

Van Policy Working Group Minutes

Tuesday 12 September 2023, 10:30 – 12:30

Via Teams

1. WELCOME, MEETING CONDUCT, COMPETITION LAW COMPLIANCE AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was chaired by James Adcroft (JA), Transport Compliance Manager – Distribution and Fulfilment at Tesco, who welcomed members and colleagues from Logistics UK.

Denise Beedell (DB) reminded members about the competition law compliance guidance and to avoid sharing any sensitive information that is currently not in the public domain.

2. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

- The minutes of the last meeting held on 13 June 2023 were agreed.
- All actions were completed.

3. POLICY UPDATE

DB provided members with an update on relevant van policy matters including:

- Low Carbon Fuels and the [Biomass Strategy](#).
- Changes to global biomethane reporting standards.
- Autumn Statement 2023 - due on 22 November 2023. Logistics UK will be making a submission.
- London ULEZ and [ULEZ van and minibus scrappage scheme](#)
- Proposals for zero-emission zone in London have been dropped.
- ENA/DNO workshop, 3 October, London

ACTION: Members interested in attending the ENA/DNO workshop email dbeedell@logistics.org.uk for details

Consultations:

- Lords Environment & Climate Change Cttee – [EVs Call for Evidence](#)
- Several responses to consultations have been submitted since the last meeting and Logistics UK's responses are available on the member-only webpages [here](#):

Dan Crutchington (DC), Senior Transport Advisor at Logistics UK updated members on the top van queries received at the Member Advice Centre (MAC):

- Domestic hours and breaks
- Northern Ireland MOT scheme
- Maintenance frequencies

He also outlined the matters to be discussed at the Utilities WG on 14 September meeting:

- Challenges of transitioning to digital tachographs
- Load security, MOT consultation and wheel loss

Phil Lloyd (PL) asked members about the inspection intervals and members reported a range of intervals between 26 weeks, 52 weeks or at 20,000 miles depending on the type of activity the van is used for. PL also said that he will be asking DfT for an update about the MOT consultation at his next scheduled meeting.

4. CATEGORY B DEROGATION FOR ALTERNATIVELY FUELLED VEHICLES UPDATE

Sam Denyer (SD), Strategy Advisor at the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV) gave an update of the work of OZEV covering:

- EV Chargepoint funding announcement.
- Rapid charging fund pilot scheme.
- Public chargepoint regulations and mandating contactless card payments.
- Category B derogation for alternatively fuelled vehicles is due to be published 'very soon' but no dates were given.

Members commented on:

- Downgrading kerbside and gross weight vehicle margins for N1 vehicles – members expressed their frustrations at reports this is not possible..
- MOTs for 4.25t alternatively fuelled vehicles. Members commented that there is pressure on the HGV network and car MOT testers are reluctant to test these vehicles. There was concern about the timeframes due to high numbers of MOTs due within the next 6 months. It was made clear to SD that industry needs some answers urgently.

ACTION: Sam Denyer agreed to pick up the issue of kerbside and gross weight thresholds and report back to Denise Beedell.

5. HEADLINE CHALLENGES FOR ROUTE PLANNING AND GHG EMISSION REDUCTION

Ian Wright, General Manager – Major Account Development at Logistics UK, led a discussion about the challenges for route planning and greenhouse gas emission (GHG) reduction. Areas covered:

- Choice of vehicle
- Planning for transition
- Ongoing management of CO₂ emissions

Members commented on a range of challenges connected to infrastructure, vehicle and chargepoint infrastructure supply chain constraints, working with other parts of the business, pressures on Transport Managers, new technology training and skills.

ACTION: Members with further information about the discussions on decarbonisation and carbon reporting, please email Ian Wright on iwright@logistics.org.uk.

6. VAN RESTRICTIONS IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Members discussed reports of parking restrictions in new developments preventing householders from parking vans on their drives or on roads within the boundaries of the new development.

Some members had come across this situation and noted that this could be an issue for those members whose drivers take their vehicles home, and especially for electric vehicles that require connection to the householder's power supply. Covenants on new builds have been around for some years and while most continue when the properties are sold on, enforcement tends to be less stringent over time. Members said that Logistics UK should campaign to address negative views of vans in residential areas and seek the address this issue by engagement with neighbourhood development plans.

7. 2024 MEETING DATES

Members discussed the dates and format of meetings in 2024 and agreed to hold three meetings in 2024 starting at 10:30 on:

- Tuesday 20 February – via Teams
- Tuesday 25 June – via Teams or physical meeting - tbc
- Tuesday 3 September – via Teams

ACTION: Members interested in hosting a physical meeting for the June meeting to email DB on dbeedell@logistics.org.uk

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Concern about the change of law in Wales regarding speed limits of 20mph on all restricted roads and that operating larger vehicles in lower gears produces higher emissions.
- Details of future events were flagged to members.

Next meeting:

Tuesday 20 February 2024, 10:30 – 12:30 – via Teams

Meeting finished at 12:04

ATTENDEES

Chair

James Adcroft

Tesco

Speaker

Sam Denyer

Strategy Advisor, Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV)

Members

Ross Baxter

Sciensus

Simon Bodley

Novuna

Hannah Colvin

Evri

Julie Davies

Amey

Alun Gamble

Waitrose

Chris Georgiou

Currys Group Ltd

Ben Hodgson

DHL GB

Carl Hughes

Hughes Driver Training

Andrew Jack

Morrisons

Colin James

DPD

Greg Kerslake

Royal Mail

David Landy

Evri

Daniel McKeown

LB Ealing

Stuart Murphy

Royal Mail

Emma Vogwell

G4S

Barrie Wilson

Fleetcheck

Matthew Wright

South Ayrshire Council

Logistics UK Staff

Denise Beedell (Secretary)

Senior Policy Manager

Martin Candish

Head of Compliance Information

Dan Crutchington

Senior Transport Advisor

Ian Dunn

Strategic Development Manager

Jacqui Hillhouse

Support Services Manager - Training

Eric Higham

Senior Contract Manager – Vehicle Inspection Service

Phil Lloyd

Head of Engineering Policy

Dan Newton

Affiliate Membership Manager

Ian Wright

General Manager - Major Account Development