

Low to Zero Carbon Transport Procurement Compact

"We, the signatories of this Procurement Compact, share a medium-term requirement for vehicles that have long-range, rapid-refuelling times and progressively lower-carbon emissions leading to the credible prospect of zero carbon emissions for a variety of business uses. In an effort to decarbonise our transport operations we have introduced a number of initiatives. Having explored the possibilities of Battery Electric Vehicles, we believe they have a role to play, but we have found that they do not have sufficient range and refuelling capabilities for a significant proportion of our fleets. This includes our delivery, service and maintenance vehicles, as well as for cars that are required to do more than 100 miles of range without time for a lengthy recharge.

Consequently, we have an unmet requirement for vehicles that offer range and refuelling times comparable to conventional combustion engine vehicles, and deliver in the first instance least a 50% reduction of carbon dioxide emissions over comparable petrol vehicles on a well-to-wheel basis.

Furthermore they must deliver progressive well-to-wheel improvements over time and must have a clear pathway to becoming fully zero carbon in the future. In the light of increasing pressure to improve air quality in towns and cities, we will also value progress towards zero tail pipe emissions.

The price and performance must be competitive with conventional vehicles on a whole life basis. We are however aware that if these alternatives are to be a viable

addition to our vehicle fleets an appropriate refuelling infrastructure needs to be in place. We therefore have a corresponding requirement for the provision of low-carbon fuel and fuelling infrastructure for our future fleets, and again with a view to becoming zero carbon in the future.

The purpose of this Procurement Compact is to demonstrate to the supply chain that there is a credible customer demand for low-carbon transport on a scale that justifies investment by suppliers of vehicles and fuel, and the development of an associated fuelling infrastructure. Our fleets can provide these suppliers with a point of entry into the consumer automotive market, which is also under ever-growing pressure to decarbonise.

This Procurement Compact states our common commitment to incorporate progressively tighter standards in future vehicle procurements, to incorporate these terms in future Requests for Quotes and tenders, and evaluate supply chain offerings on the extent to which they meet this requirement. The publication of this Procurement Compact launches a period of consultation with the supply chain; we are calling on the vehicle supply chain to propose low-carbon vehicle solutions to meet our requirement, and to clarify the associated needs regarding the fuel and fuelling infrastructure.

As customers we wish to play an active role in transforming the market to meet our requirement, which is shared by many organisations in both the private and public sectors."

Invitation to suppliers - call for expressions of interest

Suppliers and stakeholders are encouraged to participate here www.cpsl.cam.ac.uk/procurement or further information can be provided at UKprocurement@cpsl.cam.ac.uk.