A new Mayor, a new approach to improving air quality

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A new Mayor...

• Sadiq Khan was elected Mayor of London on 5 May 2016

• Clear mandate to improve London’s air quality

• Has identified air quality as London’s biggest environmental challenge

• Manifesto set out desire to do a bigger and/or sooner Ultra Low Emission Zone amongst many other measures

• Made a major policy announcement on air quality on Friday 13th May 2016…
Why is air quality so important?

Public Health
• In 2015 the GLA published it’s assessment of the combined health impacts of particulate matter (PM$_{2.5}$) and nitrogen dioxide (NO$_2$). This estimated that the equivalent of 9,500 deaths were caused by long-term exposure to air pollution.
• A baby born in London in 2010 who was exposed to 2010’s air quality for its entire life would lose 2.2 years (if male) and 2 years (if female) of life expectancy.

Fairness
• The health impacts associated with air pollution fall disproportionally on our most vulnerable communities, affecting the poorest and those from minority ethnic groups more acutely. Tackling air pollution is about social justice and there is an urgent need to do more to tackle public health inequalities.

Legal compliance
• Like most major European cities, London does not meet the legal requirements for some pollutants (mainly Nitrogen Dioxide (NO$_2$) but issues remain with Particulate Matter).
Recent trends in London’s air quality

NO$_2$ 2010

NO$_2$ trend 2000-2015

PM$_{10}$ trend 2004-2015
Population growth
Solutions

Congestion charge

Low Emission Zone

Buses

Taxis

Cycling

Electric cars
Solutions

Air Quality Neutral

Local

Mayor’s Air Quality Fund

Retrofit

Health and comms

Construction

AIR QUALITY IN WANDSWORTH: A GUIDE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
Why an Ultra Low Emission Zone?

• Previous Mayor adopted ULEZ to tackle air pollution in central London, which was expected to remain an air quality focus area beyond 2020

• Greatest amount of public exposure and highest emissions occur here

• Congestion Zone is established with embedded travel behaviour and enforcement

• An opportunity to promote and encourage use of ultra low emission vehicles by building on existing Ultra Low Emission Discount

• A driver to transform TfL services
ULEZ standards

Upgrade or switch to a compliant vehicle by 2020

- Euro VI (<6 years old in 2020)
- Euro 6 (diesel) (<4-5 years old in 2020) or Euro 4 (petrol) (<13-14 years old in 2020)
- Euro 3 (<13 years old in 2020)

Stay and pay a ULEZ charge

- £100 daily charge
- £12.50 daily charge

Adapt journey

A proportion of drivers will instead change route or destination, change mode or reduce the amount they travel.
London’s Ultra Low Emission Zone

- Significant reduction in emissions from Ultra Low Emission Zone
- ULEZ significantly expedites London’s NO\textsubscript{2} compliance
- But still did not achieve compliance
- Government’s National Air Quality Action Plan assumed 2025 as compliance date

The full ULEZ package would reduce total vehicle NO\textsubscript{x} by 49%, PM\textsubscript{10} / PM\textsubscript{2.5} 64% and CO\textsubscript{2} by 15% in central London.

Breakdown of NO\textsubscript{x} savings according to vehicle type...

- Buses: 74%
- Private hire: 25%
- Trucks: 48%
- Goods vehicles: 38%
- Cars: 42%
- Motorcycles: 15%
- Buses: 50%
Air quality one of four top Mayoral priorities alongside housing, fares and fairness.

The Mayor has announced that he will launch a formal policy consultation in a matter of weeks on a major package of measures to tackle air pollution in London.

"I want to act before an emergency, which is why we need big, bold and sometimes difficult policies if London is to meet the scale of the challenge."

“In the past, London has only responded after an emergency, like with the Clean Air Act, which followed the Great London Smogs of the 1950s. But I want to act before an emergency, which is why we need big, bold and sometimes difficult policies if London is to match the scale of the challenge.”
Mayor’s announcement

Ultra Low Emission Zone and other charges

• Extending the Ultra-Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) to the North Circular Road and the South Circular Road and the possibility of bringing forward the introduction earlier than 2020. Under current plans the ULEZ will only operate within the Congestion Charging Zone and it is due to come in from 2020.

• Implementing an extra charge on the most polluting vehicles entering central London using the Congestion Charge payment and enforcement system from 2017 (this would not mean an increase in the Congestion Charge but just the method for collecting the extra charge from people driving the most polluting vehicles)

• Introducing ULEZ standards for heavy vehicles London-wide from 2020

• To balance and mitigate effects the Mayor has also called on Government to implement a national diesel scrappage scheme
Mayor’s announcement

TfL to lead by example

- Introducing self-imposed ULEZ standards a year earlier for TfL double decker buses
- Implementing clean bus corridors – tackling the worst pollution hotspots by concentrating cleaner buses on the dirtiest routes
- Expanding the ULEZ retrofit programme to 3,000 buses outside the central zone (up from 2,000)
- Purchasing only hybrid or zero-emission double-decker buses from 2018.
Mayor’s announcement

Next steps

• Three stages of consultation, becoming progressively more detailed.

• Policy consultation to begin in a matter of weeks.

• Will be meeting with key stakeholders including London’s boroughs, including some joint workshops.

• Emails to follow so keep your eyes peeled!
Particulate Matter

LAQN Pollution Episodes
Enter postcode or area: Find

Wandsworth - Battersea - Index level 10
View monitoring data

LAQN Pollution Episodes
Enter postcode or area: Find

Greenwich - Millennium Village - Index level 10
View monitoring data
Non-road mobile machinery (NRMM)

- We have published an SPG to support the policies in the London Plan, with guidance on:
  - the Air Quality Statement;
  - the identification of the potential scale of dust emissions for each stage of work;
  - the identification of the level of risk due to the scale of dust emissions
  - best practice methods for controlling dust on-site and to prevent trackout
  - recommendations for monitoring
  - emission standards for non-road mobile machinery

- New London Plan provides new opportunities to address other emission sources...
Enhanced comms and awareness raising

Pigeon Air Patrol @PigeonAir · Mar 16
Want to find out how toxic your air is? Ask me. A pigeon. Tweet just your London area to @PigeonAir #PigeonAir
Tying it all together

- Towards a new London Environment Strategy – opportunities for maximising synergies, e.g. with climate change and noise
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