

CAR TAX CHANGES A 'TICKING TIMEBOMB'

Tories believe 3.7m people will lose £90 under new car tax rules

An overhaul of the car tax system that would see spiralling costs for drivers of the most polluting cars is a 'ticking timebomb', the government has been warned.

The Tories believe it could become next year's 10p tax row and have deeply criticised the proposals.

During a debate ministers were told it was a mistake to apply the highest band of vehicle excise duty to cars registered after 2001.

The government has been accused of using it as a 'stealth tax' by concealing the changes made in the Budget.

The Conservatives estimate that a large number of families would see car tax double, but would not be able to afford to change their car.

They believe that 3.7m people will lose £90 a year under the proposals.

The government is pushing the changes through on the back of environmental awareness.

Drivers of the most polluting cars (band M) will pay £440 in tax and from April 2010 people buying such car will pay a one-off 'showroom tax' of up to £950.

In a Tory-led debate on Wednesday, shadow chief secretary to the Treasury Philip Hammond called the measures a 'ticking timebomb' under the chancellor's successor for 2009, 'just as surely as his predecessor's Budget was primed to explode under him'.

The PPP comments ... The PPP are opposed to anti-car policies in the absence of any alternative. These policies are primarily stealth taxes attempting to fill the bottomless pit of government waste in every sphere of public service and services. They are also part of the left's irrational anti-car policy and blind belief in the global warming SCAM. They are instead of rational long term energy and transport policies which they are mentally incapable of comprehending never mind defining and implementing. They are fortunately on the way out led by the likes of John Prescott and Ken Livingstone and Gwyneth Dinwoody all of whom did serious damage to our transport infrastructure and future strategy.

A structured policy would require the DoT working with manufacturers and the whole vehicle industry to encourage maximum efficiency, minimum pollution and REAL alternatives for us to get to work, the shops, schools and our leisure requirements.