

Your ref: 1911/APP/2012/3185
Our ref: LON114
Direct line: 01604 346346
E-mail: Matthew.Sharpe@cctownplanning.co.uk
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Environmental Fleet Management Plan

1-3 Uxbridge Road, Hayes

“Erection of 4 no. industrial, warehouse, office buildings (Use Classes B1, B2 and B8) with access and servicing arrangement, car parking, landscaping and associated works (Involving demolition of existing buildings)”

Introduction

This plan seeks to sets out the environmental issues in respect of the delivery fleet associated with BHW Automotive Ltd t/a Veetec Motor Group at the site of 1-3 Uxbridge Road, Hayes.

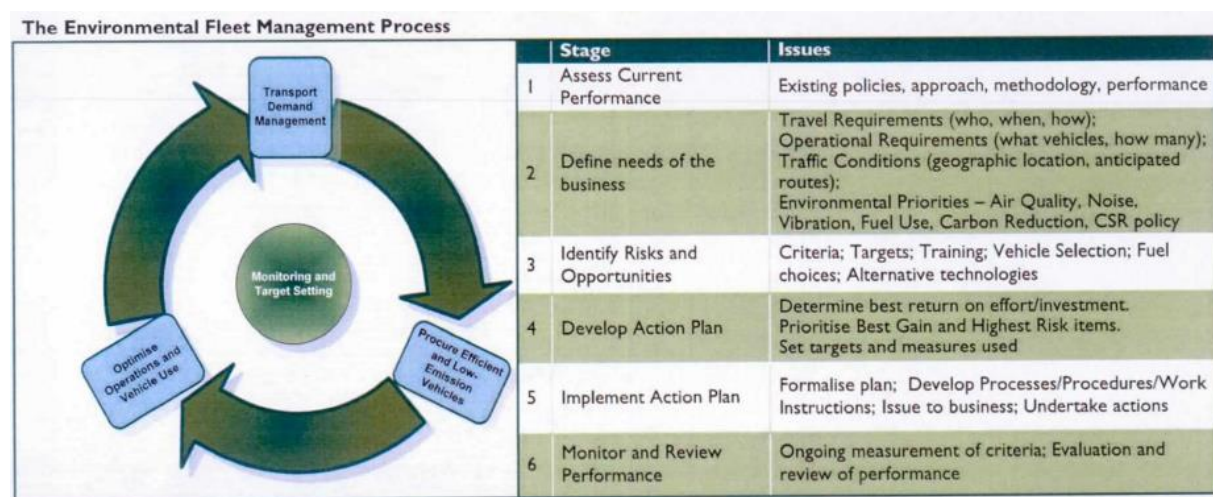
Through this plan, BHW Automotive Ltd aim to reduce the environmental impacts associated with their fleet through the use of cleaner vehicles and fuels whilst also aiming to reduce the overall road traffic which they generate. In adopting these strategies, the fleet used will minimise fuel and vehicle costs, improve the welfare of employees on site and reduce the businesses contribution to the problems associated with congestion in this area.

The objectives of this plan will also help the business to meet some of their other key targets surrounding business efficiency, health and safety and corporate social responsibility. Businesses are required to be aware of their carbon emission output, including those emissions which are generated by transport activity.

This Environmental Fleet Management Plan is based on three key objectives:-

- **Transport Demand Management** – Reduce overall miles driven where possible
- **Cleaner Fuels and Technology** – Use of lower emission vehicles
- **Efficient Vehicle Use** – Driver performance and vehicle maintenance

Central to this plan is monitoring and target setting to ensure that performance is assessed and continuously improved. This process is highlighted by the below diagram.



Vehicles and the Environment

Road vehicles are a key part of the transport operations associated with BHW Automotive Ltd t/a Veetec Motor Group. The two vehicles associated with the business operations are a 7.5 tonne recovery type vehicle and a 3.5 tonne recovery type vehicle. Heavy reliance on such vehicles can give rise to poor air quality through the use of fossil fuels including petrol and diesel. However, these vehicles have exhaust emissions which are Euro VI standard to ensure that the most hazardous emissions are prevented.

The use of these vehicles can also contribute to noise pollution, which can have detrimental impacts on peoples quality of life. As such, a reduction in use of these vehicles forms part of this management plan. It should be noted that these road vehicles are only used for the collection and delivery of customers cars that have been damaged and in need of repair when they are in no fit state to be driven.

The below images highlight the extent of the fleet associated with the business operations of BHW Automotive Ltd t/a Veetec Motor Group.



The business also has a small fleet of courtesy cars which are no more than 12 months old. These cars are for customers to use while their cars are being repaired and are typically small 2- and 4-door hatchbacks on 6 to 12 month lease agreements. These vehicles are changed regularly.

Air Quality

Some of the key environmental concerns associated with pollution generated by traffic are provided below:-

- Nitrogen Oxides – Formed by a reaction between nitrogen and oxygen gases in the air during combustion.
- Particulate Matter – Road traffic is the largest contributor towards these, predominantly resulting from engine emissions and tyre wear.

It is a key aim of this plan to reduce the amount of pollution generated by traffic to improve the overall quality of the environment. The use of cleaner fuels such as Bio-diesel are being explored by the business, with the aim to reduce hazardous emissions as much as possible.

The Key Themes

There are a number of key themes associated with this Environmental Fleet Management Plan which are set out below for convenience. The strategy contained within this plan seeks to address these key themes and provide environmental improvements.

- Promote changes to the use of cleaner vehicles
- Driver training
- Emissions control through logistics planning

Some of the key performance indicators include fuel efficiency, mileage, vehicle movements, average vehicle noise levels and average emissions levels. The aim of this plan is to reduce these levels through a variety of strategies.

Improving fuel efficiency

Route planning and driver habits are key to maximising fuel efficiency. BHW Automotive Ltd t/a Veetec Motor Group will ensure that vehicle journeys are optimised and that all drivers are trained in environmentally friendly driving techniques. These techniques include avoiding carrying unnecessary weight, driving at appropriate speeds and anticipating other vehicle movements to avoid sharp braking and fast accelerating.

Reducing mileage

This target can be achieved by improved planning and scheduling. Accurate route planning is easily achieved, with satellite navigation able to avoid traffic jams and discover the most efficient routes. The use of satellite navigation systems can also enable real time routing and eliminate any unnecessary detours on routes.

Where possible, customer cars will be delivered and collected via alternative methods to reduce the mileage of the two recovery type vehicles. Only those vehicles that are damaged and deemed to be unroadworthy will be collected and returned by one of the recovery type vehicles. However, where possible, BHW Automotive Ltd t/a Veetec Motor Group will encourage customers to deliver and collect their vehicles themselves, thus reducing the mileage of the recovery type vehicles owned by the business.

Reducing Vehicle Movements

Efficient planning will ensure vehicle movements are only made where necessary, with only those cars which are deemed unroadworthy and damaged to be collected and delivered by one of the recovery type vehicles owned by the business. Opportunities for the customer to deliver the vehicle to the premises themselves will be maximised where possible to further reduce the number of vehicle movements associated with the business operations.

BHW Automotive Ltd t/a Veetec Motor Group will continue to aim to reduce the number of trips undertaken by their recovery vehicles through the use of alternative methods of collecting and delivering customer's vehicles. Wherever possible, BHW Automotive Ltd will collect and deliver customer's vehicles by driving the customer's vehicle itself, using one of their small number of drivers to further reduce the use of the recovery type vehicles.

Reducing Vehicle Noise Levels

The business will seek to reduce noise levels of vehicles through a number of mitigation measures. The most common source of noise comes from the sound of engines and the rattling of the vehicles themselves. As BHW Automotive Ltd are not a large truck fleet operator, the use of their vehicles can be managed. Ensuring that the two recovery type vehicles leave and return to the premises at different times will help to reduce noise pollution in the area.

Reducing Average Emission Levels

Emission levels of vehicles are governed by the combustion efficient of the engines used. The efficiency of diesel engines in Europe is controlled by legislation which began in 1993 and which has progressed to standard Euro VI. The adoption of cleaner standards for exhausts will help to reduce emissions levels across Europe. The purchase of vehicles by BHW Automotive Ltd will always comply with the highest Euro rated vehicles at that time.

Any vehicles which are replaced are always brand new and comply with the latest Euro standard with the newest technology installed. It is the intention of the business to explore the option of utilising hybrid vehicles to further reduce emission levels caused by their recovery type vehicle fleet. Whilst the current fleet is in the best class environmentally, the business will continue to evaluate new technology to help further reduce average emission levels. Such alternatives include electric/hybrid vehicles and the use of biofuels.

Regular service and maintenance of the vehicles at a local commercial garage will ensure that emissions levels remain within the manufacturers parameters.

The small fleet of courtesy cars owned by the business are small 2- and 4-door hatchbacks with 1.0 Litre fuel efficient petrol engines. Many of these vehicles are also hybrids. BHW Automotive Ltd t/a Veetec Motor Group are always look to improve efficiencies in this area by introducing hybrids where available at the time of changing the fleet with the possibility of opting for all electric vehicles in the future.

Summary

The fleet owned by BHW Automotive Ltd are managed and maintained on a regular basis. The 7.5 tonne recovery type vehicle is covered by an Operator Licence governed by the area Traffic Commissioner and are inspected every 8 weeks. The drivers hold a CPC licence achieved by the required training and on-going training will continue to take place as part of the Operator licence requirements. The driving performance is controlled, recorded and regularly monitored by the use of digital tachographs.

The smaller 3.5 tonne recovery type vehicle does not come under the same Operators Licence but nonetheless, this vehicle is also regularly maintained and checked. Both of the vehicles are maintained by a local commercial vehicle garage.

Collection and deliveries are planned in areas. The quickest and most effective route is sourced using GPS navigation. However, this can change on-route due to traffic congestion with drivers monitoring live updates through modern GPS technology.

Environmental Fleet Management Plan

This plan for BHW Automotive Ltd seeks to identify some of the key transportation issues, outline the current methodologies adopted by the business to address each issue and provides an assessment of future proposals for managing each issue, specific for the Hayes location of the Veetec Motor Group.

Identified Issue	Current Veetec Motor Group Position	Future Proposals
Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of the vehicles in the fleet are Euro VI compliant. The business has continued to ensure that their fleet meets the highest standards. • Drivers are required to stop the engines when the vehicle is stationary • The driving performance is controlled, recorded and regularly monitored by the use of digital tachographs. • GPS technology is used to reduce unnecessary journeys, which in turn reduces the amount of fuel consumed by the fleet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate all alternative fuel technologies • Install charging points for electric vehicles so that these vehicles can form part of the fleet in the future. • Develop alternative transport strategies to further enhance sustainable opportunities. • Ensure all new vehicles purchased meet the current Euro emissions standards
Transport Related Noise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of conduct in place for all operators to reinforce appropriate behaviour • Staggered start up and arrival times • Noise assessments undertaken at regular intervals • Body locks are in place to reduce noise caused by rattling during transit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retrofit noise reducing methods to all existing vehicles within the fleet. • Ensure all new drivers receive the correct training and comply with the code of conduct. • Implement a formal start up roster to ensure vehicles enter and exit the site at staggered times.
Fleet Management Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Veetec Motor Group have a logistics planning team that are able to determine optimum routing times to avoid times where high levels of traffic are likely • GPS technology helps to monitor live road incidences to help drivers find the fastest route to reduce time spent on the road. • Vehicles are replaced regularly and are assessed against safety features, noise levels and emissions standards. • New and alternative technologies are considered regularly. • Servicing and maintenance are scheduled regularly to ensure that the fleet continues to meet manufacturer recommendations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade GPS systems currently used • Investigate new technologies so that replacement vehicles continue to contribute towards reducing overall emission levels.