City Experiences - Scotland

Katrina Shiells, MSc PIEMA
Transport Scotland
Katrina.shiells@transport.gov.scot
Air Quality in Scotland

- Air quality has improved over the past decade, however still problems with poor air quality.
- Hotspots mainly in towns and cities exceeding EU/Scottish air quality objectives.
- Circa 35 Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs).
- Problem mainly NOx.
- Cleaner Air for Scotland (CAFS) strategy – cross government strategy. Aims “to have the best air quality in Europe”.
- CAFS and National Modelling Framework (NMF) highlighted vehicle access restriction as a mechanism to help further improve air quality in Scotland.
Scottish Government Programme for Government (PfG)

• Annual document sets out the actions the Scottish Government will take in the forthcoming year.

• 2017-18 PfG:
  • “Introduce Low Emission Zones (LEZs) into Scotland’s four biggest cities between 2018 and 2020.”
Transport (Scotland) Bill

• Prior to this, no legislative mechanism to enforce a vehicle access restriction for the purposes of air quality.

• LEZs - Part 1 of the Bill.

• In the process of going through Scottish Parliament:
  • Based on current timescales, likely to be passed through parliament in summer 2019.

• Regulations and guidance developed in parallel to parliamentary process:
  • Emission standards: subject to parliamentary approval Euro 6 diesel and Euro 4 petrol
  • Exemptions
  • Penalty charge amount (Penalty vs charging regime)
LEZ progress

• 4 cities – Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee and Aberdeen
• Glasgow first city to announce LEZ plans
  • To be introduced by end of 2018
  • Phased approach over 4 years
  • Will apply to 20% buses from the launch date, increasing to 100% by December 2022
  • All vehicles will need to be compliant by end of 2022
• Other three cities are yet to announce LEZ plans
• www.lowemissionzones.scot
Scottish Government Programme for Government (PfG)

• Sets out the actions the Scottish Government will take in the forthcoming year.

• 2017-18 PfG:
  • “Introduce Low Emission Zones (LEZs) into Scotland’s four biggest cities between 2018 and 2020.”

• 2018-19 PfG:
  • “Introduce Europe’s most comprehensive network of cutting edge remote sensing air quality monitors on local and trunk roads.”
Scottish Remote Sensing Project

• Network of remote sensors on both local and trunk roads.
• Project over several stages, 1\textsuperscript{st} phase likely to be trunk roads only.
• Early development stages of project – technology, number of sensors and locations to be defined.
• Initial discussions with HEAT and Opus.
• Discussions also underway with ICCT/TRUE Initiative.
• Some draft objectives:
  • Review accuracy of Euro emission standards in the Scottish vehicle fleet, to help support ongoing research that existing euro emission standards are underperforming
  • Review performance of vehicle categories/ types to help detect emissions underperformance. Target vehicles having a disproportionate effect on air quality
  • If appropriate, contribute to UK emission factor inventories
  • Review potential effects of different driving conditions
  • Review real world emissions over time – could help to evaluate the effectiveness of existing road management actions (LEZs)
Remote Sensing and Policy

• Interested to understand the application of real world emissions in Policy? How could this be incorporated into law in practical terms?

  • Could real world emissions be used instead of Euro standards for enforcement of LEZs in future?
  • Future proofing legislation.