

# Air Quality in Leicester


## Where We Are & What We Are Doing

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Health & Wellbeing Board  
27<sup>th</sup> June 2019



## Where We Are




### The impact of air quality on health

That air pollution impacts on health is in no doubt, each year in the UK, around **40,000 deaths** are attributable to exposure to outdoor air pollution.

Poor air quality has been linked to **cancer, asthma, stroke and heart disease, diabetes, obesity, and changes linked to dementia.**

Health problems resulting from exposure to air pollution have a **high cost to our health services and to business.** In the UK, these costs add up to more than **£20 billion** every year.


Source: Every breath we take; the lifelong impact of air pollution, Royal College of Physicians (2016)



### The impact of air quality on health: over a lifetime


Public Health England | Health Matters

#### Air pollution affects people throughout their lifetime




**Pregnancy**

low birth weight




**Children**

asthma  
development problems  
more wheezing and coughs  
start of atherosclerosis



**Adults**


asthma  
coronary heart disease  
lung cancer  
chronic obstructive pulmonary disease  
diabetes  
Stroke



**Elderly**

asthma  
accelerated decline lung function  
lung cancer  
diabetes  
dementia  
heart failure, heart attack and strokes

More vulnerable groups include children and older people, those already in ill health and the most deprived living in built up areas.




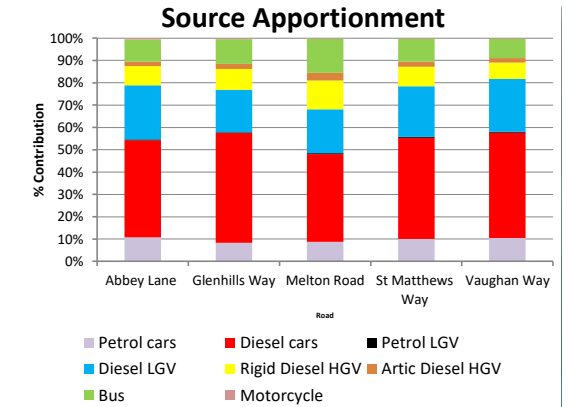
### Current Position: NO2 Sources

Leicester NOx source apportionment for point, area and traffic sources

- Key pollutants: NO2; PM10 & 2.5)
- NOx primary transport focus

80% NO2 from road traffic

- Road Traffic
- Industrial Point Sources
- Area Sources (domestic and commercial)

### Leicester – Compliance Summary 2018

		TARGET	
		EU	WHO
NO2	1 hr	✓	✓
	Ann Mean	✗	✗
PM10	1 hr	✓	✓
	Ann Mean	✓	✗
PM2.5	1 hr	✓	✓
	Ann Mean	✓	✗



### Secretary of State Direction

- October 2018
- Requirement to meet NO2 EU level “in quickest possible time”
- Fully model traffic and air quality
- Must benchmark improvement options against an All Vehicle charging zone
- Outline Business Case required by 31 October 2019



### What Are We Doing?

Following examples illustrate :

- Policies and action plans
- Leicester’s position in a national context
- Range of measures and initiatives underway
- Our response to the Sec of State mandate
- Research
- Funding

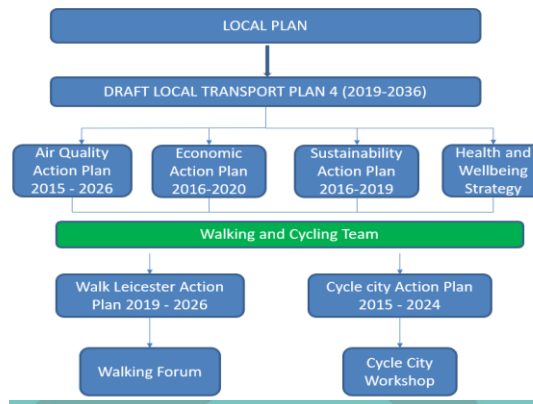


### AQAP (2015-2026) & AQMA

■ = Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)

**Healthier Air for Leicester**  
Leicester's Air Quality Action Plan (2015-2026)

- Seven Ambitions
- Four Themes
- 16 Headline Actions



### National Context

- **1<sup>st</sup> Wave (Dec 2015)**
  - assumed CAZ required
  - 6 LA's incl. Derby & Nottingham
  - Initial plan by Mar 2018
  - Final Dec 2018
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Wave (July 2017)**
  - modelling required
  - 22 LA's
  - Local Action plan by Mar 2018
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Wave (Aug 2018)**
  - 33 authorities;
  - 8 to do more studies
  - Leicester +
  - Bolsover, Bradford, Portsmouth, Broxbourne, Newcastle-under-Lyme & Stoke-on-Trent, and Liverpool
  - Report by Oct 2019



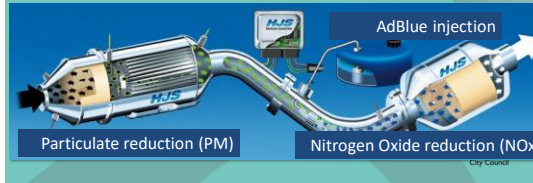
### LCC in National Context

- Supported Client Earth when prosecuting govt over inadequate AQ plans
- Joined UK 100 group
- Objected to Defra / JAQU when Leicester omitted from initial list of mandated authorities – felt issues were underestimated
- Declared Climate Emergency
- Been pro-active on AQ issues



### Bus Retrofits / Clean Air Zone Agreement

- Project BREATHE - £764,770 DfT grant
- Clean Bus Technology Fund - £ 3,183,162.00
- Over 200 buses retrofitted by 2020
- Bus Ops CAZ Agreement (2018):
  - Euro VI min standard by end of 2020



### EV Charging Points

- Installed in car parks 160+
- Funds secured for £390k taxi charging points and £500k for publicly available chargers
- Promote charging through planning process
- On-street trials – West End / Clarendon Park
- Challenge – technology changing fast



### ERDF - Leicester Low Carbon Transport Accelerator Grant



£12.5m project with 4 themes:

- Connecting Leicester – London Rd; Horsefair St; Pocklington's Walk
- ULEV Grants – offset add'l costs
- Solar Panels (St Margaret's BS; 2 car parks)
- Behavioural change programme



### Connecting Leicester

- Urban Realm /Walking/Cycling

- Newarke Street
- Welford Rd
- Belgrave Gte Sth
- London Rd
- King St / Welford Rd
- Bonners La – York Rd
- DMU Mill Lane Campus



### Transforming Cities Tranche 1 – £7.8m (19-20)


- 1. Connecting Leicester (£6.25m)**
  - 6 cycle / walking schemes
  - 500 bike / 50 dock Bike Share
  - 2 Secure Cycle Parking Hubs (SMBS & Humb. Gte)
- 2. Electric'n Birstall P&R (£1.6m)**
  - 5 single deck electric buses
  - Charging infrastructure

**Tranche 2 Bid – submit Nov 2019**



### Promoting Sustainable Transport

<b>Business Engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LCC Staff</li> <li>Sustran's Staff</li> <li>Living Street's staff</li> <li>Go Travel Solutions</li> </ul>
<b>Community Engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LCC Staff</li> <li>Sustran's Staff</li> <li>Living Street's staff</li> <li>British Cycling Staff</li> <li>Led Walk and Led Ride Volunteers</li> </ul>
<b>School Engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LCC Staff</li> <li>Sustran's Staff</li> <li>Living Street's Staff</li> <li>British Cycling Staff</li> </ul>



### School & Business Engagement




### Clean Air Day 2019



### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



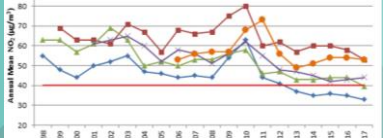


**Cycling: - 2x by 2024**  
**Walking: +20% by 2025**

### Cycling & Walking – Events



### Post AQ Mandate – What are we doing?

- Modelling AQ – like other mandated cities
- Testing the impact of our interventions?
- Will they make us compliant?
- Benchmarking against a charged CAZ – gov requirement.
- Review results / submit our local plan Oct 2019
- Await Defra response

## Research – Exposure to NO2

- Research with Univ. of Leicester
- Monitor exposure by travel mode for same journey
- Early evidence – active modes reduce exposure



## To conclude

- Lots of positive action
- Many aligned with health objectives
- AQ results are improving
- Radials – all EU compliant
- CRR & ORR exceedances
- Working on SoS Mandate
- Secure funding where possible

Healthier  
**AIR**  
for Leicester

Continue to expand infrastructure & promote sustainable travel



Leicester  
City Council