

The DfT LOCAL AUTHORITY BASIC CARBON TOOL

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<http://www.dft.gov.uk/publications/local-authority-basic-carbon-tool>



Climate Change Act 2008

UK Low Carbon Transition
Plan

Carbon Reduction Strategy

Low Carbon Transport:
A Greener Future



A Carbon Reduction Strategy for Transport
July 2009

ATKINS STUDY OBJECTIVES

“To deliver clear guidance to the DfT on additional action the Department could take to support local authorities in delivering low carbon transport policies”.

- Identify existing climate change goals and public commitments which local and regional partners have signed up to, and how they perceive transport as contributing to these goals.
- Identify policies and initiatives which local and regional partners have delivered to reduce carbon emissions and adapt to climate change.
- Identify the drivers, challenges and barriers that local authorities are facing in tackling carbon emissions from transport.
- Identify which tools, guidance and methodologies are currently being used to monitor progress at the local level and assess the carbon impact of transport policies
- Provide expert opinion upon the coverage, advantages, disadvantages of the monitoring and evaluation methodologies identified.

DfT Local and Regional Climate Change Research

Final Report

26/05/10

Notice

This document and its contents have been prepared and are intended solely for DfT's information and use in relation to *Local and Regional Climate Change Research*.

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Document History

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B	Second draft	GM / HV	SF	AS	AS	30/04/10
A	First draft	GM /HV	HV	SF	AS	31/03/10
Revision	Purpose Description	Originated	Checked	Reviewed	Authorised	Date



LOCAL AUTHORITIES WANTED

- Advice on monitoring, target setting and the ability to monitor local interventions and appraise their impact on emissions;
- Advice on the best way to prioritise interventions
- Guidance on the type of interventions to be promoted in emerging sectors such as low carbon vehicles
- The ability to demonstrate the value for money of carbon reduction schemes.

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Make best use of existing information;
- Improve data sources
- Consider the creation of a DfT Carbon Tool

Range of uses

Department for
Transport

Assess the potential effects of small-scale transport interventions on carbon emissions

Simplifies carbon webTAG guidance

Provides easy access to national data which impacts on emissions

Brings together all central research on local transport and climate change





Basic Local Authority Carbon Tool



Click on buttons to change size of text

Aim of the tool: To assist local authorities in assessing the potential carbon impact of transport interventions in their area.

Click on a button:

Carbon modelling

Information on carbon modelling

Data sources

View list of data sources

Research

View list of research sources on transport modelling

Create a scenario

Create a scenario i.e. assess the potential carbon impact of a transport intervention

Saved scenarios

View list of saved scenarios

Worked examples

View examples of how the tool has been used for some interventions

Site map

View list of tool features

[Click here for
"Assessing your
intervention"
document](#)

[Click here for user
guide](#)

About

Version 1.0 - for consultation
Developed by IHAC (Department for Transport)
February 2011

For more information, please contact DfT (see consultation document)

Main menu / Version control / Info - Carbon modelling / Data summary / Research summary / Scenario / Vehicle mix / Detailed vehicle mix / Record of scenarios

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/publications/local-authority-basic-carbon-tool>

Transport and Carbon Information

Department for
Transport

Data sources

Research

The tool educates users about central transport and carbon emissions Data and Research.

Users can access this information straight from the Main Menu.

Transport and Carbon Information



On sources including Transport mode,

Mode					
#	Dataset	Description	Responsible owner	How it can be used?	Can data be used at authority level?
1	Road Traffic Statistics	The latest estimates of road traffic in Great Britain. This web page provides provisional quarterly road traffic estimates and more detailed annual estimates.	DfT (Traffic Statistics)	As a reference for local authorities who may wish to know traffic flow, and the total number of vehicle km driven by different vehicle types either in their region or, at a higher level of detail, in their local authority.	Annual traffic estimates by local authority level breakdown of traffic available beyond that level.
2	National Travel Survey	Information on personal travel in Great Britain from the National Travel Survey. This web page provides personal travel based data from the National Travel Survey. This is a continuous survey designed to monitor long-term trends in personal travel in Great Britain.	DfT (National Travel Survey)	The survey collects information on where, how, why and when people travel as well as factors which affect personal travel such as car availability, driving licence holding and access to key services. Understanding travel behaviour may help when considering what impact a local transport intervention might have.	No: national and not split up by local authority.
3	Vehicle registration and licensing statistics	These releases contain details of vehicle stock and estimated levels of vehicle excise duty evasion.	DfT Stats (Vehicle Registration Statistics)	As different vehicle types have different emission factors, it might be useful to consider the number of each vehicle type registered in the local authority. It should be noted, however, that licensing figures do not directly translate into distance driven.	Yes, we should be able to provide a dataset which gives category breakdown. DEVELOPMENT.
4	Annual Average Daily Traffic Flows	This site enables the user to view and download estimated traffic flows on every link of the 'A' road and motorway network in Great Britain (excludes minor roads).	DfT (Traffic Statistics)	If a proposed intervention affects a specific 'A' road, information can be obtained on the estimated traffic flows on that road.	Yes, but for major roads only.
5	National Origin-Destination Transport	The DfT has established a databank of roadside interview, public transport and home interview survey sites. The database provides a list of site locations for existing transport datasets held by UK public.	DfT	Assist user in the identification, selection and use of appropriate origin-destination transport data.	Yes

Transport and Carbon Information



On sources including Transport mode, Emissions and Speed

Mode					
#	Dataset	Description	Responsible owner	How it can be used?	Can data be obtained at authority level?
1	Road Traffic Statistics	The latest estimates of road traffic in Great Britain. This web page provides provisional quarterly road traffic estimates and more detailed annual estimates.	DfT (Traffic Statistics)	As a reference for local authorities who may wish to know traffic flow, and the total number of vehicle km driven by different vehicle types either in their region or, at a higher level of detail, in their local authority.	Annual traffic estimates at local authority level breakdown of traffic available beyond
2	National Travel Survey	Information on personal travel in Great Britain from the National Travel Survey. This web page provides personal travel based data from the National Travel Survey. This is a continuous survey designed to monitor long-term trends in personal travel in Great Britain.	DfT (National Travel Survey)	The survey collects information on where, how, why and when people travel as well as factors which affect personal travel such as car availability, driving licence holding and access to key services. Understanding travel behaviour may help when considering what impact a local transport intervention might have.	No: national and but there are not split up by local a
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5	National Origin-	The DfT has established a databank of roadside interview, public transport and home interview survey sites. The database	DfT	Assist user in the identification, selection and use of appropriate origin-destination transport data.	Yes

Emissions					
#	Dataset	Description	Responsible owner	How it can be used?	Can data be obtained at authority level?
1	Vehicle emission factors	Contains UK average emission factors for different modes of transport.	DEFRA (produced by AEA)	Useful reference information only.	No: national averages
2	DEFRA EXEMPT Model	A model allowing a user to calculate emissions generated due to cold starts	DEFRA (produced by AEA)	If the user is interested in calculating the CO2 generated by vehicles with cold exhausts, this model will give help and guidance.	N/A
3	VCA Fuel Data / Emissions	CO ₂ emission factors of all new cars from 2001	VCA	As a reference for local authorities considering impact of newer cars. Database only includes information on NEW and USED cars that were first registered on or after 1 March 2001.	N/A

Speed					
#	Dataset	Description	Responsible owner	How it can be used?	Can data be obtained at authority level?
1	DfT Congestion Statistics	This web page provides data about congestion on the inter-urban road network managed by the Highways Agency and on other 'A' roads managed by local authorities.	DfT	A comprehensive reference of traffic flow speeds (not free flow vehicle speeds), to give an idea of the speeds on the roads where interventions may be planned.	Yes, average speeds are managed 'A' roads. The of individual roads with times and speeds.

Research

On topics including
Cycling,
Smarter
Choices
and
Behaviour
Change and
Attitudes

Cycling Research

#	Study	Brief description and relevant findings
1	Evaluation of Cycling City and Towns (CCTs) Programme	Monitoring and evaluation of the programme of investment into... The evaluation will measure the extent to which the anticipated impacts. It will also provide an understanding of why changes have occurred through the programme and which members of the target population have benefited. A range of data sources including monitoring changes in behaviour programme areas (with children aged 5-15 and adults aged 16 and over households, as far as possible, after the implementation of the programme levels throughout the programme. For more information please see the baseline survey findings in early 2011.

Smarter Choices Research

#	Study	Brief description and relevant findings
1	2004: Smarter Choices Changing the way we travel	Comprehensive review of evidence published in the UK and overseas by local authority staff relating to 24 specific initiatives, and assessed two case studies which identifies the potential from a significant expansion of activity and local and national activity on soft measures.
2	Evaluation of the Travelling to school initiative (TTSI)	Published 24th January 2011. Initial evaluation aimed to determine the impact of the initiative on journeys to school and allowing more children to take regular exercise (through school travel surveys), qualitative research with local authorities, school travel audits and other measures which may be translated to carbon impact, although has limitations.

Behavioural Change and Attitudes

#	Study	Brief description and relevant findings
1	2006: Evidence base review of public attitudes to climate change and travel choices	A comprehensive evidence review exploring public attitudes to climate change, and the implications for transport policy.
2	Exploring public attitudes to climate change and travel choices: deliberative research	Involved qualitative, deliberative research to understand public engagement with climate change and behavioural change. A wide range of behaviours were explored, including an extensive range of transport modes.

Snapshot of how the tool works

Intervention name

Brief description of intervention (max 255 characters)

2. What type of area will be affected?

If the intervention will affect more than one road type or area, then you will need to create multiple scenarios (one for each road type / area).

Select the road type that will be affected:

Select the type of area that will be affected:

Select the region that will be affected:

Minor
Major
Motorway
Other

6. How will the speed of vehicles change?

[Help me](#)

For those transport modes that will be affected, enter the average speeds.
If you do not think the speeds will change, enter the same speeds in both tables.

Show miles/km conversion

The emission per km travelled for each mode will be calculated automatically based on the speed that you enter.
This is also dependent on the vehicle mix that you defined in section 2).

Click on the button to enter built-in national speed data.

[Enter speeds](#)

Pre-intervention			Post-intervention		
Data used: Own			Data used: Own		
Mode	Speed (Km / hr)	Emission (g CO ₂ / km)	Mode	Speed (Km / hr)	Emission (g CO ₂ / km)
Cars			Cars		
Taxis			Taxis		
LGVs			LGVs		
Rigid HGVs			Rigid HGVs		
Artic HGVs			Artic HGVs		
Buses			Buses		
Coaches			Coaches		
Motorcycles			Motorcycles		
Trains	N/A	1399.00	Trains	N/A	1399.00
Walking	N/A	N/A	Walking	N/A	N/A
Cycling	N/A	N/A	Cycling	N/A	N/A

Effect of intervention →

Create a scenario - name and time period affected

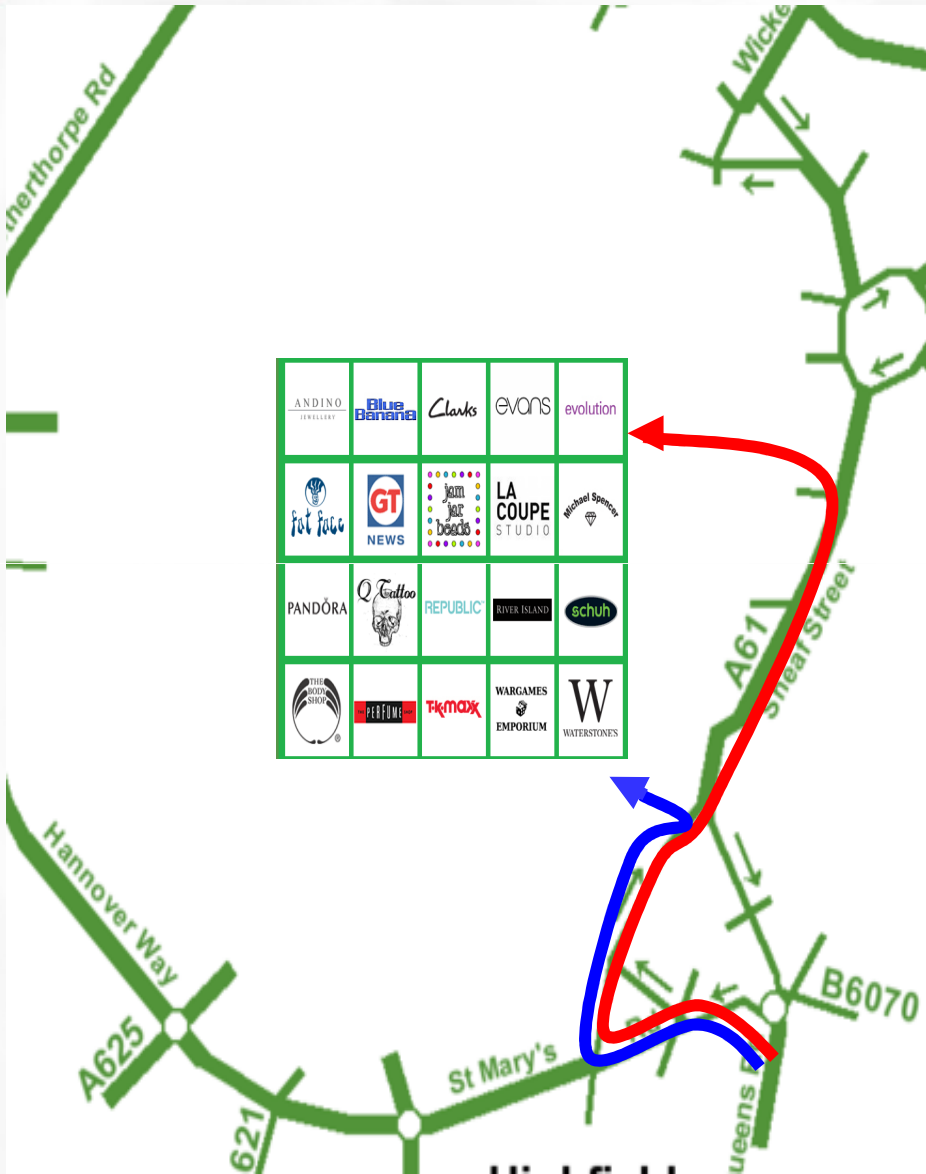
Input local information – roads and regions

Identify which transport modes the intervention affects

Input data - distance, vehicle numbers, and days affected

Enter the speed change data

Worked Example



Hypothetical worked example.

Previously freight route was around a long ring road to access Shopping Centre (**Red Line**).

Proposed transport Intervention will allow a more direct access route to the Shopping Centre (**Blue Line**).

Worked Example

Estimate the effect of a transport intervention on carbon emissions

Return to main menu

Save details

Clear Sheet

+

-

Consider what will be affected by the transport intervention. The total change in emissions will be given at the bottom of the sheet. The assumptions and impacts document available on the main menu sheet will help you answer the following questions. Enter into the blue cells only.

When you have finished you can save the scenario, by clicking on the button above.

Intervention details

Intervention name

Brief description of intervention (max 255 characters)

1. What time period will be affected?

Describe the time period that will be affected:

If the intervention will affect more than one time period, then you may need to create multiple scenarios. (one for each time period).

2. What type of area will be affected?

If the intervention will affect more than one road type or area, then you will need to create multiple scenarios. (one for each road type / area).

Select the road type that will be affected:

Select the type of area that will be affected:

Select the region that will be affected:

Select the year that will be affected:

3. Which transport modes will be affected by your transport intervention?

Please tick all transport modes which will be affected:

Cars LGVs Buses/coaches Trains
 Taxis HGVs Motorcycles Walking/cycling

(LGV = Light Goods Vehicle)

4. Optional: change vehicle mix

The tool will use national average vehicle mixes within each mode unless you wish to change them using the button.

Vehicle mix

Worked Example

4. Optional: change vehicle mix

The tool will use national average vehicle mixes within each mode unless you wish to change them using the button.

Vehicle mix

Proportions data used (Vehicle mix):

	Pre-int	Post-int
Cars	n/a	n/a
LGVs	Overall	Overall
Trains	n/a	n/a
Motorcycles	n/a	n/a

Own data always used for trains

Proportions data used (Detailed vehicle mix):

Pre-intervention	Built-in
Post-intervention	Built-in

5. How will the distance change?

For the modes that will be affected, enter the total distance travelled per mode during this time period over a year. If you do not think the distance will change, enter the same distance in both tables.

Show mile /km converter

Please note that distances should be entered in kilometres. Use the converter on the right to convert distances from miles to km and vice versa.

Pre-intervention				Post-intervention			
Mode	Daily distance per vehicle (km)	# vehicles	Days affected per year	Mode	Daily distance per vehicle (km)	# vehicles	Days affected per year
Cars				Cars			
Taxis				Taxis			
LGVs	12	40	312	LGVs	6	40	312
Rigid HGVs	12	40	312	Rigid HGVs	6	40	312
Artic HGVs	12	20	312	Artic HGVs	6	20	312
Buses				Buses			
Coaches				Coaches			
Motorcycles				Motorcycles			
Trains*				Trains			
Walking				Walking			
Cycling				Cycling			

Effect of intervention

*For trains: vehicles=carriages

Please enter notes of assumptions here (max 255 characters)

Worked Example – Output

6. How will the speed of vehicles change?

Help me

For those transport modes that will be affected, enter the average speeds.
If you do not think the speeds will change, enter the same speeds in both tables.

Show mile/km converter

The emission per km travelled for each mode will be calculated automatically based on the speed that you enter.
(This is also dependent on the vehicle mix that you defined in section 2).

Click on the button to enter built-in national speed data.

Enter speeds

*This will be based on a typical Major road in Urban area, during Peak time. (As defined in section 1 and 2).

Pre-intervention			Post-intervention		
Data used: Own			Data used: Own		
Mode	Speed (km / hr)	Emission (g CO ₂ / km)	Mode	Speed (km / hr)	Emission (g CO ₂ / km)
Cars	15.0	331.55	Cars	28.0	222.50
Taxis	15.0	1163.63	Taxis	28.0	871.14
LGVs	15.0	1622.79	LGVs	28.0	1276.29
Rigid HGVs			Rigid HGVs		
Artic HGVs			Artic HGVs		
Buses			Buses		
Coaches			Coaches		
Motorcycles			Motorcycles		
Trains			Trains		
Walking			Walking		
Cycling			Cycling		



Emissions from walking and cycling are taken to be negligible

Change in total CO₂ emissions

-0.22 thousand tonnes CO₂ (a net saving)

Total emissions pre-intervention thousand tonnes CO₂

Total emissions post-intervention thousand tonnes CO₂

What do my results mean?

The average carbon footprint for people in the UK is 8.9 tonnes CO₂ (The International Energy Agency)
Your carbon saving is equivalent to the effect of planting 216 trees (www.carbonfootprint.com)

What about biofuels?

Cost of carbon

Detailed results

[Return to scenario sheet](#)

+

-

Shadow Price of CO₂

The low, central and high values of CO₂ are given in the table below. The CO₂ emitted due to electricity generation is “traded”, whereas the CO₂ emitted by burning petrol and diesel (and other fuel types) is “non-traded”. As most transport interventions are likely to decrease the vehicle km travelled by petrol and diesel vehicles, we recommend you use the central non-traded value of CO₂. However, if your intervention actually results in fewer vehicle km travelled by electric cars or electric trains, you will need to consider using traded values as well

* Total change in CO₂ emissions (thousand tonnes):

-0.22

* The price of CO₂ (per thousand tonnes):

£52,475.53

* Total carbon saving / increase:

-£11,544.62

In 2009 prices	Traded (per thousand tonnes CO ₂)			Non-traded (per thousand tonnes CO ₂)		
	Low	Central	High	Low	Central	High
2008	£12,000	£21,001	£26,184	£25,092	£50,183	£75,275
2009	£12,084	£21,315	£26,575	£25,468	£50,936	£76,404
2010	£12,260	£21,637	£26,974	£25,850	£51,700	£77,550
2011	£12,444	£21,967	£27,380	£26,238	£52,476	£78,713
2012	£12,636	£22,289	£27,794	£26,631	£53,263	£79,894
2013	£12,820	£22,626	£28,208	£27,031	£54,062	£81,092
2014	£13,012	£22,964	£28,630	£27,436	£54,873	£82,309
2015	£13,211	£23,309	£29,059	£27,848	£55,696	£83,543
2016	£13,410	£23,662	£29,496	£28,266	£56,531	£84,797
2017	£13,610	£24,014	£29,941	£28,690	£57,379	£86,069
2018	£13,817	£24,375	£30,386	£29,120	£58,240	£87,360
2019	£14,024	£24,743	£30,846	£29,557	£59,113	£88,670

Underlying data sources

Built-in emissions-related data such as:

- Speed curves
- **Average Emissions Factors**
- Average speed data, and
- Vehicle Mix Data

Return to broad vehicle mix
Detailed vehicle mix
+
-

Unless otherwise stated, national vehicle mixes will be used to calculate emissions.
For each mode, please select whether you would like to use national data, or enter your own data.

[Cars](#) [LGVs](#) [HGVs \(artic\)](#) [Coaches](#)
[Taxis](#) [HGVs \(rigid\)](#) [Buses](#) [Motorcycles](#)

Cars

Pre-intervention: Use national proportions
 Post-intervention: Use national proportions

Please ensure that your proportions sum up to 100% (for petrol, diesel and electric)

Petrol						
Vehicle type	Fuel type	Engine capacity (cc) or weight limit (tonnes)	Emission standard	National proportion	Own data Pre-int	Own data Post-int
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	<1400 cc	Pre-Euro 1	0.06%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	<1400 cc	Euro 1	0.68%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	<1400 cc	Euro 2	3.96%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	<1400 cc	Euro 3	5.40%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	<1400 cc	Euro 4	21.75%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	<1400 cc	Euro 5	6.42%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	<1400 cc	Euro 6	0.00%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	1400-2000 cc	Pre-Euro 1	0.08%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	1400-2000 cc	Euro 1	0.84%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	1400-2000 cc	Euro 2	4.94%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	1400-2000 cc	Euro 3	6.73%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	1400-2000 cc	Euro 4	27.09%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	1400-2000 cc	Euro 5	8.00%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	1400-2000 cc	Euro 6	0.00%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	>2000 cc	Pre-Euro 1	0.02%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	>2000 cc	Euro 1	0.25%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	>2000 cc	Euro 2	1.46%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	>2000 cc	Euro 3	1.98%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	>2000 cc	Euro 4	7.99%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	>2000 cc	Euro 5	2.36%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	>2000 cc	Euro 6	0.00%		
Car 2.5-3.5 t	Petrol	All	Pre-Euro 1	0.00%		
Car 2.5-3.5 t	Petrol	All	Euro 1	0.00%		
Car 2.5-3.5 t	Petrol	All	Euro 2	0.00%		

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
1																
2	Speed	10														
3																
4	Petrol Car	y=(a+bx+cx ² +dx ³ +ex ⁴ +fx ⁵ +gx ⁶)x														
5																
6	a	2599.206														
7	b	99.50918														
8	c	-0.21369						68								
9	d	0.00579						1.6								
10								43								
11		67.59	149.9706	-	0.000001											
12	Speed Kp CO2 (g/km derivative															
13		5	618.4268	-	104.124056											
14		6	531.6365	-	72.344397	-	31.779669									
15		7	469.6122	-	53.177688	-	19.166729									
16		8	423.071	-	40.733660	-	12.444008									
17		9	386.8556	-	32.198448	-	8.535212									
18		10	357.8719	-	26.089965	-	6.108483									
19		11	334.1506	-	21.567366	-	4.522599									
20		12	314.3791	-	18.124786	-	3.442580									
21		13	297.6486	-	15.443082	-	2.681704									
22		14	283.3099	-	13.312640	-	2.130242									
23		15	270.8869	-	11.592032	-	1.720808									
24		16	260.0227	-	10.181574	-	1.410458									
25		17	250.4441	-	9.010639	-	1.170936									
26		18	241.9389	-	8.027508	-	0.983131									
27		19	234.3394	-	7.193704	-	0.833804									
28		20	227.5115	-	6.480123	-	0.713581									
29		21	221.3466	-	5.864420	-	0.615703									
30		22	215.7559	-	5.329210	-	0.535210									
31		23	210.6869	-	4.860803	-	0.468407									
32		24	206.0157	-	4.448301	-	0.412502									
33		25	201.7536	-	4.082941	-	0.365360									
34		26	197.8964	-	3.757811	-	0.325330									
35		27	194.227	-	3.466493	-	0.291118									
36		28	190.8937	-	3.204787	-	0.261706									
37		29	187.809	-	2.968507	-	0.236260									
38		30	184.9493	-	2.754321	-	0.214186									
39		31	182.2939	-	2.559424	-	0.194897									
40		32	179.8248	-	2.381443	-	0.177981									
41		33	177.5261	-	2.218359	-	0.163084									
42		34	175.3837	-	2.068445	-	0.149914									
43		35	173.3853	-	1.930219	-	0.138227									
44		36	171.5198	-	1.802399	-	0.127820									
45		37	169.7774	-	1.683876	-	0.118523									
46		38	168.1493	-	1.573684	-	0.110192									
47		39	166.6275	-	1.470980	-	0.102704									

Petrol car speed /CO2 curve

CO2 (g/km)

kmh

Speed Kp CO2 (g/km derivative)

Speed Kp CO2 (g/km derivative)

Version control / Info - Carbon modelling / Data summary / Research summary / Scenario / Vehicle mix / Detailed vehicle mix

Flexibility



Flexibility is at the heart of the Carbon Tool.

Local Authorities are encouraged to use their own datasets wherever possible.

Cars

Pre-intervention: Use national proportions

Post-intervention: Use national proportions

Please ensure that you
Please ensure that you

Petrol

Vehicle type	Fuel type	Engine capacity (cc) or weight limit (tonnes)	Emission standard	National proportion	Own data Pre-int	Own data Post-int
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	<1400 cc	Pre-Euro 1	0.06%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	<1400 cc	Euro 1	0.68%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	<1400 cc	Euro 2	3.96%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	<1400 cc	Euro 3	5.40%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	<1400 cc	Euro 4	21.75%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	<1400 cc	Euro 5	6.42%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	<1400 cc	Euro 6	0.00%		
Car <2.5 t	Petrol	1400-2000 cc	Pre-Euro 1	0.08%		



Carbon Tool information and data is transparent and easily accessible.

Consultation



Department for
Transport

Department for
Transport

Final version release of the tool this summer. Possible enhancements, depending on resources and value added.

Consultation on DfT Basic Carbon Tool for Local Authorities

Next Steps

- Carbon remains a key driver for emerging transport policy, e.g. Local Sustainable Transport Fund, Local Carbon Framework pilots,
- Coalition Government's Carbon Plan sets out high-level transport strategy:
<http://www.decc.gov.uk/assets/decc/What%20we%20do/A%20low%20carbon%20UK/1358-the-carbon-plan.pdf>
- Authorities are already doing a lot to deliver sustainable low carbon travel. Continue to working effectively with partners and consider how best to plan for a low carbon future, especially in a tighter spending climate – central government can provide the tools, but it is up to local areas to make the decisions.



Department for
Transport

Q&A