



MAG Position Statement

Road pricing

In brief

MAG opposes the implementation in the UK of road pricing on powered two wheelers. It is an additional tax on the road user, over and above the charges already levied on those who own vehicles for personal use.

The benefits

Powered two wheelers (PTWs) offer a solution to the issues surrounding today's congested towns and cities. They are generally designed to carry fewer passengers, carry less laden weight across a smaller contact area and are well maintained by their owners.

- PTWs emit negligible amounts of NOx
- PTWs can move through traffic, spending less time stationary and causing pollution
- PTWs cause less damage to the road surface
- PTWs over their lifetime are more environmentally friendly than a car (when comparing similar vehicles)

Charging a vehicle to use the highway does not ease congestion or prevent that vehicle from creating pollution.

Charging owners of older vehicles (a planned proposal in some areas) is discriminatory, especially against those in the lower earning/social structure who can neither afford to purchase a newer, exempt, vehicle nor use public transport (should public transport even be suitable for their journeys).

If all PTW users switched to cars then congestion would increase. However, if 10% of car users switched to PTWs there would be a 40% reduction in congestion*.

Currently

At the present time there are plans to introduce low emission and ultra low emission zones across the UK. MAG has already submitted responses to some of those consultations, e.g. London. Motorcycles are exempt from charging in some areas, e.g. Leeds.

MAG position

MAG is opposed to the charging of PTWs to use the public highway.

MAG builds arguments based on facts and we will present these to any authority looking to introduce road charging for PTWs.

*Figures from the Belgian Transport & Mobility Leuven study