

Operational Advice Notice

Introduction of Clean Vehicle Policy

28th November 2025

ASDRVE_OAN_458

Version 1.0

It is the responsibility of all employers to ensure that relevant OANs are brought to the attention of their staff. However, individuals remain responsible for their own actions and those who are in any doubt should consult their supervisor or Manager.

1. Introduction

1.1 With effect from **1st January 2026**, Heathrow is launching a Clean Vehicle Policy.

2. Introducing an Airside Clean Vehicle Policy

2.1 Through 'Heathrow 2.0', the airport committed to introduce an airside Clean Vehicle Policy, scheduled for implementation **from 1st January 2026**. This policy will set higher minimum standards for air quality while accelerating the transition to a Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) fleet by 2030. Heathrow is located entirely within the London ULEZ, meaning local residents are subject to the scheme's emission standards and expects Heathrow to hold themselves to the same standards, if not, higher standards.

2.2 Please note vehicle age limits will remain in place. Reference should be made to OSI ASDRVE_OSI_008 – Vehicle and Equipment Airside - Requirements for details.

2.3 Where required, it is the responsibility of the equipment owner to hold a valid environmental permit (in addition to the Vehicle Apron Pass). Details can be found [here](#).

3. Impact and Benefit

3.1 Overall compliance with the proposed Clean Vehicle Policy is currently 90% which leaves only 10% of non-compliant vehicles.

3.2 The data suggests that the reduction of non-compliant vehicles, especially the removal of Euro 5 buses and upcoming fleet renewals, will decrease Nitrogen Oxide (Nox) emissions in the first two years of the policy launching.

4. Changes

4.1 **With effective from 1st January 2026**, two changes will be introduced:

4.1.1 Change to vehicle apron pass fees in accordance with vehicle emission standards.

4.1.2 In accordance with the above date, the inclusion of Non-Road Mobile Machinery (NRMM) in the scope of Vehicle Apron Pass (VAP) requirements. Further information on the NRMM scope can be found [here](#).



4.2 With effective from 1st January 2027, two changes will be introduced:

4.2.1 All new standard light duty vehicles such as cars and vans registered for the first time for a VAP will need to be electric.

4.2.2 All diesel vehicles and equipment will need to be fuelled with Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO).

4.3 Where a vehicle has more than one engine (such as de-icers), if one engine is non-compliant, the vehicle will be considered non-compliant.

5. Changes from 1st January 2026

a) Vehicle definitions

Current definitions include both standard and specialised vehicles as outlined in Table 1 below; these will be broadened to three vehicle types so emission standards can be set accordingly.

Table 1: Current vehicle definitions

Vehicle type	Definition	Vehicle examples
Standard road vehicles	Standard road vehicles mean those that are regulated under the EU on-road Vehicle emission legislation (Euro Standards) (or GB equivalent) and include [DVLA Vehicle categories]: Standard HGVs (HDV)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Passenger cars [M1] 2. Buses and coaches [M2 and M3] 3. Light goods vehicles (up to 3500kgs) [N1] 4. Heavy goods vehicles (over 3500kgs) [N2 and N3]
Specialised road vehicles	Specialised road vehicles, such as ground support equipment, mean those that are regulated under the EU on-road Vehicle emission legislation (or GB equivalent) as above but have specialist bodies or conversions.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Vehicle where the specialist body or fitments represent over 50% of the new purchase price. 2. Emergency Vehicles such as aerodrome fire and snow clearing
Non-road vehicles and NRMM (New definition)	Non-road vehicles and NRMM mean those that are regulated under the EU non-road Vehicle emissions regulations (or GB equivalent).	<p>Non-road vehicles such as</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Loaders, hi-lifts, steps. 2. Baggage tugs 3. Diesel generator and cherry picker. 4. Construction equipment



b) Vehicle Apron Pass Fees

Vehicle Apron Pass fees will now be determined by each vehicle's emissions compliance status as outlined in Table 2 below.

Table 2: The emission standards for compliance and the associated vehicle apron pass fee.

From 1 Jan 2026 Current vehicles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliant	VAP Price	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non- compliant	VAP Price
Any electric vehicle		£0	N/A	N/A
Standard cars and vans (LDV)	Diesel: Euro 6 Petrol: Euro 4	£18 £15 (HVO)	Diesel: Euro 5 or below Euro 3 or below	2026: £100
Specialised vans and minibuses (LDV)	Euro 6	£18 £15 (HVO)	Euro 5 or below	
Standard HGVs (HDV)	Euro VI	£18 £15 (HVO)	Euro V or below	
Standard/specialised buses (HDV)	Euro VI	£18 £15 (HVO)	Euro V or below	
Specialised HGVs	Euro VI	£18 £15 (HVO)	Euro V or below	
Large GSE > 130kw (e.g. aircraft tractor or heavy excavator)	Stage IIIB	£18 £15 (HVO)	Stage IIIA or below	
Medium GSE, 56-130kw, (most GSE like steps and loaders)	Stage IV	£18 £15 (HVO)	Stage IIIB or below	
Small GSE, <56kw	Stage IIIB	£18 £15 (HVO)	Stage IIIA or below	
Auxiliary engines separately powered vehicle-mounted pumps, compressors, or generators, Air-starts	Stage IIIB	£18 £15 (HVO)	Stage IIIA or below	



6. Enquiries

6.1 Any questions regarding this OAN should be directed to airsidelicensing@heathrow.com.

