

Environmental Taxes: Appendix

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Environmental taxes in the UK, August 2008

Name	Description	Rates	Revenue ^a
Landfill tax	Introduced in 1996, at a standard rate of £7	£32/tonne	2001/2: £502m
1	per tonne on waste delivered to landfill sites	(standard waste),	2002/3: £541m
	and a lower rate of £2 per tonne applies to	to rise to £40/tonne	2003/4: £607m
	inactive waste (building rubble, etc). The	from April 2009.	2004/5: £672m
	standard rate was raised to £10 in 1999, and		2005/6: £733m
	an annual escalation of £1 per tonne applied	£2.50/tonne (inert	2006/7: £804m
	for five years from April 2000, leading to a	waste).	2007/8: £877m
	level of £15 per tonne in 2004. The escalator was then raised to £3 per tonne from 2005,		2008/9: £1,100m
	and £8 per tonne from 2008. An increase in		
	the lower rate to £2.50 was also enacted in		
	2008. The initial tax rate was determined		
	with reference to landfill externality		
	estimates; subsequent increases have been		
	designed to achieve greater behavioural		
	change. Initially, revenues financed a 0.2		
	percentage point cut in employers' National Insurance contributions.		
Climate	A tax on energy use by business and	0.159p / kWh (gas)	2001/2: £555m
change levy	industry, introduced in April 2001 as part of	0.456p / kWh	2002/3: £829m
-	the government's climate change	(electricity)	2003/4: £832m
	programme. The tax does not apply to	1.018p / kg (LPG)	2004/5: £764m
	domestic energy use, or to energy used in	Due to rice in line	2005/6: £744m
	the transport sector. Exemptions include fuels used in electricity generation, fuels	Due to rise in line with inflation from	2006/7: £712m 2007/8: £688m
	used for non-energy purposes, and electricity	April 2009.	2007/8: £688m 2008/9: £700m
	generated from new renewable energy (e.g.	7 (prii 2003.	2000/3. £/ 00111
	solar and wind power). An 80% discount		
	from the levy applies to energy-intensive		
	sectors that negotiate climate change		
	agreements with DEFRA. Revenues are		
	partly used to finance energy efficiency		
	schemes, and the remainder returned to business through an offsetting 0.3		
	percentage point reduction in employers'		
	National Insurance contributions.		
Aggregates	Introduced in April 2002 and intended to	£1.95 / tonne.	2002/3: £247m
levy	reflect the environmental costs associated		2003/4: £339m
	with quarrying. Applies to sand, gravel and	To rise to £2.00 /	2004/5: £334m
	rock subject to commercial exploitation in the UK and territorial waters, with exemptions for	tonne in April 2009.	2005/6: £326m 2006/7: £321m
	coal and metal ore mining, materials used to		2006/7. £321111 2007/8: £339m
	produce lime and cement, industrial spoil		2008/9: £400m
	and waste, highway evacuation, and marine		
	dredging. The levy is normally payable by		
	the quarry operator. Revenues are partly		
	used to finance a sustainability fund (to		
	promote local environmental benefits in areas affected by quarrying), and the		
	remainder to finance a 0.1 percentage point		
	cut in employer NICs.		
Motor fuel	Tax differential in favour of unleaded petrol	Petrol and diesel	2001/2: £21.9bn
differentiation	introduced in 1987 at 0.96 pence per litre,	for most vehicles	2002/3: £22.2bn
	subsequently widened to 4.8 pence per litre	are taxed at 50.35	2003/4: £22.8bn
	by 1995. Initial aim was to offset the higher	pence per litre.	2004/5: £23.3bn
	cost of unleaded petrol, and subsequently to provide an incentive for fuel switching.	Aviation gasoline is	2005/6: £23.4bn 2006/7: £23.6bn
	Leaded petrol was removed from normal	taxed at 30.03p/l.	2006/7. £23.6011 2007/8: £24.9bn
	sale in the UK market in 2000.	ιαλοά αι συισορή.	2008/9: £25.7bn
		Red diesel (mainly	
	Tax differential between petrol and diesel	for non-road	NB VAT is
	fuel was eliminated in November 1994	vehicles) is taxed	charged on top of
	Budget, which raised the excise duty on	at 9.29p/l.	fuel duty, which

	diesel to equal that on unleaded petrol. This followed a 1993 report of the Quality of Urban Air Review Group, which drew attention to the rapidly-growing problem of particulates emissions from diesel vehicles in urban areas. **Ultra-low sulphur** and sulphur free** petrol and diesel were taxed more lightly than regular petrol and diesel. By 2001, ULSP and ULSD had superseded petrol and diesel in sales terms and by 2007 SFD became the most sold form of diesel fuel. By 2008 sales of regular petrol and diesel were so low that the tax differentials were removed. Lower rates of duty apply to alternative road fuels, including biofuels, gas used as a road fuel, and bioethanol. However very little is sold — in 2007/8 25.5bn litres of diesel, 24.0bn litres of petrol, of which only 500m litres or so were biofuels*	The tax rates for various alternative fuels are: Biodiesel and Bioethanol: 30.35p/l Natural gas: 13.7p/kg LPG: 16.49p/kg	effectively raises revenues by an additional 17.5%
Vehicle excise duty differentiation	From June 1999, an annual vehicle excise duty differential was introduced to favour cars with small engines; this now applies only to vehicles registered before March 2001. For cars first registered after 1 March 2001, VED has been graduated according to the CO ₂ emissions performance of the vehicle model. Charges are made in seven bands. The lowest band (A) is zero and payable for vehicles with an emissions performance of less than 101g CO ₂ /km, whilst the highest band (G) is payable by vehicles with an emissions performance of more than 225g CO ₂ /km (though the highest band G rate applies only to vehicles registered since 23 March 2006). In 2007, only 544 vehicles were sold in the lowest emissions band, though sales of alternative fuel and hybrid vehicles were over 16,600 in total. Budget 2008 proposed to increase the number of bands to 13 from April 2009 with a top rate for vehicles emitting more than 255g CO ₂ /km of £440. It also proposed a "showroom tax" – a VED which is different in the first year than subsequent years and which would be higher for the most polluting vehicles (up to £950 in the first year for cars in the top band M).	Vehicles registered before March 2001 Engine size < 1,550cc: £120pa Engine size ≥ 1,550cc: £185pa Vehicles registered in or after March 2001 £0 — £400 per year for vehicles registered after 23 March 2006; £0 - £210 for vehicles registered earlier.	2001/2: £4.3bn 2002/3: £4.3bn 2003/4: £4.7bn 2004/5: £4.7bn 2005/6: £5.0bn 2006/7: £5.1bn 2007/8: £5.4bn 2008/9: £6.1bn
Company car and fuel taxation	Company cars make up more than half of new cars sold in the UK. From 2002, the assumed income derived from provision of company cars has depended on the emissions rating of the vehicle provided. Since April 2008, cars with emissions of less than 120g CO ₂ /km generate a taxable benefit in kind of 10% of the list price (13% for diesel cars) whilst those with emissions of more than 235g CO ₂ /km derive an assumed benefit of 35% of the list price. Lower emissions vehicles will therefore attract a lower tax rate.	The percentage multiplier applied to the list price or the fuel scale varies from 10% — 35% for petrol cars and from 13% — 35% for diesel cars.	Data from HMRC for 2004/5 suggests that estimated tax liabilities are: Cars: £1,420m Fuel: £380m Vans: £30m

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	Since 2003, a similar scale has applied for		
	fuel provided by companies, with the		
	percentage multiplier applied to a fixed value		
	of £14,400 (£16,900 from April 2008).		
Central	Introduced February 2003 by the Greater	£8/day	Estimates net of
London	London Authority. Exemptions include taxis,	•	running costs
congestion	buses, emergency services vehicles, and	(residents of the	
charge	vehicles used by the registered disabled.	zone are eligible to	2003/4: £80m
	Vehicles using gas, electric, fuel cells and	receive a 90%	2004/5: £97m
	bi/dual fuel sources are exempt. The charge	discount)	2005/6: £122m
	was originally set at £5 per day, for driving	,	2006/7: £123m
	within a 21-square kilometre area of central		2007/8: £137m
	London, and was raised in July 2005. In		
	February 2007, the zone expanded in size		
	towards the West of London. The charge is		
	monitored and enforced through cameras		
	able to read vehicle registration numbers,		
	sited at entry points to the zone, and at other		
	locations within the zone. Annual revenues		
	net of running costs are reinvested in London		
	transport. The estimated effect on		
	congestion is a reduction of around 25 –		
2	30% relative to a pre-charge baseline.		

^a Up to 2007/8, revenue figures are out-turns from ONS Financial Statistics; 2008/9 figures are forecasts from Budget 2008. Figures for the Congestion Charge come from Transport for London. Figures for company car taxes are estimates for 2004/5.

^b Figures from HMRC UK Trade Info Hydrocarbon Oils bulletin, July 2008