Cross River Partnership (CRP) was joined by the Environmental Defense Fund and Brixton BID for an informative discussion on how businesses can ditch their diesel vehicles to improve local air quality.

The fast-approaching expansion of the Ultra Low Emission Zone in 2021, and the proposed ban of petrol and diesel car sales by 2035, means it is now more crucial than ever to explore the options available for fleets looking to convert. This session featured pioneering initiatives adopted around London that are helping to make the move to electric vehicles a sensible economic choice, not simply a sustainable one. This was also an opportunity to showcase the CRP Clean Air Villages Directory, a platform promoting sustainable businesses and suppliers free of charge. The directory aims to actively reduce local air pollution around the capital. See here for the full recording of the LiveShare, and the speakers' presentation slides.

This tool kit has been developed as part of the Clean Air Villages 3 project, funded by Defra’s Air Quality Grant. CRP is proud to deliver this project with the following Local Authorities and Business Improvement Districts:
“The answer is clear; we must ditch diesel vehicles. There may be an initial cost, for example to become ULEZ compliant, but if businesses switch to electric early, it will ensure their continued existence”.

– Michael Smith, Brixton BID Director

USEFUL RESOURCES FOR DITCHING DIESEL VEHICLES

Please see these useful resources for information and guidance on how to swap your diesel vehicles for more sustainable transport modes.

GRANTS, FUNDING AND SCRAPPAGE SCHEMES

Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) Workplace charging scheme:
Grants of up to £350 per socket for businesses, charities and the wider public sector installing up to 40 charging sockets.

OLEV Plug-in vehicle grant:
Grants available for a range of eligible EVs, including vans and trucks.

OLEV Electric Vehicle Homecharge Scheme:
75% contribution towards the cost of one charge point and its installation up to a maximum of £350.

Transport for London (TfL) Scrappage scheme for vans and minibuses.

TfL Car and motorcycle scrappage scheme for low income and disabled Londoners.

CROSS RIVER PARTNERSHIP PROJECT MATERIALS AND GUIDANCE

Links to current CRP project pages:
Clean Air Villages 3 (CAV3).
Clean Air Villages 2 (CAV2).
Healthy Streets Everyday.
EV Fleet-centred Local Energy System (EFLES).
Central London Sub-Regional Transport Partnership (CLSRTP).

Links to previous CRP projects with relevant information:
Smart Electric Urban Logistics (SEUL).
West End Partnership Delivery and Servicing Plan.
Marylebone Low Emission Neighbourhood (MLEN) video and Summary Report.
Last Mile Logistics.
Enabling Last Mile Cycle Logistics Report.
Freight TAILS.

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Freight Electric Vehicles in Urban Europe (FREVUE).

Electric Vehicles in Urban Europe Materials (EVUE) – Phases 1 and 2.

Other CRP resources:
CRP Clean Air Villages Directory lists businesses operating in London using zero or low emission delivery methods.

CRP’s COVID-19 support page.

CRP’s 2020/21 Business Plan.

CLEAN AIR VILLAGES CASE STUDIES

Two case studies were produced for the Brixton shared EV scheme for businesses: one outlining how the scheme was implemented, the other showcasing how members of the Brixton community are using this service.

Other relevant case studies from CAV2: Planet Minimal, who deliver zero waste products using a zero-emission electric van, purchased second-hand.

A guide to implementing local electric vehicle charging infrastructure with Pod Point.

OTHER INSPIRING CASE STUDIES

Following a successful trial as part of the Marylebone LEN, in 2019 Westminster City Council introduced diesel parking surcharge.

TfL case studies showing small businesses preparing for ULEZ.

Beech Street, the UK’s first zero emission street.

Local Government Association case studies showing what councils are doing to promote the use of electric vehicles and the provision of charge points.

USEFUL RESOURCES

Information on London’s Ultra-Low Emission Zone (ULEZ). Check whether your vehicle is eligible here.

Energy Saving Trust resources on electric vehicles.

Are electric cars better? Compare the lifetime CO₂ emissions of an electric car with petrol or diesel cars using Transport & Environment’s tool.

Energy Saving Trust compare hybrid and electric vehicles – which one would work for you?

Go Ultra Low’s guidance for choosing electric vans and commercial vehicles. Go Ultra Low have also created a tool to calculate vehicle journey costs.

Advice from Pod Point on buying a second hand electric vehicle.

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What Car? present their best electric vans of 2020.

Clean Car have designed an app to help those looking to switch to an electric vehicle.

Dispel the myths about Electric Vehicles with LoCITY’s ‘Facts & Fiction’ resources.

EDF Energy compare maintenance costs of electric cars versus petrol and diesel engines.

Find public charge points via Zap Map Live.

Mayor of London’s Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Taskforce and Delivery Plan.

UK Government’s Road to Zero Strategy.

Pod Point’s summary of the Road to Zero Strategy and what this means for businesses.

Department for Transport’s Transport Decarbonisation Plan.

European Environment Agency’s report explaining road transport emissions.

Research shows UK fleet investment in electric vehicles will increase by almost 50% over the next two years.

Report from Frontier Economics ensuring the electric transport revolution benefits everyone.

A two-part report from Vivid Economics assessing the costs and benefits of bringing the UK’s phase out of conventional vehicles forward to 2030.

This toolkit was created by Cross River Partnership – a non-profit and impartial partnership organisation that has been delivering positive change for London’s residents, businesses and visitors for over 25 years.

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