example								
Low emission council fleet			✓	✓			✓	
Staff travel plan	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓
Managing demand								
Encourage active travel			✓			✓	✓	
Workplace parking levy			✓		✓			✓
Environmental corridors								
Bus priority		✓			✓		✓	
New Park & Ride		✓			✓			✓
Working with businesses		✓				✓	✓	
Low emission buses								
Retrofit programme			✓			✓	✓	
Update bus partnership			✓			✓	✓	
Low emission taxis								
Licencing			✓		✓		✓	
Priority ranks	✓				✓		✓	
Charging facilities	✓					✓	✓	
EV strategy								
Charging infrastructure			✓			✓	✓	
Promotion			✓			✓	✓	
Clean Air Incentive Scheme			✓			✓	✓	