

MAYOR OF LONDON



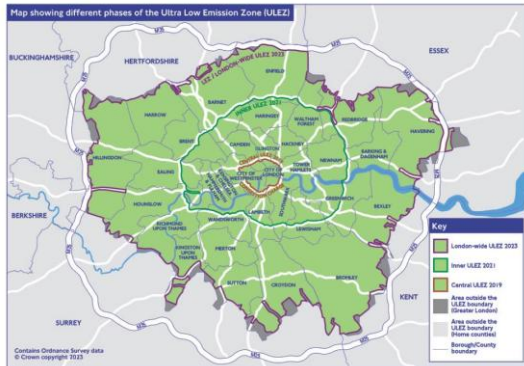
Air Quality & WHO Standards: London Context

IMPROVING LONDON'S AIR QUALITY IS A MAYORAL PRIORITY



“London will have the best air quality of any major world city by 2050, going beyond the legal requirements to protect human health and minimise inequalities.”

THE GLA'S AIR QUALITY PROGRAMME USED THE POWERS WE HAVE TO TACKLE POLLUTION AT SOURCE



London Wide ULEZ



Cleaner bus fleet



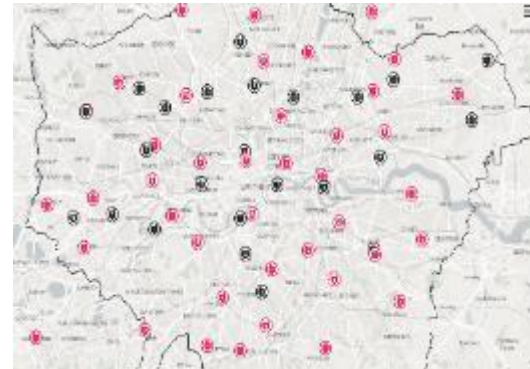
Zero emission capable taxis



Planning guidance
Air Quality Neutral



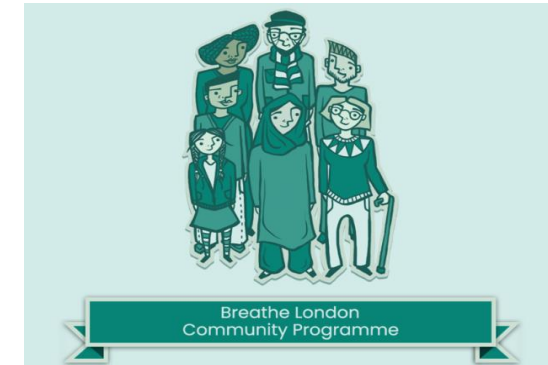
Investment in walking
and cycling



Electric vehicle charging
infrastructure

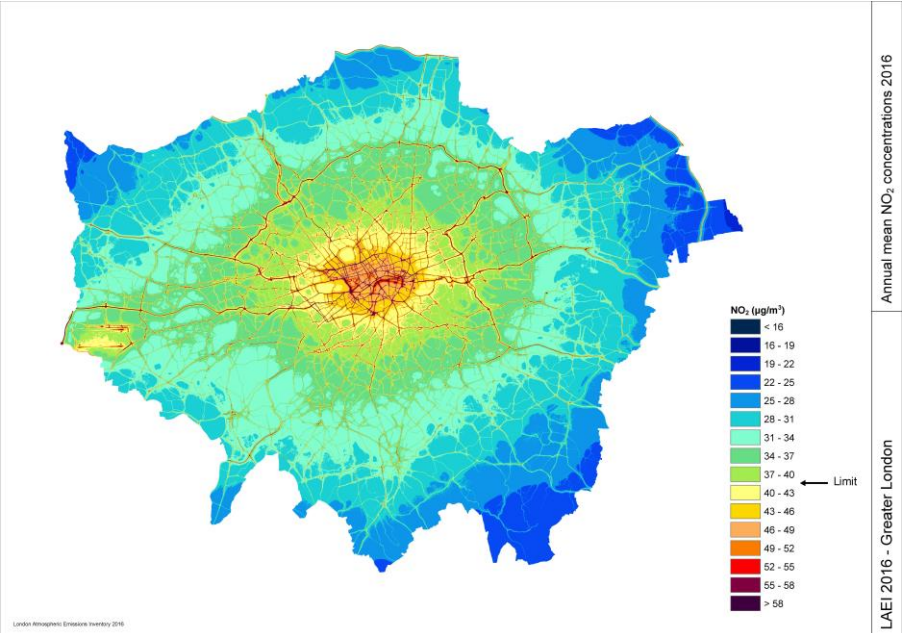


Mayor's Air Quality Fund

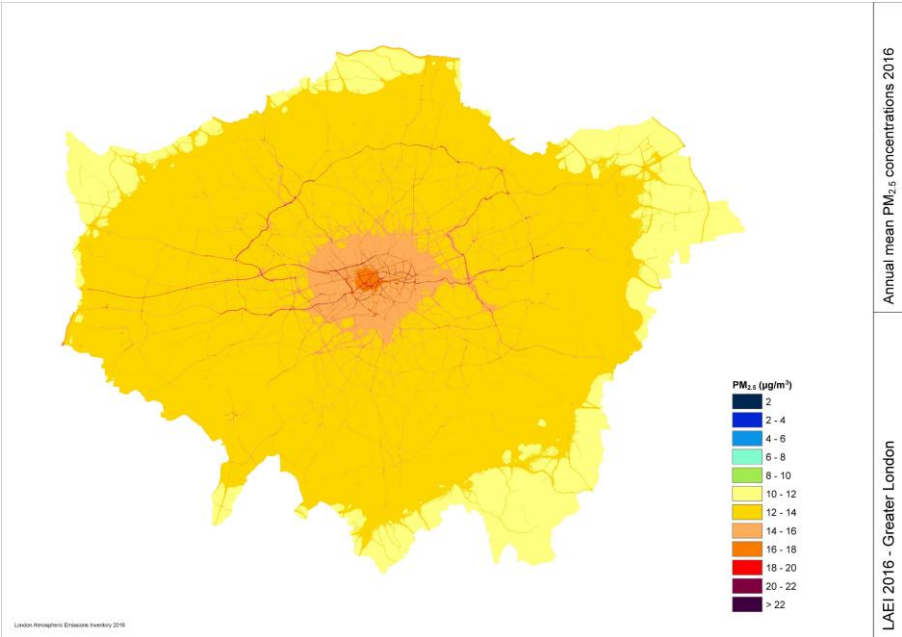


Breathe London network

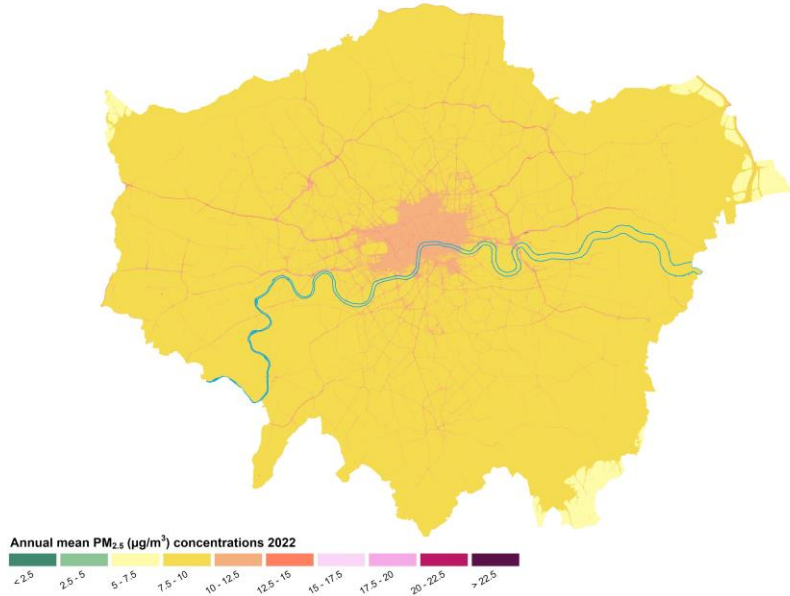
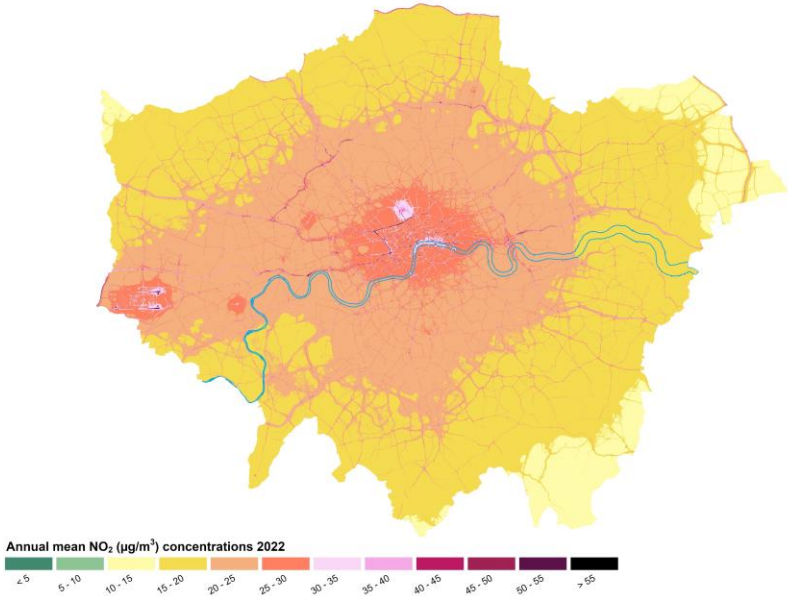
PROGRESS IN LONDON



2016



2022



CHALLENGES

- WHO guidelines are significantly more stringent than UK legal limits
- Non-transport pollution sources (construction, heating, industry, NEE) are harder to tackle
- Unequal exposure persists for deprived and vulnerable communities
- Limited city-level powers constrain action beyond transport

OPPORTUNITIES

- Cities can act as testbeds for ambitious, health-led policy
- Rapid uptake of zero-emission vehicles and cleaner heating technologies
- Planning and development policies can actively improve local air quality
- Public awareness and behaviour change are stronger than a decade ago

FEASIBILITY OF MEETING WHO GUIDELINES

- Sustained improvement depends on collaboration with national government, regulators, businesses, and neighbouring regions
- Reaching WHO guideline levels is challenging but may be feasible over the long term, with continued policy commitment, technological innovation, and coordinated governance
- The direction of travel is clear: WHO standards set the destination, and long-term cooperation is what will get us there
- Achieving them depends on long-term commitment and multi-level governance
- The challenge is shared — and so are the solutions