

The Transport (Scotland) Bill

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Are we there yet?

Introduction

What's in the Bill?

- Low Emission Zones
- Pavement parking
- Bus services
- Smart ticketing



Timeline

- 11 June 2018 – Bill published
- October/November 2018 – Committee sessions
- 7 March – REC Committee report published

- 4 April 2019 – **Next week!** – Stage 1 debate in Parliament
- Summer – ? – Stage 2 debate, including amendments
- Autumn – ? – Stage 3, passage of the bill

Low Emission Zones: what does the bill say?

- **Not much.**
- **Legislative framework for LEZs in Scotland:** LAs have the power to implement, change and revoke LEZs, subject to agreement from Scottish Ministers
- **Penalty v. charge:** designed to prevent entry rather than charge for entry. The fine can be up to £5,000
- **Grace periods:** for residents of a zone it is 2-6 years, and non-residents 1-4 years

What did Committee say?

- Vehicle standards and signage should be nationally decided, not set locally.
- Current funding structures are unclear.
- Alternative options are needed before LEZs come into effect.
- Need to avoid displacement.



Pavement parking: what does the bill say?

- **Footway parking:** illegal to park any part of a vehicle on a “footway”, unless streets are exempted by the LA
- **Double parking:** illegal to park a vehicle if no part of the vehicle is within 50cm of the edge of the road. This prevents poor parking, but also parking alongside another vehicle which is correctly parked
- **Enforcement:** parking offences are fully decriminalised to all LAs, which means all now have the power to enforce this with traffic wardens, etc.

What did Committee say?

- Retain pavement parking if there is 1.5m footway
- Extend parking ban to cycleways
- 20 minute loading exemption should be dropped
- Powers extended to ban parking to block dropped kerbs/crossing points
- Enforcement: is this a “power” or a “duty”?

Workplace Parking Levies

- Agreed as amendment as part of the Budget negotiations.
- Opposed by Conservatives, Labour and Liberal Democrats.
- Strongly supported by two SNP-led councils
- REC Committee to take evidence
- John Finnie will move an amendment at Stage 2, and SNP MSPs will be expected to vote for it...

