



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

# Low Emission Zone Communications

18 April 2024

Reference: SPCB (2024) Paper 29

## Executive summary

1. From 1 June 2024, City of Edinburgh Council will be enforcing a Low Emission Zone (LEZ) for vehicles around the centre of Edinburgh which encompasses the entrance to the Scottish Parliament Car Park.
2. The Low Emission Zone aims to reduce air pollution by restricting the most polluting vehicles. Penalty charges will apply to petrol cars and vans registered before 2006 and Diesel cars and vans registered before September 2015.
3. As the entrance to the Scottish Parliament Car Park is within the LEZ, any passholder entering the car park with a vehicle that does not meet the minimum emission standards will receive a penalty charge of at least £60 (rising for multiple non-compliances).
4. Penalty charges will be met by individuals and are not covered by the Members' Expenses Scheme.

## Issues and options

### Communication

5. Building users may not be aware of the Low Emission Zone and how it could impact their journey by vehicle to the Parliament. To address this a communications plan alerting building users to the LEZ has been developed.
6. The communication plan uses the information provided by City of Edinburgh Council and uses the Parliament's communications channels to reach all building users.
7. All those booking a parking space in May will be emailed information about the Low Emission Zone so that they can check compliance. All

those who have already booked a space from 1<sup>st</sup> June (as some with accessibility needs book a year in advance) will be emailed.

8. The communications plan will run for the whole month of May (with a couple of items in April) before the LEZ is enforced from 1 June 2024.

## **Penalty charges**

9. The Members' Expenses Scheme does not cover penalty charges and this principle also applies to LEZ penalty charges.

## **Governance**

10. There are no governance issues relating to this communications plan.

## **Resource implications**

11. There are no resource implications.

## **Publication Scheme**

12. The Parliamentary Communications Office has been alerted to the comms plan.
13. This paper can be published in line with the SPCB's Publication Scheme.

## **Decision**

14. The SPCB is invited to note the LEZ Comms Plan.

## **Sustainability Office**

April 2024