

Case study

Greater London Authority Fleet Forum: Working with NHS fleets to lower emissions

Aim

The NHS Long Term Plan commits NHS fleets to cutting business mileage by 20% by 2023/24 and ensuring that at least 90% of the NHS fleet uses low-emissions engines (including 25% ultra-low emissions) by 2028. In London, the ambition is that by 2050 the whole city will be zero emission and zero carbon, protecting health and the planet.

The fleets of vehicles used by essential public services in London are a key part of achieving this. The Greater London Authority (GLA) itself manages the fleets of the London Fire and Rescue Services, the Metropolitan Police Service and Transport for London, known as the GLA Group fleets.

The GLA Group fleets are committed to achieving milestones on the way to zero emissions, these include all new cars and vans being zero emission capable from 2025 at the latest, and all heavy goods vehicles being zero emission capable or fossil-fuel free from 2030 at the latest. In 2017 the GLA set up their Fleet Forum and have since invited other public services that manage fleets of vehicles to join. The Forum provides guidance and support to procure cleaner vehicles as well as strategic oversight of the milestones on the way to zero emissions.



In 2019, the GLA Fleet Forum opened their doors to the NHS in London. The aim was to widen this sharing of knowledge and support, and to enable joined up strategic planning.

Delivery

The NHS across London have come together in the NHS Procurement Partnership London, which oversees processes like the purchasing of fleet vehicles across the city. The NHS Procurement Partnership sit in the GLA Fleet Forum, and 'all five London Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships (geographically-based partnerships to which all NHS services belong) are also members.

The GLA Fleet Forum meets quarterly, with ad hoc and informal support and advice shared between members at any time. The GLA provide administrative support and help members connect to each other where needed. The GLA also delivers and connects members to events

and workshops related to reducing emissions and improving carbon footprint.

Impact

The GLA Fleet Forum helped members prepare for the introduction of the Ultra Low Emission Zone in central London in April 2019. In a similar way, the Forum is now working to get ready for the Ultra Low Emission Zone expansion in 2021, as well as the HGV Low Emissions Zone standards tightening in 2020.

Part of this work is helping members review their procurement frameworks for fleet vehicles, making sure that all new vehicles are future-proof.

Forum members also discuss best practice in consolidation of deliveries, and other efficiencies that can reduce emissions without affecting vital business.

The Future

Looking to the future, the Forum is working with members to scope how electric vehicles could work in London, including the need for charging points, and alternative fuel options for heavy vehicles. The Forum is also scoping ways to help members who need to switch to more bespoke and adapted vehicles. As more members join it will further help identify gaps and chances to work together to deliver zero emissions efficiently.



Further case studies can be found here:
<https://tfl.gov.uk/corporate/about-tfl/corporate-and-social-responsibility/transport-and-health>