

Briefing: London Electric Vehicle Delivery Plan May 2009

Background

Boris Johnson, Mayor of London, has launched an "Electric Vehicle Delivery Plan" for London. The document forms the basis of the Mayor's aspirations to make London a leading centre for electric vehicles (EVs). The paper states that presenting an Electric Vehicle Delivery Plan is, "not about picking a winner in the technology race, but creating a level playing field where new technologies can flourish and innovation can be encouraged". The aim of the document is to set out a strategy to stimulate the market for electric vehicles in the capital through a focus on infrastructure, to develop a comprehensive network of charging points, vehicles, to make EVs more common place on London's streets and incentives, marketing and communications.

Summary

Within the outline of the plan, the paper:

- States that developing a plan for electric vehicles in London will help towards giving the UK automotive industry a competitive edge.
- Suggests London is the best potential market for Electric Vehicles in the UK.
- Notes that already 1,700 electric vehicles and 15,000 hybrids are registered for the Congestion Charge discount.
- Highlights the expected growth in van use in London – an increase of 29% over the next 20 years – and due to shorter duty cycles makes vans a potential attraction for electrification.

On vehicles, the Delivery Plan:

- Highlights the Mayor's intention to see 100,000 electric vehicles in London as soon as possible.
- Proposes that work continues with EV trials, including those through the TSB, ETI and CENEX.
- Proposes to increase the take-up of EVs in the GLA fleet, in borough and other public sector fleets, increase the use of EVs amongst suppliers to the GLA group and work with the London Olympic committee to include EVs in the 2012 Olympic fleet.
- Proposes to develop EV options for wider public transport, working with industry to develop technical solutions around the electrification of taxis and buses, and noting that from 2012 all new buses in London will be hybrids.
- Proposes that collaboration with business partners to make EVs an "integral part" of the wider London fleet market for commercial vehicles and cars.

On incentives, the Delivery Plan:

- Highlights the mayor's support of incentive initiatives including the announced £250 million of funding for rebates from the Department and tax incentives to encourage EV uptake.

- States the Mayor will work with boroughs to review the potential for a “simplified range” of on-street and off-street EV parking incentives.
- Guarantees the 100% congestion charging discount will remain for EVs.
- Highlights the aim to fund the installation of dedicated bays and charge points for car club EVs.
- States a review will be taken to assess the feasibility of allowing EVs into bus lanes, to be completed in August 2009.

On infrastructure, the Delivery Plan:

- States London authorities will increase the number of charging points by 50 in 2009 and 100 in 2010, from the current 100.
- States that comprehensive coverage of 25,000 charging points will be delivered across London by 2015, with a detailed implementation plan for the first phase of delivery up until 2012 to be produced by November 2009.
- Commits to collaboration with London boroughs and Transport for London (TfL) to provide 250 on-street charging points by 2012.
- Commits to deliver 2,000 charging points in public car parks by 2015, and plans to work with Network Rail, train operating companies, boroughs, and car park providers to install dedicated charging points, with the first points being installed in London Underground car parks in late 2009.
- Aims to roll out a network of 50 fast charge points by 2012, with the target that all EV users will be within 3 miles of a fast charge point.
- States that work will be undertaken to create a strong brand for the integrated London charging point network, where users will be able to use all provided charging points.
- Commits to working with utility companies to develop opportunities for home recharging and working with companies to encourage installation of points at workplaces, with a target of 22,500 points by 2015, encouraged by a set of incentive packages to be launched by December 2009.
- Highlights the intention, within the London Plan, that a condition will be placed on all new developments with parking that charging point infrastructure is provided.

On marketing and communications, the Delivery Plan:

- States work will be undertaken to create a “strong and easily recognisable brand for EVs in London with a pan-London interactive website.

Next steps

The Mayor will continue work with and support the London Electric Vehicle Partnership to provide a single point of contact for all bodies involved in EV initiatives. A dedicated EV “centre of excellence” within the GLA Group will be set up to ensure delivery of the Mayor’s plan, contactable on ev@london.gov.uk.

The London Electric Vehicle Delivery Plan can be downloaded at:

<http://www.london.gov.uk/mayor/publications/2009/docs/electric-vehicles-plan.pdf>

Or contact

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