



New Roadside Checks – Is Your Fleet Ready?

Back in May 2017, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) published a draft plan to improve air quality through the reduction of nitrogen dioxide levels in the UK. This included looking at ways to reduce emissions produced by vehicles including those used commercially.

This is hugely significant for fleet operators as from next month, the DVSA will be targeting lorry drivers and operators by introducing new roadside emissions level checks.

For any offending vehicle, if the emissions system isn't corrected within 10 days, DVSA will issue a fine and stop the vehicle being used on the road. DVSA enforcement staff can also insist that a vehicle be taken off the road immediately if they find a driver or operator is repeatedly offending.

There's no doubt this new legislation, whilst welcome for the environment, will have a strong and potentially costly impact on the haulage industry.

Findings gathered from DVSA's enforcement staff and their European counterparts showed a significant number of drivers and operators were found to use a variety of emissions cheat devices to cut the cost of operating - these have shown to increase emission levels above the agreed limit.

At Engine Carbon Clean our team of engineers work on fleets of all shapes and sizes and we see first-hand the detrimental effects carbon build-up can have on engines and their emissions and running costs. Increased wear and tear on parts and declining fuel efficiency all take their toll on the operator's bottom line.

With the new emissions roadside checks just around the corner, now is the time to safeguard your most important assets by keeping your vehicles on the road. After all, it's just where they should be.

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