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Dowse Policy London Congestion Charges

Policy Summary

Transport for London operate a congestion charge for driving or parking vehicle on a public road within a specific charging zone

The Aim of this policy is to make Dowse Haulage staff aware to:-

- which vehicles are exempt
- How the Scheme works
- How to pay the charge.

Dowse Haulage ltd operates vehicles which are required to pay the charge.

Liability for Additional penalty charges

Any penalties incurred as a result of entering the charge zone will be the responsibility of the driver who was using the vehicle at the time unless you have permission to do.

If you have to enter a congestion zone due to diversions or unforeseen circumstances you must ring Dowse Haulage main office immediately so that we can pay the charge. If you fail to inform the main office on the day you may be liable to pay the fine and any expenses incurred.

Any vehicles which enter the specified zone between 7am – 6pm Monday to Friday must pay the £10 charge on the day of travel, before midnight.

If you fail to pay the charge prior to or on the day of travel, but pay by midnight of the following charging day, then the charge will be £12.

This Policy is not just specific to London but covers all Congestion and Toll roads throughout the United Kingdom and Europe.

All Dowse vehicles carry electronic tags for most toll routes, if necessary you may be required to pay any charges approved by Dowse Haulage to which you will be reimbursed upon return of a receipt.

Exemptions

You don't have to pay the Congestion Charge if you drive-:

Two-wheeled motorbikes (and sidecars) and mopeds

- Emergency service vehicles, such as ambulances and fire engines, which have a taxation class of 'ambulance' or 'fire engine' on the date of travel
- NHS vehicles that are exempt from vehicle tax
- Vehicles used by disabled people that are exempt from vehicle tax and have a 'disabled' taxation class
- Vehicles for more than one disabled person (for example Dial-a-Ride) that are exempt from vehicle tax and have a 'disabled' taxation class

How it works

The congestion charge is a daily levy imposed on drivers choosing to drive within central London. It applies between 07:00 and 18:00 on Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays.

The congestion charge zone covers a large portion of central London. The boundaries of the congestion charge zone link points in central London such as Euston Road in the north, Commercial Street in the east, Vauxhall and Chelsea Embankment in the south and Harrow Road and Earls Court in the west.

The scheme is monitored by cameras on roads across the congestion charge zone, which read car number plates and cross-references them against a register of cars that have paid the charge.

How to pay

Drivers can pay the charge in advance or on the day of travel, but if they forget they can pay up until midnight the following day, but will incur a £2 surcharge, taking the total charge to £12. There are several methods of payment, including telephone, text message, post, online or in a shop. Failure to pay risks a penalty charge notice of £120.

If your vehicle doesn't meet the emissions standards, the Low Emission Zone (LEZ) daily charge is £100 for larger vans, minibuses and other specialist vehicles, and £200 for lorries, buses, coaches and other specialist heavy vehicles.

Payment for the daily charge can be made:

- Up to 64 working days before the day of travel
- On the day of travel
- Up to midnight on the day after driving within the LEZ
- If you travel in on a Friday, you have until midnight the next working day to pay the LEZ daily charge

The charge is the same on whichever of these days you pay.

By phone

For credit card or debit card payments, call 0343 222 1111* (UK) or (+44) 20 7310 8998* (international).

Lines open:

Monday to Friday: 08:00-22:00

Saturday: 09:00-15:00

Sunday: Closed