



HOUSE OF LORDS

House of Lords Science and Technology Select Committee

Call for Evidence: Behaviour Change – Travel-Mode Choice Interventions to Reduce Car Use in Towns and Cities

Deadline for submissions: Friday 21 January 2010

The House of Lords Science and Technology Select Committee has appointed a sub-committee, chaired by Baroness Neuberger, to investigate the use of behaviour change interventions to achieve policy goals. As part of this inquiry, the sub-Committee has decided to conduct a second case study into the use of behaviour change interventions to alter travel-mode choice in order to reduce car use in towns and cities and therefore the level of carbon emissions from transport.

This is the second call for evidence issued by the sub-committee and should be read in conjunction with the first call for evidence which outlines the scope and general areas of inquiry¹. The deadline for the first call for evidence has passed; written evidence has already been received for the general inquiry and the first case study on tackling obesity.

Greenhouse gas emissions from transport represent 21% of the total United Kingdom domestic emissions. Emissions from private car use constitute 78% of that figure, representing 17% of total emissions or 91.5 million tonnes of CO₂ in 2008. Although technological measures are important in reducing emissions and may be effective in the long-term they are not sufficient to achieve the necessary reduction in carbon emissions in the short-term. Getting individuals to reduce the amount that they use their cars is necessary if the UK's carbon reduction targets are to be met successfully.

Behaviour change interventions to encourage people to travel more sustainably have become an integral part of transport policies in recent years, featuring in the previous Government's *Low Carbon Transport Strategy* of 2009. To date, however, such interventions do not appear to have led to a major change in transport mode choice, or a significant reduction in CO₂ emissions from transport.

¹ The first call for evidence is available on the Committee's website at:
www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/science-and-technology-committee/inquiries/behaviour/

The Committee invites evidence on the following questions. **The deadline for written evidence submissions is Friday 21 January 2011.**

Questions

I. The Committee would welcome submissions on behaviour change interventions, whether in the public sector, the private sector or by voluntary organisations, designed to change travel-mode choice in order to reduce car use in towns and cities, in the United Kingdom or internationally, in order to examine:

- a. what are the most influential drivers of behaviour affecting an individual's choice of mode of travel;
- b. what is the role of infrastructure in encouraging and facilitating changes in travel-mode choice;
- c. what are the latest developments in the evidence-base in relation to changing travel-mode choice and the implications of those developments for policy;
- d. what are the most appropriate type and level of interventions to change travel-mode choice;
- e. who are the most effective agents for the delivery of behaviour interventions to change travel-mode choice;
- f. how do current behaviour change interventions seek to change travel-mode choice and what use is made of available scientific evidence;
- g. are current policy interventions addressing both psychological and environmental barriers to change;
- h. are policy interventions appropriately designed and evaluated;
- i. what lessons have been learnt and applied as a result of the evaluation of policy; and
- j. what lessons can be learnt from interventions employed in other countries.

The Committee would also be interested to receive evidence on the broader scope and questions outlined in the first call for evidence, where it is of relevance to this case study.

Submissions should be sent to: Daisy Ricketts, Clerk to Sub Committee I, Science and Technology Committee, House of Lords, London SW1A 0PW

and preferably by email to: hlscience@parliament.uk

Please ensure that you include relevant contact details. Evidence should be attributed and dated, with a note of your name and position, and should state whether it is submitted on an individual or corporate basis.

Short submissions are preferred; longer submissions (more than 6 pages) must include an executive summary. Hard copy should be clearly printed or typed on single sides of A4 paper, unstapled. Paragraphs should be numbered. Please provide your submission in Microsoft Word.

Evidence should be prepared specifically for this inquiry. Witnesses are encouraged to focus on those issues of which they have particular knowledge or experience—submissions are not required to cover all questions.

Evidence becomes the property of the Committee, and may be printed, published electronically or circulated by the Committee at any stage. If your evidence is not printed, it will in due course be made available to the public in the Parliamentary Archives.

You may in addition publicise or publish your evidence yourself, but in doing so you should indicate that it was prepared for the Committee. If a submission is substantially the same as work that has already been published or disseminated for some other purpose, or is deemed not to be relevant to the inquiry, it will not be treated as formal evidence.

Personal contact details supplied to the Committee will be removed from evidence before publication and from the copy deposited in the Archives. However, personal contact details will be retained by the Committee Office and used for specific purposes relating to the Committee's work, for instance to seek additional information or to send copies of the Committee's Report.

The Committee will invite some of those who submit written evidence to give oral evidence at Westminster. Transcripts of such evidence will be published.

You can follow the progress of the inquiry via the Science and Technology Committee web pages, accessed from <http://www.parliament.uk/hlscience>.