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Transport for London
Transport Strategy and Policy

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29.06.2023

Dear Daniel

Phone 0343 222 1234
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Memorandum of Understanding – ULEZ & LEZ fleet compliance

I am writing to set out a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Transport for London (“TfL”) and the London Ambulance Service (“LAS”).

This MoU concerns the transition to a vehicle fleet that complies with or exceeds London’s Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) and Low Emission Zone (LEZ) vehicle emission standards and how TfL will arrange for non-compliant vehicles to be treated under both schemes. In advance of the expansion of the ULEZ London-wide from 29th August 2023, and the continued operation of the LEZ it sets out an understanding of how your organisation’s fleet of vehicles:

- Will achieve compliance with London-wide ULEZ vehicle emissions standards (where applicable) for light vehicles within its fleet, and the timescales for doing so;
- Will achieve compliance with the LEZ vehicle emissions standards (where applicable) for heavy vehicles within its fleet, and the timescales for doing so; and,
- Will transition to a zero emission fleet to reduce your contribution to air pollution and carbon emissions from road vehicle operations, to help fulfil the Mayor’s target of net zero carbon by 2030, as well as the air quality guidelines recommended by the World Health Organization to protect public health.

An MoU is already in place for previous iterations of the ULEZ/LEZ, which is due to expire on 25th October 2023. This letter (MoU) will therefore replace any existing agreements, with effect from 29th August 2023.

In line with national guidance on Clean Air Zones, the Mayor supports some flexibility and recognises that, unlike for most fleets, it is difficult to replace emergency vehicles in order to achieve compliance with the relevant emission standards, as they are specialist and adapted vehicles. This MoU reflects this position, highlighting the non-compliant vehicles within your fleet that meet these criteria.

Progress to date

I am pleased that, despite the specialised nature of LAS's fleet, a large proportion already meets the ULEZ standards, with many more vehicles having transitioned to zero emission or zero emission capable. Of the 1,079 vehicles operated by LAS, the overall fleet is currently around 75% compliant with ULEZ/LEZ standards and, by 29th August 2023, it is expected to be around 79% compliant. Compliance for ambulances is expected to reach 79% (417 out of 530 vehicles) by this date also.

In addition to the requirement to be fully ULEZ/LEZ compliant, emergency services and other public organisations that maintain vehicle fleets must lead by example in tackling environmental challenges and procuring responsibly – delivering, driving and enabling best practice. They can be powerful demonstrators of best practice or new technologies and use their scale to help to drive down costs to enable others to follow suit. In particular, they have a leading role to play in the demonstration and roll out of zero emission vehicles to help fulfil the Mayor's ambition for London to be a net zero carbon city by 2030, as well as the air quality guidelines recommended by the World Health Organization to protect public health.

We are pleased that your organisation has already shown leadership in this area. Wherever possible, we encourage you to shift to zero emission vehicles and to continue the positive progress you have made in this area.

Zero-emission vehicles

In line with the existing commitments set out in the 2018 Mayor's Transport Strategy, the LAS will work where possible towards delivering a fully zero emission capable fleet by 2030, to support the Mayor's ambition for a net zero carbon city by 2030. This includes continued investment in new technology for specialist, zero emission vehicles, as well as infrastructure investment on the LAS estate.

Progress reporting

In order to monitor your progress switching to cleaner and where possible, zero emission vehicles, TfL and the GLA will require you to provide a quarterly update on progress. This reporting process will be agreed between TfL, the GLA and the LAS, and will include (as a minimum) regular updates on:

- Your progress toward achieving full ULEZ/LEZ compliance by the temporary exemption expiry dates set out below;
- The percentage and number of vehicles in the fleet that are ULEZ or LEZ compliant;
- Any challenges or delays you face doing so; and,
- Progress in switching to zero emission alternatives.

Temporary exemption from ULEZ/LEZ Standards and Charges for some vehicles

TfL has agreed that the vehicles described in the table below are eligible for a time-limited exemption (often called a “*sunset*” clause) from the applicable ULEZ and LEZ emission standards and non-compliance charges, including the issue or payment of any subsequent Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) against such vehicles.

Once the exemption expiry date(s) in the table have been reached for each vehicle category, it is expected that your organisation will have achieved full ULEZ/LEZ compliance. From that expiry date those vehicles will be subject to applicable ULEZ/LEZ standards and non-compliance charges (including the payment of PCNs). TfL will confirm in writing prior to charges being applied. This approach is supported by the Mayor.

You will be responsible for uploading details of the vehicles which are subject to a temporary exemption, as outlined above, through your TfL account. All vehicles uploaded must be kept up to date, and any vehicles decommissioned or replaced, must then be removed from the system. Subject to providing TfL with the relevant and up to date vehicle details, vehicles eligible for a temporary exemption will not have to pay the LEZ or ULEZ charge until the exemption expires, and TfL can void and cancel any Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) issued by TfL for the LEZ or ULEZ. You are also responsible for ensuring that access to your TfL account is limited to authorised users. This will jointly be monitored by the GLA air quality team and the TfL transport strategy and policy team.

In total, **256 vehicles qualify for a temporary exemption**. This number is capped and TfL and GLA do not expect it to increase without prior consultation at the quarterly meetings mentioned above. A breakdown of these vehicles can be found below.

Table: LAS vehicles temporarily exempt from ULEZ/LEZ standards and charges

<i>Vehicle type</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Exemption expiry date</i>	<i>Reason</i>
Resilience, special assets vehicles	93	26 th October 2025	Highly specialist vehicles used for major incidents. Not used often but essential to emergency services.
Response cars	20	Replacements ordered by 31 st March 2024, operational by 30 th September 2024	Emergency response cars used for emergency service operations. Orders must be placed by 31 st March 2024 and vehicles delivered within six months.

<i>Vehicle type</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Exemption expiry date</i>	<i>Reason</i>
Ambulances	82	31st March 2024	Ambulances used for emergency service operations. Ambulances have been ordered, but are delayed due to supply chain issues.
Ambulances	61	Replacements ordered by 31st March 2024, vehicles operational by 30th September 2024	Ambulances used for emergency service operations. Orders must be placed by 31st March 2024 and vehicles delivered within six months.

Whilst the MoU is not a legally binding document, in signing we expect you to work to the dates and provisions. Please confirm your agreement by signing, dating and returning a copy, as attached.

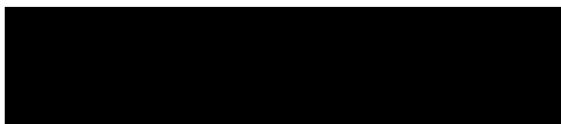
Yours sincerely



Christina Calderato
 Director of Transport Strategy and Policy
 Transport for London

AGREEMENT

On behalf of the London Ambulance Service, I agree to the contents of this Memorandum of Understanding as set out in the above letter.

Signed: 

Name: Rakesh Patel
 Position: Chief Financial Officer
 Organisation: London Ambulance Service
 Dated: 30/06/2023

For and on behalf of: London Ambulance Service