

Chapter 10 Target area: Travel



Targets in detail

CARBON EMISSIONS FROM ROAD VEHICLES

- Reduce carbon emissions from road vehicles used for Government administrative operations by 15% by 2010/11, relative to 2005/2006 levels.

CROSS-GOVERNMENT MANDATES

- Reduce carbon emissions from road vehicles to a fleet average of 130g/km by 2010/11.
- All carbon emissions from official and ministerial air travel to be offset.

COMMITMENT FROM THE UK STRATEGY

- 10% of government vehicles will be low carbon by 2012.



At a glance...

- On track to meet targets and mandates.
- Air travel has reduced by half a million miles.
- Taxi mileage has reduced by 1 million miles.
- Carbon emissions from vehicles have reduced by 4% against baseline.
- Fleet average emissions have reduced to 134g/km.
- Actual vehicle mileage reduced in year by over 14%.

DWP travel and emissions summary

	Miles in year (2007/08)	Tonnes of CO ₂
Road vehicles (PUS, Pool, Hire and Grey fleet)	57,926,061	17,662.93
Rail*	27,744,504	2,689
Taxis	1,018,716	276.36
Air*	9,344,081	2,789.21
Total	96,033,362	23,417.5

*Air and rail were incorrectly reported last year. Actual figures should have been 27,358,169 miles by rail and 9,859,048 miles by air.

What have we been doing?

A report commissioned by the Permanent Secretary in February 2007 resulted in a number of key recommendations to reduce business travel and the resultant carbon emission. As a result of that report:

- the commitment to reduce business travel has been met
- business travel policy has been revised
- annual mileage in staff owned cars is now limited to 1000 miles
- daily mileage in staff owned cars is now limited to 100 miles

- travel planning hierarchy has been introduced
- the criteria for the Private User Scheme has been revised
- a programme of improvements has commenced for video conferencing
- audio conferencing and travel alternatives have been promoted

Inchcape is now the provider for the DWP Private User Scheme (PUS) and pool cars. The preferred vehicle option is the Ford Focus, with emissions of 118g/km, which has greatly helped to bring down CO₂ emissions. The overall fleet average at year

Pig Poo Power

Although air travel is being offset, what does this mean in real terms? The contributions from the fund are supporting a portfolio of carbon neutral and renewable energy projects around the globe, in developing countries. Amongst the projects is a scheme to deliver electricity generated from swine waste, harnessing the gas produced by this to fuel electricity generation – easily referred to as ‘pig poo power’!

Commuters' choice

Behaviour change is being encouraged in work and also in personal travel choices. An edition of ‘Greenlines’ the in-house sustainable development e-magazine, was solely dedicated to commuting methods and alternatives to prompt consideration of new ideas and choices. To help staff make the transition to cycling to work, a salary advance scheme enables those who want to purchase a bicycle for commuting, to do so more easily.

end was 134g/km, placing the DWP well on course to meet the government mandate.

Vehicle mileage has reduced by over 9 million miles in year, and rail has increased by almost half a million, demonstrating that there is a genuine reduction in travel and a real move to the use of video,

teleconferencing and other communication modes.

In 2007/08 air travel decreased by over half a million miles against the previous year. The travel hierarchy introduced during the year dissuades travellers from choosing air and some of the shorter routes (Newcastle/

London, Birmingham/Newcastle, Manchester/London) have been restricted, only being available in very exceptional circumstances. A general market rise in flight prices will also further deter air travel. All air travel is being offset by contributions to the Government's Carbon Offsetting Fund.

Travel Plan Partnership

Warbreck House in Blackpool has approximately 2500 staff on site and has participated in Blackpool Borough Council's Travel Plan Partnership, a joint approach to travel involving local people and businesses. To support behaviour change, regular provision of bus/metro timetables and details of road works around the town, have enabled more considered travel planning. To support Blackpool as a Cycling Demonstration Town, free adult cycle training has been provided to encourage use of improved cycle routes. Sports England have also provided lunchtime walks.

Development of the site specific plan involved local councillors, police and local residents. Traffic hotspots, on-street parking and congestion issues were addressed by implementing a revised car-park policy, giving car-sharers higher priority and which created an immediate reduction in cars on site daily. A "Considerate Parking Code" was published for off-site parking and links promoting cycle salary advances and local authority discounted travel passes have been promoted on the intranet. Two further sites have also developed specific travel plans.

