



**LOW**  
**EMISSION**  
**ZONES**  
**SCOTLAND**

Get ready  
for Low  
Emission  
Zones!

[lowemissionzones.scot](http://lowemissionzones.scot)

If you drive in Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh or Glasgow you'll need to know about the Low Emission Zones that were introduced in May 2022. Glasgow's LEZ is enforced from 1 June 2023. Aberdeen, Dundee and Edinburgh LEZs will be enforced in 2024.

Here's a snapshot of what it's all about...

# Why Low Emission Zones have been introduced:

Scotland's air quality is generally good, but several pollution hotspots remain – mainly caused by road transport. LEZs will help protect public health by improving air quality and addressing these hotspots.



Low Emission Zones contribute to Scotland's carbon reduction targets, by encouraging greater use of public transport, cleaner vehicles and more active travel such as walking, wheeling and cycling.



Low Emission Zones can help reduce pollution from vehicle emissions, tackling both poor air quality and climate change.



## What are Low Emission Zones?

Low Emission Zones set an environmental limit in city centres, restricting access for the most polluting vehicles to improve air quality. This protects public health within our towns and cities, making them more attractive places in which to live, work and visit.





**The Scottish Government  
introduced Low  
Emission Zones  
in Scotland's four  
major cities on  
31 May 2022.**

**ABERDEEN**

**DUNDEE**

**GLASGOW**

**EDINBURGH**

## When will LEZs be enforced?

**There will be a grace period before enforcement begins.**

- In Glasgow, the LEZ already applies to buses
- For other vehicle types, enforcement will start on **1 June 2023 (1 June 2024 for residents within the zone)**
- Dundee will start enforcement on **30 May 2024**
- Aberdeen will start enforcement on **1 June 2024**
- Edinburgh will start enforcement on **1 June 2024**

Once enforcement begins, owners of a non-compliant vehicle will receive a Penalty Charge Notice for driving within the zone.

To be kept up to date with how Low Emission Zones might affect you, please register for updates at

**[lowemissionzones.scot/register](https://www.lowemissionzones.scot/register)**

**Minimum emission standards  
for vehicles are:**

**EURO 6/VI  
ENGINES**

**For diesel  
vehicles**



Vehicles that meet these standards pollute much less than those that don't. The aim of LEZs is not to ban all vehicles, but to stop the most polluting ones from entering the zone. This is based on Euro emission engine classification standards. Owners of vehicles which do not meet these standards will receive a Penalty Charge Notice for driving within the zone.

## **EURO 4/IV ENGINES**

For petrol  
vehicles

**Check your vehicle is compliant by checking your registration number now: [lowemissionzones.scot/get-ready/vehicle-registration-checker](https://www.lowemissionzones.scot/get-ready/vehicle-registration-checker)**





# What this means for drivers:



Owners of non-compliant vehicles will receive a Penalty Charge Notice if they drive in a LEZ, unless they qualify for an exemption.



The confirmed minimum emission standards for diesel vehicles is Euro 6/VI engines and for petrol vehicles is Euro 4/IV engines.



The confirmed minimum emission standards for HGVs is Euro VI (or suitably retrofitted).



# Keep informed and check your vehicle

See if your vehicle is compliant by  
checking your registration number now at:

**[lowemissionzones.scot](https://www.gov.scot/topics/transport/low-emission-zones)**

# Blue Badge exemption



There are several exemptions which cover vehicles being used for the purposes of disabled persons, as outlined in the following circumstances.

- A vehicle registered with a 'disabled' or 'disabled passenger vehicles' tax class.
- A vehicle receiving a reduction in annual rate of vehicle excise duty because the vehicle is being used by a disabled person in receipt of personal independence payment at the standard rate.

**If you are eligible for a disabled vehicle/disabled passenger vehicle tax class exemption, you do not need to register for an exemption.**

This will be automatically detected by the local authority enforcement systems.

# Blue Badge Holders


The Blue Badge holder exemption covers:

- A vehicle being driven by any person who is in receipt of a Blue Badge.
- A passenger in the vehicle has been issued with a Blue Badge.
- A vehicle is being driven with a Blue Badge which has been issued to an organisation.

**If you are eligible for a Blue Badge holder exemption, you will need to register in advance of travel.**

**[lowemissionzones.scot/  
blue-badge-exemption](https://www.lowemissionzones.scot/blue-badge-exemption)**

Once a vehicle is successfully registered to a Blue Badge holder, the vehicle will be automatically detected by the local authority enforcement systems.



## Q&A

### When will Low Emission Zones operate?



Low Emission Zones will operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week throughout the year including all Public Holidays such as Christmas.

### How will Low Emission Zones be enforced?



Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras will be used, which are linked to local and national vehicle licencing databases, to monitor all vehicles driving in a Low Emission Zone. They will detect vehicles which do not comply with the minimum Euro emission standards. This applies once enforcement begins in each city.

### Where are the Low Emission Zones within the cities?

The Low Emission Zones for each city cover the city centre areas. Boundary maps can be found on the website for each local authority.

## Are there any other grace periods?

For residents within the LEZ in Glasgow, enforcement begins on 1 June 2024, giving them an extra year to prepare.

## Will this apply to a lot of vehicles?

Many vehicles already meet the LEZ minimum emission standards, so this will only apply to older, more-polluting vehicles. Check if your vehicle is compliant by checking your registration number.

This can be checked at: [lowemissionzones.scot/vehicle-registration-checker](https://www.lowemissionzones.scot/vehicle-registration-checker)

## What are the penalty charges?

The initial penalty charge for all non-compliant vehicles is set at £60, reduced by 50% if it is paid within 14 days. The penalty amount doubles with each subsequent breach of the rules detected in the same LEZ. The penalty charges are capped at £480 for cars and light goods vehicles and £960 for buses and HGVs. Where there are no further breaches of the rules detected within the 90 days following a previous violation, the surcharge rate is reset to the base tier of charge, i.e. £60.



## Do you have to pay to enter a LEZ?

No, you can't pay to enter a LEZ. Owners of non-compliant vehicles will receive a Penalty Charge Notice after being picked up by ANPR cameras. You are unable to register to enter a LEZ before visiting.

## Is there support available?

Funding is available to help individuals and businesses prepare for LEZs and minimise the financial effect these will have on them.

Eligible households and micro-businesses can apply for funding to dispose of a non-compliant vehicle and replace with a compliant alternative through the Low Emission Zone Support Fund.

The Low Emission Zone Retrofit Fund will provide support to micro businesses who operate within one of Scotland's four Low Emission Zones, to help them retrofit their existing non-LEZ compliant vehicle with Clean Vehicle Retrofit Accreditation Scheme (CVRAS) approved solutions.

Funding is provided through Transport Scotland and administered by the Energy Saving Trust. You can find more information at

[lowemissionzones.scot/funding](https://www.lowemissionzones.scot/funding)



## **Save money and get fit, while helping reduce air pollution**

You can avoid the worry of meeting vehicle emission standards. Leave your car at home when travelling into a Low Emission Zone and think about active travel instead.

You could walk, wheel, cycle or catch public transport in and into the zone. Check the Low Emission Zones website as you may be eligible for funding to help you do this.



## Health benefits of active travel, depending on your activity levels, can include:

- Greater feeling of wellbeing
- Reduced risk of serious diseases
- A healthier weight
- Living longer

## General benefits can include:

- Saving money
- Reduced noise pollution
- Less carbon emissions and air pollution

**Register to receive  
the latest updates on  
Scotland's Low Emission  
Zones and find out how  
they might affect you.**

**[lowemissionzones.scot/  
contact/register](https://lowemissionzones.scot/contact/register)**