

LEZ Leadership Group Meeting Wednesday 14 March 2018 Scottish Parliament

Attendees

Roseanna Cunningham, Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform (RC) Humza Yousaf, Minister for Transport and Islands (HY) Hugh Gillies, Transport Scotland (HG) Yvette Sheppard, Transport Scotland (YS) David Pirie, SEPA (DP) David Gellatly, Dundee City Council (DG) Cllr Alan Ross, Dundee City Council (AR) Cllr Lesley McInnes, City of Edinburgh Council (LM) Michael Thain, City of Edinburgh Council (MT)

Subject	Discussion and actions
Matters arising from	No issues
minutes of meeting on	
13 December 2017	
LEZ Consultation Report	Key points from the LEZ Consultation Report published on 12 th March highlighted.
LEZ and Transport Bill	 HY updated on the progress on the forthcoming Transport Bill, specifically the development of provisions that will give local authorities powers to create and enforce LEZs. The potential use of Traffic Regulation Conditions through a request to the Office of the Traffic Commissioner for Scotland to introduce LEZ requirements for buses was discussed. Potential limitations in the use of existing Traffic Regulation Order powers to introduce LEZ requirements for vehicles other than buses were discussed along with the benefits of a consistent approach to introduction of LEZs in Scotland. The group discussed issues affecting individual cities in relation to vehicle profiles, geographical considerations and city and regional aspects of traffic and air quality issues, including the potential for displacement to occur. The particular issues and potential opportunities the LEZs offer for freight and deliveries within cities were discussed.
Bus Emission Abatement Retrofit Programme	An update was provided on the progress of Phase 1 of the bus emission abatement retrofit programme.

Funding	HY discussed the importance of maintaining flexibility around the use of LEZ funding, with the key being to ensure support for the bus industry in achieving compliance by a range of approaches and for local authorities in delivering measures that support delivery of LEZs. Local authorities are keen to understand the mechanism for the distribution of LEZ funding as soon as possible. Action: Transport Scotland to consider the funding approach, including the role of the LEZ Leadership Group in considering funding decision.
Delivery of Enforcement	The group agreed that discussion of enforcement infrastructure is required to consider procurement and operation of ANPR systems. This will be facilitated by the LEZ Consistency Group.
Communications	 HY highlighted the role of strong, consistent communications at both a national and local level in supporting the delivery of LEZs. Positive messages around health issues and potential benefits to Scotland's towns and cities are critical. Transport Scotland are progressing the development of a communications plan to support this at a national level. HY highlighted positive engagement that has taken place with Federation of Small Businesses and Chamber of Commerce and suggested that this would be useful for local authorities to undertake at a local level. DP highlighted the role SEPA could play in assisting local authorities to develop city specific, key messages around the air quality evidence that supports the introduction of LEZs. LM highlighted the role that messages on the potential health benefits of LEZs could play in communications. HY advised that the councils will be kept up to date on any Parliamentary events relating to LEZs.
AOB	No issues were raised.
Date of Next Meeting	Next meeting to be arranged for June 2018