

### **Are all electric and hybrid models covered?**

The vast majority of models on the market are covered, as per the [plug-in grant scheme](#). It is for cars with less than 50g/km CO<sub>2</sub> emissions that can travel at least 16km (10 miles) with zero CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. At this level, the vehicles are mostly full electric, plug-in hybrids and newer standard hybrids. Note that we can also cover taxis, mopeds and motorcycles within the same emissions bracket. For vans, the limit is less than 75g/km CO<sub>2</sub> that can travel at least 10 miles with zero emissions. This again aligns with the plug-in grant scheme but as this sector is newer it covers all electric and most hybrids on the market.

### **How much will each business get?**

This will depend on several factors (nature of business, annual mileage, emissions savings versus current fleet, readiness to proceed, number of vehicles being replaced) but eligible businesses can typically expect to receive a 40% grant of anything from £5K to £20K towards total costs. One important thing to note is that our ERDF funding can only be matched against private sector spend; if the vehicle is to be rented or leased then this will affect the amount that we can approve.

### **Can used vehicles also get funding?**

If they fit the above criteria, then yes. Note that some older hybrid models will not qualify (such as the original Toyota Prius at 92g/km CO<sub>2</sub>) and that many of them will no longer be covered by warranty.

### **Can I also get the Plug-In Car grant?**

Yes, most certainly. We have deliberately aligned the two offerings to give the greatest incentive for firms to make the move as and when they can. The [Plug In Car Grant](#) is available at point of sale and arranged by the dealership/manufacturer, whilst LoCASE funding will be retrospectively reimbursed into the SME's account once evidence of the invoice being paid is received.

### **What's the catch?**

There isn't one. If you're a business based in Kent and Medway and not already in receipt of €200,000 of State Aid, then let's talk. We're aware that there are a number of barriers to taking the plunge in a business investment so we're on hand to help see where this could fit into other plans for your company. We have had to add a ceiling of £50K vehicle value as we can't legitimately cover prestige/performance models.



### **Can you also help with charging points?**

Though there is a [scheme](#) to help with infrastructure to power these vehicles, it may be that extra funding assistance is needed (such as to link to a solar array for example) so we can certainly look to include these in project costs if applicable. Note that Government support has risen from £300 per charging point to £500.

### **Where can I find out more information?**

The best 'one stop shop' resource is the [Go Ultra Low website](#). This provides all the information you need including the facts and answers you're looking for to make an informed decision. This is a joint Government and car industry site, supported by Audi, BMW, Hyundai, Kia, Nissan, Renault, Toyota, Volkswagen, the Society of Motor Manufacturers & Traders (SMMT), and the Government's Office for Low Emission Vehicles.

To find out more about LoCASE and how else we're helping firms in your neighbourhood, take a look at our [website](#)

### **What's the process?**

Once registered with LoCASE, each SME will then be assisted with the application form and informed of their successful award. Firms can then place their order with the dealer, manufacturer, seller or finance company and claim back funding from the programme to be paid directly into their bank account.

### **What's the length of time this will all take?**

It will depend mainly on the will of your business to proceed. Approvals are fortnightly, so you could move from mere interest in an Ultra-Low Emissions Vehicle to purchase in just a few weeks. Claims can be fully processed within a fortnight of receipt of the necessary paperwork (invoice from the supplier, new vehicle details & bank statement showing settling of invoice from the business bank account). In short, with a fair wind, it could be a little over a month from first contact to full grant payment...by which time you'll already be realising the many benefits of going ultra-low.

### **What about if I'm looking at a lease/finance package?**

That's fine by us, cash flow is key to small businesses. Note that we can only ever cover 40% of what is paid by the business so bear this in mind when thinking about up front deposits and monthly payments. We will need sight of the lease agreement (or similar) but otherwise



the process is the same as above. It should be noted that we can process up to 4 claims, so monthly payments would need to be paid in batches.

**Can we look at anything else for our business at the same time?**

Most certainly. When you contact us, we can also cover other aspects/areas of your business which could be assisted through LoCASE. If applicable, other projects can go into the same application.

**Why are we helping?**

Grant funding from LoCASE will enable our businesses to improve their resource efficiency and improve air quality at the same time. This not only fits in with a raft of local and national strategies but also completes our suite of offerings for SMEs seeking to reduce their environmental impacts. We're also looking to assist in the development and adoption of low-carbon technologies. If we can do our bit to help firms realise the opportunities available to them, not just from transport but all aspects of their operations then we should do so!

