

T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Dean Lockhart MSP
Convener
Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh

By email: netzero.committee@Parliament.Scot

30 June 2022

Dear Convener,

Following the Committee's consideration of evidence on the Workplace Parking Licensing (Scotland) Regulations 2022 on 8 February and 22 February 2022, I am providing this update on the subsequent guidance for local authorities.

As you are aware, the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 included provisions introducing a discretionary workplace parking licensing (WPL) power for local authorities. WPL has the potential to encourage the use of more sustainable travel modes, reducing congestion and tackling climate/air emissions. As the net revenue generated by WPL schemes must be committed to support policies in local transport strategies, this policy is also intended to raise revenue that could be used to improve public or active transport, making it more attractive and thus encouraging individuals to use public transport instead of driving.

Progressing development of regulations and guidance so that local authorities can use their discretionary powers to implement a WPL scheme supports the vision and priorities set out in the National Transport Strategy (NTS2) and progresses Scotland's commitment to reach net-zero by 2045. These powers provide a tool for local authorities to influence travel behaviour in a way that discourages private car use and encourages the use of public and sustainable transport. The regulations came into force on 4 March 2022.

The guidance for local authorities has been published on the Transport Scotland website on 30 June 2022, consistent with commitments made in the Climate Change Plan 2021 Monitoring Report and NTS2 2021-22 Delivery Plan. As I previously noted to the Committee, the guidance has been informed by the themes that emerged from the public consultation Transport Scotland held last year.

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Yours sincerely,

JENNY GILRUTH

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