

press release

Missed Opportunity for London: A response to the Congestion Charging Announcement

Date: 13th February 2008

UKLPG is disappointed that a major contributor to the reduction of air pollution in London has not been properly recognised in Mayor Ken Livingston's new plans. It takes over 100 LPG vans to equal the fine particles produced by a similar diesel van.

The National Society for Clean Air (NSCA) agrees with the importance of considering both CO₂ and air quality and commented on their submission: "Residents of London suffer from some of the worst air quality in the UK" and went on to comment, "in 2005 poor air quality was thought to have resulted in over 1,000 premature deaths in the city (GLA figures)."

Whilst we are pleased that LPG has received a concession it does not fully acknowledge the part LPG could play in helping clean up London's air pollution and we hope that the Mayor will review this anomaly at the earliest opportunity.

With the extraordinary growth of home and internet shopping the van population is set to increase significantly over the next few years and we would emphasise that van fleets on LPG still benefit from the lower fuel cost, and are acting responsibly by reducing air pollution in their local area when they drive on LPG.

Ends.

Notes to Editor

LPG is the most widely available of all alternative fuels with around 1300 public access LPG filling stations providing effective coverage throughout the country. Details of all these public access sites can be found on www.drivelpg.co.uk.

Independent Pan-European tests were undertaken in 2003 which demonstrated the following results for emissions:

- Petrol CO₂ is 20.3% more than LPG
- Diesel CO₂ is 1.8% more than LPG
- Diesel vehicles emit over 20 times the NO_x of LPG vehicles
- Diesel vehicles emit up to 120 times more fine particles than LPG vehicles

The current fuel duty on LPG is 6.105p per litre compared with 48.35p per litre on petrol and diesel.