

Wandsworth Council

# Air Quality Action Plan

2023 > 2028





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## Statement by the **Wandsworth Citizens Assembly** on Air Quality

Wandsworth's Citizens Assembly on Air Quality met from February to April 2023. These 54 local residents included people from all walks of life, who were selected randomly from Wandsworth's residents. They considered the question 'How can we all tackle poor air quality across Wandsworth in a way that improves our health and addresses climate change?' They made 53 recommendations, in order of priority. This Air Quality Action Plan draws heavily on those recommendations.

The following statement was written by a group of assembly members and then edited and discussed by the rest of the group. 86% of the assembly members who voted on the recommendations either strongly support or support the statement.



“

*We are all residents of Wandsworth. We love living here and we are proud to live here. We are your neighbours. We are you, making difficult decisions every day.*

*As people that have come together through the Citizens Assembly many of us have had our eyes opened. We have learnt from fellow residents, businesses and others. And we now know how vulnerable many of us are including our children, and we are frustrated by past actions. However, we also believe that the changes needed are both necessary and will actually make our Wandsworth an even better place to live.*

*Air pollution is all around us and our choices are killing us. Air pollution is a fact. Air pollution contributes to poorer health outcomes and we are frightened. We recognise that acting on air pollution will help address climate change. We recognise that a lot needs to be done, we need change and we need action. Our decision makers need educating and much of our behaviours must be changed.*

*But all of us have a role to play and we have shown that by coming together we can identify the things we have in common that must be acted upon. We are encouraged as we can see what can be done and we believe that this can change the borough for the better.*

*We do recognise that the Council has limits to its powers but it must be encouraged to do what it can and push on what it can't.*

*We have a sense of hard work and tough choices ahead but are hopeful as we know the solutions exist.*

”



# Foreword

## by Cllr Judi Gasser

**Air pollution is a serious threat to all our health, but especially the young, the old and people with existing health problems. The news of its effects seems to get worse every day. So tackling it is a top priority for this Labour administration as part of our wider work on climate change. We know that to improve air quality we have to make difficult choices while ensuring those choices make sense in people's daily lives. That's why we promised to hold a Citizens Assembly on Air Quality, to help us find new ways to tackle the problem, to help prioritise the actions that are needed in ways that make sense to Wandsworth's residents, and to help us build momentum behind those actions.**

And I'm really glad we did. The Assembly did great work. They studied a huge amount of evidence, listened to external experts on air pollution, medicine, climate change, transport and more. And they debated how best to tackle the issues while balancing the needs of different groups of residents. The 53 Assembly recommendations can't all be delivered by the Council, but I'm proud to say that we will implement all 26 of the top 30 recommendations the Council can deliver over the life of this Air Quality Action Plan, and we will work with partners like TfL to deliver others, including making sure our buses are zero emissions.

More than this, we will deliver a further 22 actions including those that affect the daily operations of the Council, like cleaning up our own vehicle fleets, improving the energy efficiency of our buildings, and ensuring the companies that work for us, like parks contractors, use clean fleets. This Council plans to lead by example.

Even in areas where our powers are limited, we've heard the Assembly's call to action and will find a way. While we seek the powers to limit wood burning stoves, we'll make sure residents know the effect it has on air quality and call on them to stop burning wood. While we wait for Government to develop standards for future homes, we'll help the least well off reduce the costs of heating through energy efficiency improvements at home.

Many measures not only improve air quality, but also reduce climate pollution. Many will save people money during the current cost-of-living crisis. Many will make it easier to get to the shops on foot or by bike helping reduce traffic, as well as helping drivers prepare for the future of electric vehicles. Many will make our roads safer, especially around our schools. Many will help our local shops and businesses, making it easier for people to access them safely and in fresh air and get deliveries without pollution.

And, just as the Assembly called for, we will work to ensure people understand the problem and how to protect themselves. We all have a part to play in tackling air pollution, like switching off our engines when idling. But we also have a right to understand how to reduce our exposure to air pollution, whether we're out at the shops, going to school or driving to work. In fact drivers can be exposed to some of the highest air pollution levels of all.

To help us get the message out, I'm delighted some members of the Citizen Assembly have volunteered to talk to community groups about the lessons they learned on air quality during the assembly. They will be our new Air Quality Ambassadors, and we'll also ask them to check back to make sure we're making the progress we promised, every year.

And we have agreed our overarching goal should be to go beyond UK law and adopt the World Health Organisation guidelines on air quality. These challenge us to keep improving air quality steadily until we eventually get to levels that can be considered safe.

Thanks again to all our Citizens Assembly members, for all your hard work. Working together, we residents of Wandsworth can tackle air pollution while reducing the climate change and improving all our health.

**Cllr Judi Gasser**  
Cabinet member for Environment





# Cleaner air for Wandsworth and healthier lives for all

Preface by the Director of Public Health, Shannon Katiyo

As we know, air pollution has negative impacts on health across the whole life course, from pregnancy and birth, and all the way through adulthood. Although air pollution can be harmful to everyone, some people are more affected because they live in a polluted area, are exposed to higher levels of air pollution in their day-to-day lives or are more susceptible to health problems caused by air pollution. People who are more likely to be affected include older people, children, individuals with existing cardiovascular or respiratory disease, pregnant women, and communities in areas of higher pollution, such as close to busy roads.

Over the years, great strides have been made to tackle air pollution in Wandsworth. We have seen improvements in places such as Putney High Street in having cleaner public buses and the Nine Elms regeneration area with more stringent planning conditions and active enforcement. In addition, we have seen an increase in the number of people being physically active and the number of electric vehicles in the borough.

Recent data from the Air Quality Annual Status Report for 2023 shows reductions in pollution from nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) over the last 7 years, a key pollutant produced mainly from burning of fossil fuels which can contribute to restricting lung development in children and trigger asthma. While there have been significant improvements, results still show NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations exceeding the UK legal limits in parts of the borough.



Particulate Matter (PM) is one of the most harmful air pollutants which can be produced for example by wood burning, tyre and brake wear from vehicles, construction, demolition, and other sources. Due to the small size of many of the particles that form this pollutant, some of these enter the bloodstream and can be transported around the body, lodging in the heart, brain, and other organs. Living and working near sources of air pollution can lead to higher exposures to air contaminants, many of which contribute to adverse health effects. While the levels of large particulate matter have been mainly within the national objectives, small particulate matter remains an area of concern to health. We have also seen the World Health Organization dramatically reduce its objective levels for these pollutants, so we must make a concerted effort to ensure we are doing all we can to tackle this problem.

I am pleased to have been involved with the Citizens Assembly which was aimed at improving air quality in Wandsworth. It was wonderful to see so many participants at the assembly from diverse backgrounds and life experiences, from different parts of the borough with a keen interest in air quality and its impact on health. There was a strong desire to see local action to help tackle and enable borough residents to lead healthier lives. The importance of tackling air quality is recognised across the borough and resulted in the prioritisation of air quality in the refreshed draft Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy which is out for consultation over the Summer of 2023.



**Shannon Katiyo**  
Director of  
Public Health,





# Action **today**, build for the **future**

This Air Quality Action Plan has been produced as part of our duties under London's Local Air Quality Management regime. It outlines the action we will take to improve air quality in Wandsworth between 2023 and 2028.

The actions we plan have been directly influenced by the work of the Citizens Assembly. This consisted of randomly selected representatives from across the borough acting as the 'voice of Wandsworth'. The group provided not only 53 prioritised recommendations but provided a tone and direction to the council in how we deliver the actions and work with our residents. In developing the Air Quality Action Plan, recommendations from the previous consultation on the draft Plan 2021 – 2026 were also considered, as were officer recommendations, as well as the actions the Council must take to ensure it fulfils its legal and regulatory duties.

An Air Quality Action Plan is not a document to be shelved when it's completed. It's a live document that needs to flex and move around changes in technology, understanding and the changing nature of the environment as well as our local challenges. Reflecting this, we will monitor delivery of the Plan at both a corporate and a community level where we will continually engage throughout the plan, involving our Air Quality Ambassadors.

Not all the actions are within the power of the Council, and some require significant changes in regulation and investment and efforts from all tiers of government. The action we can take, we will, and this will reflect the needs of the borough. Those we can't deliver we will provide a pathway to delivery and start this journey.



We must also recognise the excellent work that's been going on over the years to tackle pollution in the borough and we can see the impact of this in our monitoring results. However, as the Citizens Assembly clearly points out we must do more.

Compliance with the UK objectives isn't enough and does not provide a framework to challenge ourselves nor push action far enough to achieve World Health Organization Guidelines. We should not be content with poor air quality and we will challenge ourselves by setting targets that go beyond those set by Government, by adopting the World Health Organization progressive guidelines for air quality. Specifically, we aim to reduce annual averages of NO<sub>2</sub> to 30µg/m<sup>3</sup> and of PM<sub>2.5</sub> to 10µg/m<sup>3</sup> in the first instance. And in line with World Health Organization recommendations, we will further tighten these targets as they are achieved.

Wandsworth is not a standalone city, but part of a complex picture of London boroughs that all have duties to tackle air pollution. Their action affects us and in some situations, such as when

there is traffic travelling through the borough, we are limited in our ability to tackle this. We want to be a leading borough in London, play an active role in shaping the air quality agenda working in partnership with the GLA and Central government.

Where this partnership fails, we will challenge those that hold power and lobby vigorously with our residents for change, such as tackling the problem of wood burning.

We must not forget that actions to tackle air pollution benefit climate change and health. Air pollution has long been associated with adverse health impacts, it is recognised as a contributing factor in the onset of heart disease, cancer, dementia and other illnesses. And air pollution particularly affects the most vulnerable in society: children and older people, and those with heart and lung conditions. There is also often a strong correlation with equalities issues, because areas with poor air quality are also often the less affluent areas<sup>1,2</sup>.

Continued overleaf

<sup>1</sup> Environmental equity, air quality, socioeconomic status and respiratory health, 2010.

<sup>2</sup> Air quality and social deprivation in the UK: an environmental inequalities analysis, 2006.



The annual health costs to society of the impacts of air pollution in the UK is estimated to be roughly £15 billion<sup>3</sup>. Wandsworth Council is committed to reducing the exposure of people in Wandsworth to poor air quality to improve health.

We have developed our new Air Quality Action Plan building on the themes identified by the Citizens Assembly, and expanding this to include other areas of work where we will take action to improve air quality. These themes are:

#### Leading By Example

#### Raising Awareness, Enabling Protection

#### Improving Transport

#### Walking And Cycling

#### Supporting Our Businesses

#### Protecting, Improving And Growing Our Green Spaces

#### Protecting Our Children And The Most Vulnerable

#### Improving Our Homes And Buildings

In each area we explain the actions we will implement immediately, the goals we want to achieve over the lifespan of the Action Plan or other local strategies, and actions that help us tackle the issues in longer term, especially by informing and updating residents.



<sup>3</sup> Defra. Air Pollution: Action in a Changing Climate, March 2010



# Leading by example

As a Council, we must show leadership on air quality before asking others to do the same. We will demonstrate that reducing our own contributions to air pollution will not only help us achieve our air quality goals but will provide wider benefits by saving money on energy, making homes nicer to live in, and improving public health. In doing so, we will reduce the pollutant emissions from our vehicles, buildings and homes and in how we travel for work and on Council business.

## Adopt the World Health Organisation Global Air Quality Guidelines

Wandsworth Council adopts the World Health Organization guidelines for air quality. Specifically, we aim to reduce annual averages targets for NO<sub>2</sub> to the interim target of 30µg/m<sup>3</sup> and of PM<sub>2.5</sub> to 10µg/m<sup>3</sup> in the first instance, proceeding to the tighter standards once achieved.

## Clean up the Council's fleets with decarbonised, zero and low emission vehicles

We will replace the Council's existing vehicle fleet with low and zero emission vehicles. We will procure a new waste fleet powered by Hydrogenated Vegetable Oil (HVO) that cuts up to 90% of net CO<sub>2</sub> and reduces NO<sub>x</sub>, PM and carbon monoxide. And increase the number of zero emission vehicles used in our parks and estates.

## Support the Implementation of the London wide ULEZ

We understand that this is a tough time for residents as we grapple with a cost of living crisis. However clean air is a right and if the majority of pollution is caused by vehicle use, we must support measures that tackle this. Wandsworth is supporting and supplementing the Mayor of London's ULEZ by offering £1m towards a sustainable transport fund to help residents move to cleaner vehicles.

## Action today on air pollution from our own operations and estates

- Adopt the WHO guidelines on air pollution.
- Support extension of London's Ultra-Low Emission Zone, including Wandsworth's £1million sustainable transport fund to assist Wandsworth residents.
- Transition the Council's own vehicle fleet to low and zero emission vehicles.
- Deliver London's first construction Low Emission Zone, for London Councils.
- Roll out an Air Quality Ambassadors Programme, building on the outcomes of the Citizens Assembly on Air Quality.
- Help our staff to travel sustainably for work by walking, cycling or public transport.
- Roll out a programme of energy efficiency, greenhouse gas and air quality emissions improvements across our estates, buildings and council homes.
- Improve the sustainability of parks contractors by upgrading their fleet to zero tailpipe emissions and use of electric tools.
- Attend and lead local events to promote the Councils climate and air quality work.
- Reduce the health impact of high ozone episodes, including them in our plan to treat the Climate Emergency as a Health Emergency.
- Increase the number of contracts that are commissioned and procured sustainably to minimise unhealthy air pollutant emissions.



## Our goals for this Air Quality Action Plan

- Take a leading approach on London's air quality using the WHO Guidelines.
- Ensure everyone in Wandsworth understands how they can reduce air pollution and climate change and how to protect themselves and their families from air pollution.
- Reduce air pollutant and greenhouse gas emissions from our operations.
- Reduce greenhouse gas and air pollutant emissions from our schools and ensure that our schools are some of the lowest air pollution areas in Wandsworth.
- Reduce greenhouse gases and air pollution from Council buildings and estates.
- Reduce greenhouse gases and air pollution from the operation of our parks.
- Become the leader in London on reducing emissions from construction.



## How we will get there

- Procure new HVO powered waste fleet which will be lower emission than the previous waste fleet and establish infrastructure needs for an EV heavy waste fleet.
- Promote energy efficiency and decarbonisation of buildings for schools, considering air quality.
- Deliver our Decarbonisation Strategy to reduce emissions from Council Buildings, extending it beyond GHGs to include unhealthy air pollutants.
- Extend our work delivering London Councils Low Emissions Zone for construction to include plant and equipment used at events and on our waste sites, linking this to our work with construction sites around Nine Elms.
- Improve collaboration and partnership on air quality and climate change across the health and social care system.
- Develop and deliver a local climate and air quality newsletter.
- Campaign against the Heathrow 3rd Runway expansion plan.
- Maintain and build on the Wandsworth Sustainability Partnership for public sector partners, businesses and community groups to facilitate knowledge sharing, networking and increased local action, including on air pollution.
- Establish an expert network to connect local sustainability experts with local businesses and community groups.



# Raising **Awareness**, Enabling **Protection**

Assembly members were surprised to learn the impact air pollution has on our health in Wandsworth, and recommended action to improve everyone's understanding of the health effects of air pollution and the links to climate. This reflects the need for a cultural change by councils, businesses and residents to take account of the links between air pollution, climate and health and how we each contribute, both to the problem and the solution

## Awareness raising, data sharing and education programme

We will roll out a programme of awareness raising on air pollution, climate and locally collected data, so residents understand these problems, how to mitigate them and how we can protect ourselves and our loved ones. This will include a commitment to air quality, climate change and health resourcing specifically intended to deliver our message on the importance of air pollution.

## Information and enforcement to reduce engine idling

Idling vehicles are unnecessary and contribute to poor air quality. Current legislation is not adequate and we will lobby hard to have this as a simple traffic offence. Wandsworth do great work on idling but it is currently disjointed so we will bring this work under one project manager to coordinate activities at schools, signage, info banners, campaigns and enforcement.

## Immediate action to raise awareness, share data and encourage self-protection

- Roll out a programme of awareness raising on air pollution and climate, promoting other information sources such as airTEXT.
- Deliver a unified engine idling communications, enforcement and lobbying programme.
- Continue our air quality monitoring at 89 locations and extend this where its practical to do so. This monitoring network includes regulatory standard automatic sensors, low cost, lower accuracy automatic sensors and diffusion tube monitors.
- Widely share the data collected by the Council to help residents understand air quality in their neighbourhoods, for example through Citizen Science projects and schools.

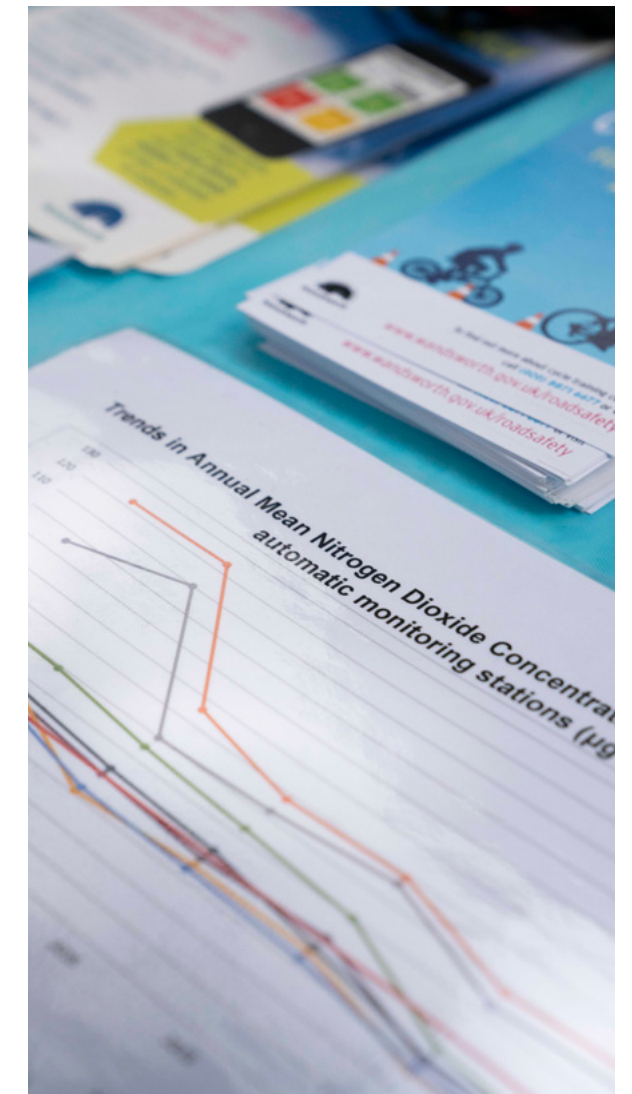


## Our goals over the life of this Air Quality Action Plan

- Ensure all residents of Wandsworth understand how best to protect themselves from air pollution and the things they can do to reduce their own contributions.
- Demonstrate the tangible benefits of air pollution reduction in Wandsworth, to incentivise behaviour change.
- Involve the community in the action taken and ensure we are accountable to them.

## How we will achieve these

- Inform drivers at typical idling locations about the effects of idling on air quality, backed up by enforcement measures where practical.
- Work with health professionals so they have the right information to provide to those most vulnerable to air pollution including how people can protect themselves, including within their homes and workspaces.





# Improving **Transport**

Bus and private car transport in Wandsworth contribute significantly to local emissions of Nitrogen Oxides and PM<sub>2.5</sub>. The goals of this package of measures are to help eliminate exhaust emissions of air pollutants and CO<sub>2</sub>, while making public transport easier and more attractive to use, private electric vehicles easier to own and operate, the roll-out of the London ULEZ, and reduce engine-idling at key locations throughout Wandsworth.

## **£1million Sustainable Transport Fund**

Help tackle the cost-of-living crisis and rollout of the London ULEZ with a £1million sustainable transport fund to help Wandsworth residents upgrade their vehicles.

## **Hundreds more electric vehicles charging points.**

Install 525 more EV charging points in Wandsworth in 2023 to enable greater use of electric and hybrid electric vehicles, and a total of 2000 by 2033.

## **Make TfL's buses zero emission**

Work with the Mayor to improve and electrify the bus fleet and add our support to his voice at Government level for more improvements.

## **Action today on air pollution from vehicles**

- £1million ULEZ Sustainable Transport Fund.
- Install 525 new EV charge points this year.
- Continue our programme of emissions-based parking charges, and consider a review after implementation of the ULEZ expansion, to see how best to use this policy to deliver the boroughs ambition for climate and air quality.

## **Our goals for transport over this Air Quality Action Plan**

- Zero tailpipe emissions from Transport for London buses on every bus route in Wandsworth.
- Continue to have the best EV charging network in London.
- Ensure we have a public transport system that is attractive for people to use and better integrates different transport services.

## **How we will get there**

- We will work with the Mayor to improve and electrify the bus fleet and add our support to his voice at Government level for more improvements.
- We will work with the Mayor, other boroughs and London Councils to campaign for the protection and improvement of public transport services.
- Install 2000 more EV charging points in Wandsworth by 2033, both slow lamp column charge points and fast charge points.
- Continue our work to improve connections between TfL, Network Rail and walking and cycling facilities, so they are more accessible and attractive.





# Walking and Cycling

Walking and cycling instead of driving or taking public transport is one of the best ways to tackle air pollution and climate change. It also improves our health through exercise, and it saves us money. Making it easier to walk and cycle was a top priority for the Citizens Assembly, and the Council commits to immediately implementing four of their five recommendations on this.



## Extended and improved cycling network, cycle parking and other infrastructure

Create a new core cycle network of signed routes across the borough. This will both upgrade existing cycle Superhighways, create new Cycleway branded routes, and install over a thousand secure new cycle parking places in bike hangers.

### Cycle training

Provide free cycle training to 1600-2000 adults and children every year.

### Immediate action on active travel, walking and cycling

- Provide free cycle training to 1600-2000 adults and children every year.
- Put detailed plans in place for the roll-out of a new core cycle network and improvements to footpaths across the borough.
- Hold an annual car free Sunday

## Our goals for active travel in this Air Quality Action Plan and other plans

- By 2030, ensure 60% of residents live within 400m of the strategic cycle network.
- By 2030 install 1,390 spaces across 232 bike hangars with 20% on council estates.
- Provide and improve quiet routes for walking and cycling by improving local connections, signage, traffic calming, and maintenance of roads and footpaths.
- Improve connections between neighbourhoods identified in the Cycle Network Review.
- Remove the Wandsworth gyratory.
- Make cargo e-bikes a routine option for cyclists who need to move larger loads.
- Train 1-in-10 Wandsworth adults and children in cycling safely.

## How we will get there

### Action to improve cycling infrastructure and accessibility

- Provide new and improve existing quiet routes for walking and cycling, through action to improve local connections, signage, traffic calming and maintenance of roads and footpaths. Promote our free cycle training offer to adults and primary school children and seek opportunities to grow the council's bike stock for these training sessions.
- Support rollout of dockless e-bikes, monitor their use and expand availability based on usage.
- Use our Healthy Street Forums to explore whether Livable Neighbourhoods can work for Wandsworth residents.

### Action to improve accessibility on foot

- Identify more safe road crossing locations for pedestrians.
- Introduce more side-road crossings, focusing on town centres and areas around schools. This will include both continuous crossings and 'Copenhagen' crossings.
- Reduce turning radii on side roads, where appropriate.
- Prioritise high-quality public realm improvements.

### Action to improve all active travel methods

- Ensure all scheme proposals report a Healthy Streets Scorecard on the existing and proposed layout.
- Look after and improve the borough's public rights of way, including alleys and paths through parks and along the riverwalks.



# Supporting Our Businesses

Vibrant successful businesses in Wandsworth are central to our communities, providing employment, amenities and the essentials of daily life. Our goal is to help our businesses thrive in a low emissions future, by helping those that need it most prepare for that low pollution future. Most emissions from businesses arise through transportation but also come directly from activities like commercial cooking.



## Low Carbon Deliveries roll-out

We will grow our pilot low carbon deliveries projects, with a new cargo bike delivery hub at the Southside Shopping Centre, building on the successful collection of business recycling by cargo-bike. We will monitor and extend these projects as opportunities arise.

## Reducing PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions from commercial kitchens

Cafés, restaurants and fast-food outlets face particular challenges to reduce PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions from their kitchen air extraction flues. We will work with other councils to identify cost effective ways to reduce PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions from commercial kitchens that don't put these small businesses out of business, while lobbying Government to improve standards and legislation.

## Immediate action to help business reduce air pollution

- Support and grow Wandsworth's cargo bike delivery projects.
- Support our businesses to improve their sustainability across all domains, including air quality, with a pilot programme providing sustainability audits for businesses. This will include use of an Environmental Management System to enable them show their credentials to their retail and business customers.
- Work to eliminate high pollution pockets through transport emissions management and improvements from point source emissions such as commercial kitchens, as well as the Low Emissions Logistics Project, Tooting Town Centre projects, Clapham Junction projects, and by applying lessons learned from Putney High Street to Clapham Junction and Tooting High Street.
- Purchase indoor air quality monitors so employers can test the air quality in workplaces and take action if needed.

## Our goals for supporting local business in this Air Quality Action Plan

- Enable our local commercial kitchens to operate viably while reducing their air pollution emissions as much as possible.
- Increase the number of low emission delivery hubs in Wandsworth, so last mile distribution is increasingly zero emission.
- Support local business by increasing accessibility to them using active travel, which has been shown to increase retail sales by up to 30% and helps reduce employee sick days.

## How we will get there

- Improved walking and cycle access to local businesses, will be delivered through our major walking and cycling programmes.
- Work with other councils to identify cost effective ways to reduce PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions from commercial kitchens, and lobby Government to improve standards and legislation.





# Protecting And Improving Our Parks And Green Space

Wandsworth's parks, trees and green spaces are important to us all, whether the major amenities like Battersea Park or small pocket parks in our neighbourhoods. Air in parks is generally cleaner than the surrounding areas due to distance from busy roads and the absorption of small amounts of air pollution by trees and plants, while trees on streets and mini parks provide shade and make our streets nicer places to spend time. We are committed to protecting and improving our green spaces, ensuring they provide a safe, enjoyable place to relax, play sports and have fun, as well as our local wildlife and their habitats that connect us with nature. These too are affected by air pollution and we are committed to protecting them.



## Plant more trees

We will plant 700 trees in the 2023/24 tree planting season, ensuring a net increase in trees on Council land. Every year, 300 new trees will be planted on streets, prioritising those with the fewest trees, and greatest climate impact and air pollution risks, and creating new pocket parks to provide shade, nature and places to sit and play.

## Support and protect our green spaces through planning

Use the planning system to protect and support our green spaces and using the Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy on new developments to help improve our local neighbourhoods, streets and mini parks.

## Immediate Action To Protect And Improve Our Green Spaces

- Plant 700 more trees across the borough in 2023/24.
- Boost the number of Zero Emissions Vehicles used by contractors and staff in parks.
- Replace petrol- and diesel-powered non-road equipment, such as mowers, trimmers, and leaf blowers, with electrically powered machinery.
- Promote the Wandsworth Local Fund and Wandsworth Grant Fund to bolster the number of local environment projects and support the grant application process.

## Long Term Goals

- Sustain and improve the air quality and overall environmental health of Wandsworth's parks, ensuring they remain ideal locations for relaxation, sports, and enjoyment.
- Maintain the main parks in Wandsworth to uphold their Green Flag awards, ensuring they're welcoming, safe, well-maintained, and preserve their environment, biodiversity, and heritage.
- Expand community involvement and investment in the parks, ensuring these spaces continue to evolve according to residents' needs and desires.
- Protect our local wildlife and important nature conservation sites from air pollution.



## How we will achieve these goals

- Every year plant 300 new trees on streets prioritising areas with the fewest trees.
- Protect and improve our green spaces during planning, using the Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy to improve local neighbourhoods.
- Increase information available to residents on how they can protect and improve biodiversity across the borough.
- Enhance collaboration with council teams and community groups on biodiversity projects.
- Collaborate with community groups to trial community orchards, empowering them and others to cultivate their fruit.
- Provide more information to residents about conserving and enhancing biodiversity throughout the borough.
- Develop action and project plans to implement our Biodiversity Strategy that protects our local wildlife species and habitats.



# Protecting Our Children And The Most Vulnerable

Protecting our children and the most vulnerable from air pollution is vital. The effects of poor air quality can last with them for life - continued exposure to poor air quality has been shown to reduce lung volume of some children in London, as well as causing asthma and other illnesses. We will protect our children both by reducing traffic near schools through our School Streets programme, reducing air pollution emissions at other schools by enforcing our ban on engine idling near schools, and prioritising bus routes near schools for electrification. We'll support this with an ongoing education programme and by displaying school air pollution information outside schools on variable message signs.

## School Streets

Roll-out new School Streets at primary schools, so when pupils are arriving and leaving the roads near their schools are quiet, safe and have lower air pollution.

## Air Quality Ambassadors Programme

Establish a programme of Air Quality Ambassadors to be led by the Council's Air Quality Champion. Conduct air quality and climate audits at every school and in locations such as care homes, sharing the information directly and through the Air Quality Ambassadors.

## Immediate action

- Establish a programme of Air Quality Ambassadors to be led by the Council's Air Quality Champion. Ambassadors will raise awareness with teachers, parents and pupils of actions they can take on climate change and air quality, and with other vulnerable groups and installations such as older people and care homes.
- Make school air quality information available, including through variable message signage outside schools, and through school events with the Air Quality Ambassadors.

## Our goals in this plan for improving air quality in and around our schools

- Ensure children can get to school without being exposed to high pollution levels.
- Ensure primary schools have School Streets, where this is practical.
- Reduce risks to the elderly and those with health conditions vulnerable to air pollution.

## We will achieve this by

- By 2030, 31 primary schools in the borough to have a School Street.
- Work with TfL so that bus routes passing schools are prioritised for electrification.
- Conduct air quality and climate audits at every school, sharing the information directly and through the Air Quality Ambassadors, and acting on recommendations.





# Improving Our Homes And Buildings

Air pollution from our homes, offices and other buildings and from construction makes up almost half of PM<sub>2.5</sub> pollution emitted in Wandsworth, especially wood burning stoves. Many actions to improve air pollution from homes also help to tackle the cost of living crisis and climate change, and vice versa. We're committed to improving the energy efficiency of both social housing and of the council's own buildings and to replace heating systems with renewable, low emissions alternatives.<sup>3</sup>



## Link together the air quality and climate change agendas

In most areas, improvements in air quality reduce our climate emissions and vice versa, with the exception of wood and biomass burning. So the most effective way to tackle both problems is by tackling them together. This is why we have explicitly set out to join together these agendas, so work in each area improves the other.

## Use planning to deliver the buildings Wandsworth needs for the future

Apply Air Quality Neutral and Air Quality Positive requirements for new construction, as appropriate, and require strict standards on dust and other emissions during building demolition, and during construction of new buildings.

## Immediate action

- Link together our air quality and climate change action through our policy agenda.
- Provide energy efficiency advice and help for residents to address the cost-of-living crisis.
- Provide advice and support for energy efficiency improvements, including solar and other renewable energy, insulation and retrofit to homes able to fund installation themselves.
- Assist those in social housing by identifying properties eligible under ECO 4 funding and consider a programme of works based on eligible properties.

<sup>3</sup> London Atmospheric Emissions Inventory 2019 (updated 2022), PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions in Wandsworth for 2019

## Our long-term goals for improving air quality in and around our schools

- Reduce the cost-of-living, air pollution and greenhouse gas impacts of poor energy efficiency in existing homes, especially social housing and homes of the least well off.
- Ensure new homes and buildings in Wandsworth are built to high standards of energy efficiency, so they have low running costs and low greenhouse gas and air pollutant emissions.
- Reduce the use of wood burning for home heating or amenity uses.
- Ensure social housing residents can easily recharge electric vehicles.

## We will achieve this by

- Discourage use of wood burning stoves with a targeted information campaign, while we lobby Government for powers to eliminate wood burning in Wandsworth.
- Replacing heating systems with renewable, low-emission alternatives.
- Seeking out additional funding for retrofit and energy efficiency.
- Support actions emerging from the London Councils Retrofit London programme on promoting retrofit for those on low incomes.
- Implement the Future Homes Standards when these come into force.



# Wandsworth Council Statutory Air Quality Action Plan 2023-2028

## In Compliance With London Local Air Quality Management

### Appendix A

#### SUMMARY

This Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) has been produced as part of our duty to London Local Air Quality Management. It outlines the action we will take to improve air quality in Wandsworth between 2023 and 2028.

This action plan replaces the previous action plan which ran from 2014-2019. Highlights of successful projects delivered through the past action plan include: working with TfL to almost eliminate hourly NO<sub>2</sub> hourly exceedences in Putney High Street, running London's Non-Road Mobile Machinery programme for London Councils, operating a construction Low Emission Zone at one of the largest construction sites in the UK at Nine Elms, and rolling out a programme of School Streets.

Air pollution is associated with a number of adverse health impacts, it is recognised as a contributing factor in the onset of heart disease and cancer. Additionally, air pollution particularly affects the most vulnerable in society: children and older people, and those with heart and lung conditions. There is also often a strong correlation with equalities issues because areas with poor air quality are also often the less affluent areas<sup>1,2</sup>.

The annual health costs to society of the impacts of air pollution in the UK is estimated to be roughly £15 billion<sup>3</sup>. Wandsworth Council is committed to reducing the exposure of people in Wandsworth to poor air quality to improve health.

We have developed actions under eight broad topics:

- **Leading By Example**, which includes the commitment the Council has made to reduce air pollution in our operations, fleets, contracting and procurement, estates and strategic choices, as well as adopting the WHO Guidelines on Air Quality.
- **Raising Awareness, Enabling Protection**, including extending and improving our network of monitoring stations, rolling out an awareness raising programme of events and activities across the borough, and working with our new Air Quality Ambassadors to get the message out and to monitor progress on this Action Plan.
- **Improving Transport**, including committing £1million for sustainable transport fund for Wandsworth residents affected by the ULEZ, expanding our already excellent EV charging network, and working with TfL to roll out a zero-emission bus fleet with schools prioritised.
- **Walking And Cycling**, including expanding our core cycling network and training 1600-2000 Wandsworth residents in cycle safety every year.
- **Supporting Our Businesses**, with free environmental audits, new zero emissions cargo hubs and findings ways commercial kitchens can reduce PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions.
- **Protecting, Improving And Growing Our Green Spaces**, with new tree plantings that prioritise streets with fewer trees, protecting and improving our existing parks and green space, and moving our parks suppliers to zero emission tools and vehicles.

- **Protecting Our Children And The Most Vulnerable** by increasing the number of school streets, conducting air quality audits of schools and other key places, and working with our Air Quality Ambassadors to keep care home residents, parents, teachers and pupils informed.
- **Improving Our Homes And Buildings** by link together the air quality and climate change agendas in policy, providing energy efficiency advice and help for residents to address the cost-of-living crisis, assisting those in social housing by identifying properties eligible for energy efficiency schemes, as well as fulfilling our statutory duties on developments, and implementing Air Quality Neutral, Air Quality Positive and

Wandsworth Council has worked hard to engage with stakeholders and communities through a Citizens Assembly on Air Quality, and through a previous formal consultation on a draft 2021 AQAP. We are grateful to all those who were involved in these processes and hope you will remain engaged as we deliver this new action plan over the coming years.

#### Could you be an Air Quality Ambassador?

If you are interested in becoming actively involved in delivery of this Action Plan, please consider volunteering to become an Air Quality Ambassador. The Air Quality Ambassadors play an import role both in holding the Council to account on delivery of this plan, and in helping inform Wandsworth residents about air pollution. We are delighted that several members of the Citizens Assembly have volunteered to continue working with us on air quality as Air Quality Ambassadors, and we invite other residents to join them. **If you are interested in being an Air Quality Ambassador, please contact us using the details below.**

In this AQAP we outline how we plan to effectively use local levers to tackle air quality issues within our control. There are many air quality policy areas that are outside of our influence such as Euro standards, national vehicle taxation policy, taxis and buses. So we will continue to work with and lobby regional and central government on policies and issues beyond Wandsworth Council's influence, recognising that measures such as zero emission bus services are a top priority for Wandsworth residents.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMMITMENT

This AQAP was prepared by the Environmental Health Department of Wandsworth Council with the support and agreement of the following departments:

- Public Health
- Climate Change and Sustainability
- Transport
- Planning
- Finance

This Air Quality Action Plan has been approved by the Environment Committee of Wandsworth Borough Council on September 14th, 2023.

This AQAP will be subject to an annual review, appraisal of progress, reporting to the Scrutiny Committee and through an annual engagement process with the Air Quality Ambassadors, who are residents of the borough. Progress each year will be reported in Wandsworth Council's Annual Status Reports as part of our statutory London Local Air Quality Management duties.

If you have any comments on this AQAP, please send them to Jason Andrews at:

Environmental Health and Air Quality,  
Regulatory Services Partnership,  
Civic Centre,  
London Road,  
Morden SM4 5DX

Telephone: 020 8545 3025

Email: Jason.andrews@merton.gov.uk

<sup>1</sup> Environmental equity, air quality, socioeconomic status and respiratory health, 2010.

<sup>2</sup> Air quality and social deprivation in the UK: an environmental inequalities analysis, 2006.

<sup>3</sup> Defra. Air Pollution: Action in a Changing Climate, March 2010



**INTRODUCTION**

This report outlines the actions that Wandsworth Council will deliver between 2023 and 2028 to reduce concentrations of pollution, and exposure to pollution; thereby positively impacting on the health and quality of life of residents and visitors to the borough.

It has been developed in recognition of the legal requirement on the local authority to work towards air quality objectives under Part IV of the Environment Act 1995 and relevant regulations made under that part and to meet the requirements of the London Local Air Quality Management statutory process<sup>4</sup>.

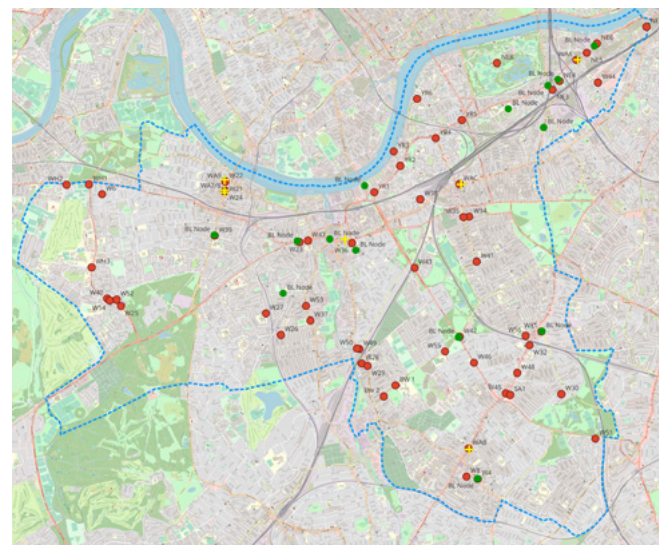
**1 Summary of current air quality in Wandsworth Borough**

Based on measurements conducted at the sites shown in Figure 1, Wandsworth Council is meeting all the national objectives other than for the gas Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>). Wandsworth Council is meeting the current objectives for Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>). However, for PM<sub>2.5</sub> the legal objective is far higher than the World Health Organisation recommended guideline limit. For this reason, in the London Environment Strategy the Mayor has committed to meeting the WHO health-based guideline limits across London by 2030. Wandsworth Council exceeds World Health Organisation guideline PM<sub>2.5</sub> limits, and so a key area of focus will be to help the Mayor meet this 2030 target, including formal adoption of the WHO Guidelines on Air Quality for NO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> as a progressive approach to continuous improvement of air quality.

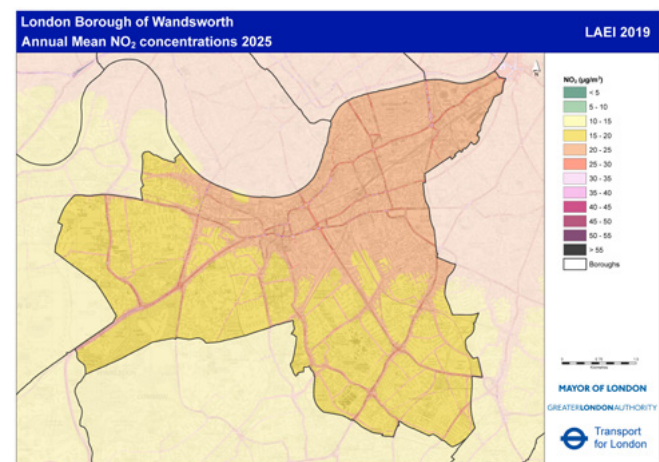
The following Figures 2 - 7 can be downloaded in higher detail from the London datastore by scanning the QR code below



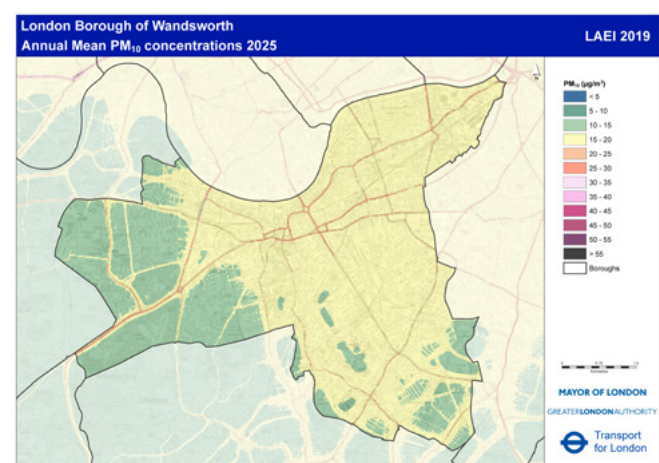
**Figure 1:** Location of automatic (yellow), Breathe London (green) and diffusion tube monitors (red) in Wandsworth.



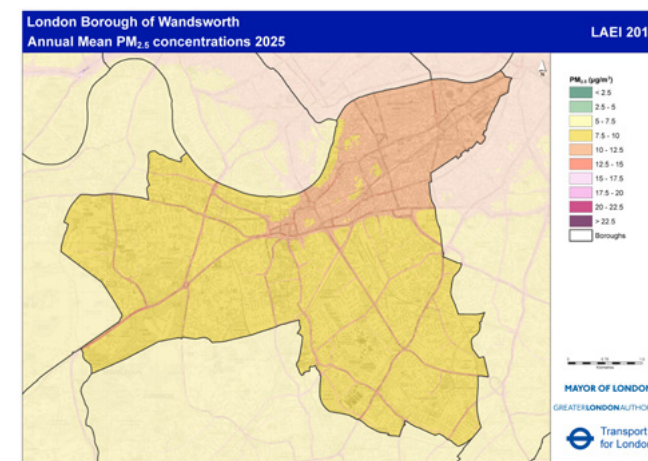
**Figure 2:** Modelled map of annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations (from the LAEI 2019)



**Figure 3:** Modelled map of annual mean PM<sub>10</sub> (from the LAEI 2019)



**Figure 4:** Modelled map of annual mean PM<sub>2.5</sub> (from the LAEI 2019)



**1.1 AQMAs and Focus areas**

In Wandsworth Borough an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) was declared for the whole of the borough in 2001. The AQMA was declared for NO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> due to exceedances of the national air quality objectives. By 2022 the National annual average limit for NO<sub>2</sub> was still exceeded at several locations as was the 1-hour mean objective. Monitoring and modelling of PM<sub>10</sub> met all objectives.

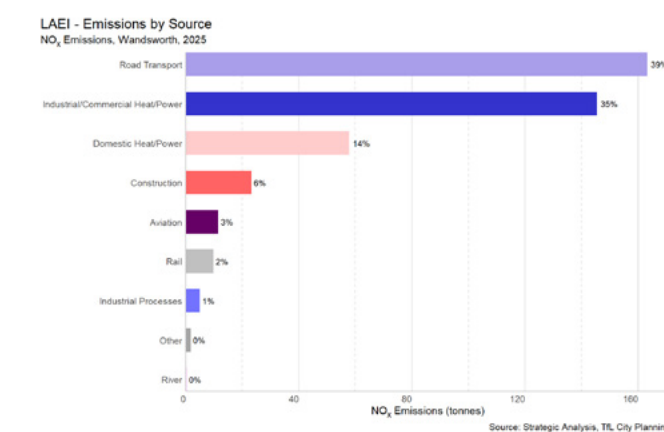
An air quality Focus Area is a location that has been identified as having high levels of pollution and human exposure. There are 5 focus areas in the borough at Putney High Street, Wandsworth Town, Clapham Junction, Tooting High Street, and York Road.

**1.2 Sources of Pollution in Wandsworth**

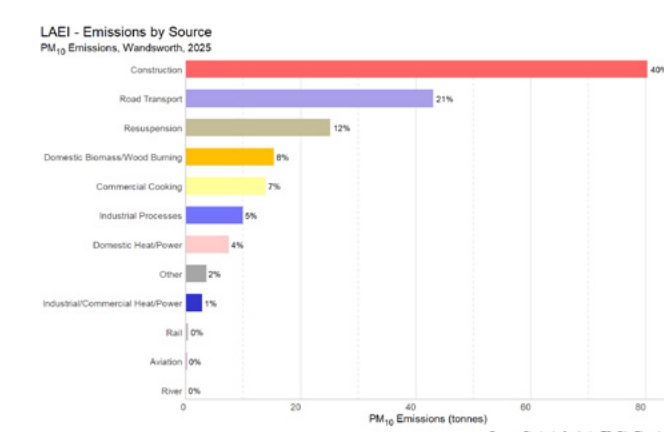
Pollution in Wandsworth comes from a variety of sources. This includes pollution from sources outside of the borough, and, in the case of particulate matter, a significant proportion of this comes from outside of London and even the UK.

Of the pollution that originates in the borough the main sources of NO<sub>2</sub> are road transport, heat and power generation, home heating, and construction, and the main sources of particulate matter are

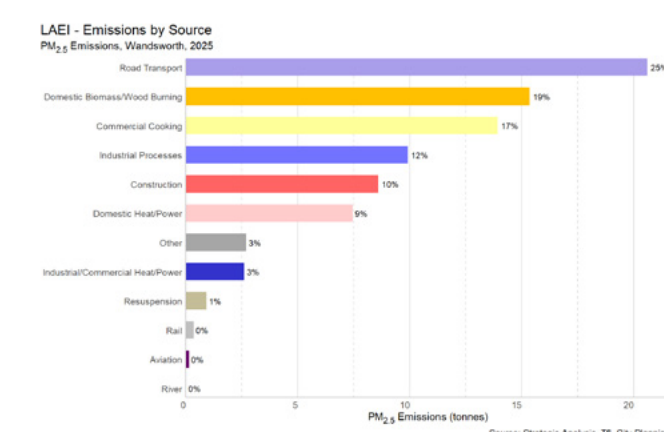
**Figure 5:** NO<sub>x</sub> Emissions by source and vehicle type (from the LAEI 2019)



**Figure 6:** PM<sub>10</sub> Emissions by source and vehicle type (from the LAEI 2019)



**Figure 7:** PM<sub>2.5</sub> Emissions by source and vehicle type (from the LAEI 2019)



<sup>4</sup> LLAQM Policy and Technical Guidance. <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/pollution-and-air-quality/working-boroughs>



## 2 Wandsworth Council's Air Quality Priorities

Wandsworth Council's priorities to improve air quality are to:

- Support the planned extension of London's Ultra-Low Emissions Zone with a locally customised £1million sustainable transport fund.
- Adopt the WHO Air Quality Guidelines.
- Install 525 more EV charging points in Wandsworth by the end of 2023 and more thereafter.
- Work with TfL to convert bus services to zero emissions vehicles.
- Roll out a programme of awareness raising on air pollution and climate, promoting other information sources such as airTEXT.
- Setup an Air Quality Ambassadors programme, led by the Council's Air Quality Champion.
- Deliver a unified engine idling communications, enforcement and lobbying programme.
- Create a new core cycle network across the borough.
- Install over a thousand secure new cycle parking facilities in bike hangers.
- Provide free cycle training to 1600-2000 adults and children every year.
- Improve footpaths and identify further safe crossing locations.
- Support and grow Wandsworth's cargo bike delivery and refuse collection projects.
- Improving our green spaces by planting 700 trees per year, ensuring a net increase in trees on Council land.
- Protect and support our green spaces using the planning system.
- Use the Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy on new developments to help improve our local neighbourhoods, streets and mini parks.
- Provide energy efficiency advice and help for residents to address the cost-of-living crisis.

## 3 Development and Implementation of Wandsworth Council's AQAP

### Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

In developing this action plan we have worked with other local authorities, agencies, businesses and the local community to improve local air quality in two phases, including meeting the requirements of Schedule 11 of the Environment Act 1995 which requires local authorities to consult the bodies listed in the table below. We consulted on the 2021 draft action plan, and thereafter convened a Citizens' Assembly focusing on air quality. This built on feedback from the 2021 action plan consultation.

**Table - Consultations Undertaken**

Yes/No	Consultee
Yes	The Environment Agency
Yes	Transport for London and the Mayor of London
Yes	The neighbouring local authorities
Yes	Other public authorities as appropriate
Yes	Local residents and bodies representing local business interests and other organisations as appropriate
Yes	The Wandsworth Citizens Assembly on Air Quality

### Responses to the consultation in 2021

In response to the consultation on the previous draft AQAP, a total of 171 responses were received. Almost all the respondents (166) said that they live in the local area. Of these, 15 respondents said they were responding as representatives of a range of different interest groups<sup>5</sup>. In summary, the respondents expressed the views that:

<sup>5</sup> The interest groups who responded were: Tooting Healthy Streets, 1st Wandsworth Scouts, 1000 Trees for Furzedown, Wandsworth older people's forum, Atheldene and Farlton Road Residents Association, Putney Pollution Busters, Putney Society, Greener Jobs Alliance and Battersea and Wandsworth Trades Union Council, Extinction Rebellion Wandsworth, Wandsworth Liberal Democrats, Wandsworth Green Party, Parents For Future

- Residents are concerned about air quality in Wandsworth Borough and were generally supportive of the Council's plans, but many felt the proposed actions did not go far enough.
- Nearly 80% of respondents indicated they were very concerned about air quality in the borough, while 11% indicated they were not very concerned.
- While a majority (60%) said that the Action Plan document was easy to read and understand, some respondents called for summaries and for the document to be written in Plain English. One in four found the report quite or very difficult to understand.
- A majority of respondents agreed with the Council's proposed actions in all areas within the Action Plan. The main criticism levelled against the proposals was that they do not go far enough and that they lack specific, measurable and time-bound actions and targets. Respondents aged 45-64 were the most vocal in this criticism.
- The Council's opposition of Heathrow Expansion drew the greatest level of agreement and was ranked as the most important of the seven areas within the Action Plan.

### Citizens Assembly co-creation of the new Air Quality Action Plan

Building on this feedback, a Citizens Assembly on Air Quality was convened. The goal was to engage and involve a demographically representative but randomly selected group of residents in the important issue of air quality and support them to co-creation of an action plan. The Citizens' Assembly brought together residents from across the borough to examine this priority issue in detail and produce recommendations not only for the Council, but for the borough of Wandsworth as a whole. The Assembly sessions ran from February through to April 2023 and considered the question 'How can we all tackle poor air quality across Wandsworth in a way that improves our health and addresses climate change?'. The Citizens Assembly considered evidence on the health impacts of air pollution in Wandsworth, its sources and various causes, those elements that are directly in Council or other local control, and those issues in which Wandsworth Council and residents must engage Government, the Mayor of London and other bodies to make progress. Considering these factors, assembly members drafted 53 recommendations for the content of this action plan.

### Final drafting of the Air Quality Action Plan

In response to the assembly's 53 recommendations, the Council developed this Air Quality Action Plan adopting most of the recommendations that could be delivered by the Council. This new Plan also takes into consideration the responses to the previous full public consultation carried out in a previous draft Plan in 2021, including feedback such as that on Heathrow Expansion, specification of action KPIs, and the strong emphasis on active travel measures, which was also a key outcome of the Citizens Assembly. In prioritising measures, the recommendations of the Citizens Assembly were combined with those of officers and previous consultation feedback, as well as important considerations such the links to climate action and action on the cost-of-living crisis. The work was overseen by the Wandsworth Council Cabinet Member for the Environment, other Elected Members and key officers of the Council as required under the London Local Air Quality Management process.

Thereafter the action plan and table of measures were approved by all Council Directors involved. These multiple processes of consultation and drafting fulfil the Council's duty under the London Local Air Quality Management (LLAQM) statutory process and the legal requirement on the local authority to work towards air quality objectives under Part IV of the Environment Act 1995.



The actions that comprise the plan are listed below, and the full detailed response to the Citizen Assembly recommendations is included at Appendix D.

#### 4 Action Plan Table

The following table details the actions that comprise the Wandsworth Council AQAP. It contains:

- a list of the actions that form part of the plan;
- the responsible individual and departments/ organisations who will deliver this action;
- estimated cost to the council or whether from existing funding;
- expected benefit in terms of emissions and concentration reduction, based on the GLA's low, medium and high designations from the GLA Air Quality Matrix;
- the outputs, targets and Key Performance Indicators, where appropriate.

Progress on all measures will be monitored through the Scrutiny Committee and through at least annual reporting back to Air Quality Ambassadors.

#### Costs

- Existing – to be met from existing and already identified resource – largely this refers to existing staff time and resource
- Low – under £50k required for the project or approach
- Medium – Between £50k and £250k required for the project or approach
- High – Over £250k required for the project or approach

#### Prioritisation

1. Leading actions – top priority air quality measures for delivery by the Council, taking account of Citizens Assembly feedback
2. Supporting actions – measures that directly improve air quality improvement and provide wider benefits
3. Additional actions – measures whose focus is other benefits and indirectly improve air quality

#### Emissions impacts:

Low, Medium, and High based on the GLA Air Quality Matrix qualitative definitions

#### Leading by Example

Action ID - Priority	Action name and description	Team leading this work, Costs and Emissions Impacts	KPI 2023/24
1 - 1	Support extension of London's Ultra-Low Emission Zone, with Wandsworth's £1million sustainable transport fund.	Cost: High Impact: Low	
2 - 1	Adopt WHO Guidelines on Air Quality, with interim PM <sub>2.5</sub> target of 10µg/m <sup>3</sup> , and interim NO <sub>2</sub> target of 30µg/m <sup>3</sup> .		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agree to the WHO approach and announce in the AQAP.</li> </ul>
3 - 2	Roll out an Air Quality Ambassadors programme, building on the outcomes of the Citizens Assembly.	Regulatory Services/ Environmental Health Cost: Low Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recruit Air Quality Ambassadors from volunteers from the Citizens Assembly and led by WBC Air Quality Champion.</li> <li>• Agree initial programme of activities for 2023/24, visiting schools, care homes and other vulnerable groups.</li> <li>• Connect initial participants and gather feedback on system.</li> <li>• Use of data to deliver change in behaviour.</li> <li>• Work with businesses to mitigate pollution, develop health messaging and communications.</li> </ul>
4 - 3	Campaign against the Heathrow 3rd Runway expansion plan.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to lobby against the construction of the Heathrow 3rd runway.</li> </ul>
5 - 2	Deliver our Decarbonisation Strategy to reduce emissions from Council Buildings, extending it beyond GHGs to include unhealthy air pollutants.	Property Services Cost: High Impact: High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalise delivery of Phase 1 of the Decarbonisation Strategy.</li> <li>• Deliver Phase 2 of the Decarbonisation Strategy.</li> <li>• Prepare Phase 3 and 4 of the Decarbonisation Strategy.</li> </ul>
6 - 1	Perform our statutory and regulatory duties to ensure smoke control zones are identified and enforced, permitting of Part B emissions sources, and management of air quality relating to construction and construction sites.	Regulatory Services Cost: Existing Impact: Medium	
7 - 1	Reduce the health impact of high ozone episodes, including them in our plan to treat the Climate Emergency as a Health Emergency.	Public Health / Regulatory Services/ Environmental Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement actions in the Public Health action plan.</li> <li>• Develop key messaging and engagement on the impacts of climate.</li> <li>• Complete and Launch MECC module for staff on impacts of climate change and health.</li> </ul>
8 - 1	Construction Low Emissions Zone and London Council's Non-Road Mobile Machinery programme.	Regulatory Services/ Environmental Health Cost: Existing Impact: Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Numbers of qualifying developments required to be compliant 90%.</li> <li>• Embed tighter restrictions to include the move towards stage 5.</li> <li>• Start to move towards the use of NRMM standards to waste sites and outdoor events.</li> </ul>
9 - 3	Lead on local events to promote the Councils climate and air quality work.	Regulatory Services/ Environmental Health Cost: Existing Impact: Enabling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design a stalls pack to take to local pop-up events.</li> <li>• Deliver key events throughout the year including summer fairs, Car Free Day, Clean Air Day.</li> <li>• Link Air quality work to the health agenda through health events and initiatives.</li> </ul>
10 - 3	Develop and deliver local climate & air quality newsletter.	Assistant Chief Exec Cost: Existing Impact: Enabling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver a climate and air quality newsletter once a month to subscriber list.</li> <li>• Promote newsletter at all climate action events.</li> <li>• Increase subscribers from 1600 to 3000.</li> <li>• Link into the work of the Ambassadors.</li> </ul>
11 - 3	Establish an expert network to connect local sustainability experts with local businesses and community groups.	Assistant Chief Exec Cost: Existing Impact: Enabling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design and deliver a mechanism to connect local climate, air quality and sustainability experts with community groups and businesses.</li> <li>• Promote this connection services through communications channels, at events and at WSP.</li> <li>• Connect initial participants and gather feedback on system.</li> </ul>



**Leading by Example** *Continued...*

Action ID - Priority	Action name and description	Team leading this work, Costs and Emissions Impacts	KPI 2023/24
12 - 2	Help our staff to travel sustainably for work by walking, cycling or public transport.	Assistant Chief Executive / Corporate Services Cost: Low Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote and encourage the use of schemes such as Bike2Work.</li> <li>Provide shower facilities on site for staff.</li> <li>Introduce a salary sacrifice scheme for staff to buy electric vehicles.</li> </ul>
13 - 2	Improve collaboration and partnership on climate change across health and social care.	Regulatory Services/ Environmental Health Cost: Low Impact: Enabling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage the Director of Public Health in development of the Citizens Assembly and Air Quality Action Plan.</li> <li>Continue role in development and delivery of SWL ICS Green Plan.</li> <li>Contribute to the NHS Green Plan.</li> </ul>
14 - 2	Improve the sustainability of parks contractors by upgrading their fleet to zero tailpipe emissions and use of electric tools.	Contracts and Leisure (Enable) Cost: Low Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the number of EVs and non-fossil fuelled vehicles used by contractors and staff in parks.</li> <li>Explore more sustainable approaches to maintenance of parks.</li> <li>Replace petrol- and diesel-powered non-road equipment, such as mowers, trimmers, and leaf blowers, with electrically powered machinery.</li> </ul>
15 - 3	Increase the number of contracts that are commissioned and procured sustainably, also minimising unhealthy air pollutant emissions.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruit procurement policy specialist to support work on low carbon and sustainable procurement.</li> <li>Further embed Low Carbon Toolkit within procurement approach.</li> <li>Provide training and guidance on sustainable procurement.</li> <li>Develop tools to better assess carbon impacts from procurement.</li> <li>Embed air quality considerations in these tools.</li> </ul>
16 - 3	Maintain and Build on Wandsworth Sustainability Partnership for public sector partners, businesses and community groups to facilitate knowledge sharing, networking and increased.	Assistant Chief Executive Cost: Existing Impact: Enabling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver 3 partnership events across the year (one per quarter).</li> <li>Increase the number of participants in the partnership, increasing engaging with residents, public sector and businesses.</li> <li>Adapt sessions to reflect ongoing feedback and local needs.</li> <li>Investigate and support the growth of specialised forums (e.g green business network) within the larger overarching partnership.</li> </ul>
17 - 2	Procure new waste fleet which will be lower emission than the previous waste fleet and establish infrastructure needs for an EV heavy waste fleet.	Waste Cost: High Impact: High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Procure new waste fleet which will be lower emission than the previous waste fleet.</li> <li>Establish infrastructure needs for an EV heavy waste fleet.</li> </ul>
18 - 2	Promote energy efficiency and decarbonisation of buildings for schools, considering air quality.	Property Services Cost: Low Impact: Enabling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete options appraisals on decarbonisation of school buildings.</li> <li>Share options appraisals with schools and discuss.</li> <li>Host workshops with schools on energy efficiency and energy management.</li> <li>Add further information on energy efficiency and decarbonisation to Schools Resource Hub.</li> </ul>
19 - 2	Roll out a programme of energy efficiency, GHG and air quality emissions improvements across our estates, buildings and homes.	Property Services (see also estates measures below)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalise delivery of Phase 1 of the Decarbonisation Strategy.</li> <li>Deliver Phase 2 of the Decarbonisation Strategy.</li> <li>Prepare Phase 3 and 4 of the Decarbonisation Strategy (See also estates measures below).</li> </ul>
20 - 2	Transition the Council's vehicle fleet to low and zero emission vehicles.	Financial Services/ Assistant Chief Executive Cost: Existing Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalise vehicle transition plan work with commissioned consultants.</li> <li>Start delivery of low carbon transition plan.</li> <li>Mobilise 19 new vehicles for Building Maintenance fleet.</li> <li>Procure new EVs for Housing Estate Services.</li> <li>Develop needs analysis and outline plans for charging infrastructure needs for the organisation.</li> <li>Increase number of EV and zero emissions vehicles in the fleet from a baseline.</li> </ul>

**Raising awareness, enabling protection**

Action ID - Priority	Action name and description	Team leading this work, Costs and Emissions Impacts	KPI 2023/24
21 - 2	Widely share the data collected by the Council to help residents understand air quality in their neighbourhoods, for example through Citizen Science projects and outside schools.	Regulatory Services in Partnership with the AQ Ambassadors Cost: Low Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actively share monitoring information via awareness raising programme and AQ Ambassadors.</li> </ul>
22 - 2	Deliver a unified anti-idling campaign across the borough.	Regulatory Services/ Environmental Health Cost: Low Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design a unified programme of anti-idling awareness raising and enforcement measures, building on previous anti-idling activities.</li> <li>Trial measures in 2023/24, review measures for effectiveness and adjust.</li> </ul>
23 - 2	Roll out a programme of awareness raising on air pollution and climate, promoting other information sources such as airTEXT.	Regulatory Services/ Environmental Health / Climate Change & Sustainability Cost: Low Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review the Lovecleanair website hosted by the RSP to embed health messages and use this as a resource for GP and health care providers.</li> <li>Engagement and contact with health care providers.</li> </ul>
24 - 2	Work with health professionals so they have the right information to provide to those most vulnerable to air pollution including how people can protect themselves, including within their homes and workspaces.	Regulatory Services/ Environmental Health Cost: Low Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop key messaging and engagement on the impacts of climate change on health and deliver to targeted communities and groups, and provide to Public Health colleagues.</li> </ul>
25 - 1	Continue our air quality monitoring at 89 locations and extend this where its practical to do so. This monitoring network includes regulatory standard automatic sensors, low cost, lower accuracy automatic sensors and diffusion tube monitors.	Awareness Raising and Use of Data Cost: Medium Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuous monitoring of air quality in line with requirements and reporting needs, plus additional "low cost" sensors.</li> <li>Total refresh and review of the air quality network to include PM 2.5s automated monitoring.</li> <li>Increase the number of low-cost real-time monitoring, dependant on need and location.</li> <li>Increase the citizen science diffusion and hand held monitoring programme.</li> <li>Ensure that the data is used in a way that is accessible and understandable to all including the health impact.</li> </ul>

**Improving Transport**

Action ID - Priority	Action name and description	Team leading this work, Costs and Emissions Impacts	KPI 2023/24
26 - 1	We will work with the Mayor, other boroughs and London Councils to campaign for the protection and improvement of public transport services.	Assistant Chief Executive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop policy/campaign position re protecting and improving public transport for the borough.</li> <li>Work with other boroughs and London Councils to campaign for the protection of public transport services.</li> </ul>
27 - 1	We will work with the Mayor to improve and electrify the bus fleet and add our support to his voice at Government level for more improvements.	Public Transport Policy and Access Cost: Low Impact: Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use public transport liaison meetings with TfL to request that each new bus route contract is awarded with Zero Emission Vehicles, prioritising those passing schools.</li> </ul>
28 - 1	We will install 525 more EV charging points in Wandsworth in 2023 to enable greater use of electric and hybrid electric vehicles, and a total of 2000 more by 2033.	Planning and Transport Cost: Medium Impact: Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install 525 new EV charging points in 2023/4 and a total of 2000 by 2033.</li> </ul>



**Improving Transport** *Continued...*

Action ID - Priority	Action name and description	Team leading this work, Costs and Emissions Impacts	KPI 2023/24
29 - 1	Continue our work to improve connections between TfL, Network Rail and walking and cycling facilities, so they are more accessible and attractive.	Planning and Transport Cost: Medium Impact: Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review wayfinding around rail and bus stations, including sign-posting from stations to bus stops, and from bus stops to stations.</li> <li>Prioritise improvements to local walking and cycling routes in the areas around bus stops and rail stations.</li> <li>Provide cycle parking at stations and at prioritised bus stops.</li> <li>Review lighting on key routes to stations and bus stops.</li> <li>Support the retention and increase in Santander docking stations near public transport stations and hubs.</li> </ul>

**Walking and Cycling**

Action ID - Priority	Action name and description	Team leading this work, Costs and Emissions Impacts	KPI 2023/24
30	Action to improve accessibility on foot.	Planning and Transport Cost: High Impact: High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review the locations of formal and informal crossings along major roads and near schools to ensure they are in the best location and are of the right type.</li> <li>Identify further crossing locations.</li> <li>Introduce more side-road crossings, such as continuous crossings.</li> <li>Reduce turning radii on side roads, where appropriate.</li> </ul>
31	Action to improve all active travel methods.	Planning and Transport Cost: Low Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure all scheme proposals report a Healthy Streets Scorecard on the existing and proposed layout.</li> <li>Look after and improve the borough's public rights of way, including alleys and paths through parks and along the riverwalks.</li> </ul>
32 - 2	Support rollout of dockless e-bikes and cargo bikes, monitor their use and expand availability based on usage.	Planning and Transport Cost: Medium Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support and monitor rollout of dockless e-bikes.</li> <li>Promote and monitor usage of e-cargo bikes.</li> <li>Develop plans for further e-cargo bikes based on monitoring ad usage.</li> </ul>
33 - 3	Use our Healthy Street Forums to explore whether Liveable Neighbourhoods can work for Wandsworth residents.	Planning and Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue Healthy Streets Forum as an avenue for engagement on the Walking and Cycling Strategy and Liveable Neighbourhoods concepts.</li> </ul>
34 - 3	Annual Car Free Sunday.	Planning and Transport / Regulatory Services / Environmental Health Cost: Low Impact: Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify suitable date and deliver for Car Free Sunday.</li> <li>Design a series of communications on the events.</li> <li>Design and deliver local events in line with internal teams, key climate action dates and weeks.</li> </ul>
35 - 1	Provide new and improve existing quiet routes for walking and cycling, through action to improve local connections, signage, traffic calming and maintenance of roads and footpaths.	Planning and Transport Cost: High Impact: High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install 1,390 spaces across 232 bike hangars with 20% located on council estates by 2030.</li> <li>Create a core cycle network of signed routes across the borough including both upgrading of existing Cycle Superhighways and the creation of new Cycleway branded routes.</li> <li>Improve the connections between neighbourhoods as identified in the Cycle Network Review.</li> <li>Percentage of the population within 400m of the strategic cycle network to be 60% by 2030.</li> </ul>
36 - 1	Promote our free cycle training offer to adults and primary school children and seek opportunities to grow the council's bike stock for these training sessions.	Planning and Transport Cost: Existing Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote our existing free cycle training offer to adults and primary school children and seek opportunities to grow the council's bike stock for these training sessions.</li> <li>Approximately 1,600-2,000 adults and children will be trained annually.</li> </ul>

**Supporting Our Businesses**

Action ID - Priority	Action name and description	Team leading this work, Costs and Emissions Impacts	KPI 2023/24
37 - 1	Support our businesses to improve their sustainability across all domains, including air quality, with a pilot programme providing sustainability audits for businesses. This will include use of an Environmental Management System to enable them show their credentials to their retail and business customers.	Climate Change & Sustainability Cost: Low Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with businesses around their air quality and climate change impact.</li> <li>Help with mitigation where possible and look at a scheme for recognising businesses that care about their green credentials.</li> </ul>
38 - 2	To help improve air pollution in workplaces, we will purchase indoor air quality monitors so employers can test the air quality in workplaces and take action if needed.	Climate change and sustainability Cost: Low Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Purchase indoor air quality monitors which can be loaned to businesses.</li> <li>Communicate availability during business environmental auditing programme.</li> </ul>
39 - 1	Support and grow Wandsworth's cargo bike delivery projects, including new hub at Southside Shopping Centre.	Regulatory Services/ Environmental Health with Cross River Partnership Cost: Low Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish new micro logistics hub at Southside Shopping Centre.</li> </ul>
40 - 1	Work with other councils to identify cost effective ways to reduce PM <sub>2.5</sub> emissions from commercial kitchens, and lobby Government to improve standards and legislation.	Regulatory Services/ Environmental Health Cost: Low Impact: Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liaise with other councils through local air quality partnerships and London Councils to identify similar work.</li> <li>Develop plan to identify suitable actions and measures.</li> </ul>
41 - 3	Work to eliminate high pollution pockets through transport emissions management and improvements from point source emissions such commercial kitchens, as well as the Low Emissions Logistics Project, Tooting Town Centre projects, Clapham Junction projects, and by applying lessons learned from Putney High Street to Clapham Junction and Tooting High Street.	Regulatory Services / Planning & Transport Cost: Medium Impact: Low	



### Protecting And Improving Our Parks And Green Space

Action ID - Priority	Action name and description	Team leading this work, Costs and Emissions Impacts	KPI 2023/24
42 - 1	Every year plant 300 new trees on streets prioritising areas with the fewest trees.	Contracts and Leisure (Enable) Cost: Existing Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Every year plant 300 new trees on streets prioritising areas with the fewest trees.</li> </ul>
43 - 1	Plant 700 trees across the borough in 2023/24, including replacements and new trees.	Contracts and Leisure (Enable) Cost: Existing Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan and deliver tree planting for 700 trees for 2023/24 tree planting season.</li> <li>Write a Tree and Woodland Delivery Framework to identify appropriate locations for further tree planting.</li> <li>Ensure a net increase in trees on Council land.</li> </ul>
44 - 2	Collaborate with community groups to trial community orchards, empowering them and others to cultivate their fruit.	Housing Horticultural Services	
45 - 3	Enhance collaboration with council teams and community groups on biodiversity projects.	Contracts and Leisure (Enable) Cost: Existing Impact: Low	
46 - 2	Promote the Wandsworth Local Fund and Wandsworth Grant Fund to bolster the number of local environment projects and support the grant application process.	Contracts and Leisure (Enable) Cost: Existing Impact: Low	
47 - 2	Provide more information to residents about conserving and enhancing biodiversity throughout the borough.	Contracts and Leisure (Enable) Cost: Existing Impact: Low	
48 - 2	Develop action and project plans to implement our Biodiversity Strategy that protects our local wildlife species and habitats.	Environment and Community Services Cost: Low Impact: Low	
49 - 3	Increase information available to residents on how they can protect and improve biodiversity across the borough.	Contracts and Leisure (Enable) Cost: Existing Impact: Low	

### Protecting Our Children And The Most Vulnerable

Action ID - Priority	Action name and description	Team leading this work, Costs and Emissions Impacts	KPI 2023/24
50 - 1	Establish a programme of Air Quality Ambassadors to be led by the Council's Air Quality Champion. Launch an engagement and communication programme for schools to increase awareness and activity regarding air quality and climate change.	Regulatory Services/ Environmental Health Cost: Low Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruit Air Quality Ambassadors from volunteers from the Citizens Assembly and led by WBC Air Quality Champion.</li> <li>Agree initial programme of activities for 2023/24, visiting schools, care homes and other locations of vulnerable groups.</li> <li>Connect initial participants and gather feedback on system.</li> </ul>
51 - 3	Make school air quality information available, including through variable message signage outside schools, and through school events with the Air Quality Ambassadors.	Regulatory Services/ Environmental Health Cost: Low Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pilot and procure available systems on a small scale to test the technology.</li> <li>Roll this out to schools in areas of high pollution or where children travel through areas of high pollution.</li> </ul>
52 - 1	School Streets.	Planning and Transport Cost: Low Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>31 primary schools in the borough to have a School Street by 2030.</li> </ul>
53 - 1	Conduct air quality and climate audits at every school and at other key locations such as care homes, sharing the information directly and through the Air Quality Ambassadors, and acting on recommendations.	Regulatory Services/ Environmental Health Cost: Low Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct 6 audits per year.</li> <li>Once pilot of AQ Audits for Schools is complete, produce a simplified audit for use by businesses, libraries, NHS, etc</li> <li>Develop a reduced audit scheme that can be completed quickly and act as a guide and extend this to participating businesses in the borough.</li> </ul>
54 - 1	Work with TfL so that bus routes passing schools are prioritised for electrification.	Planning & Transport Cost: Low Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use public transport liaison meetings with TfL to request that each new bus route contract is awarded with Zero Emission Vehicles, prioritising those passing schools.</li> </ul>



## Improving Our Homes And Buildings

Action ID - Priority	Action name and description	Team leading this work, Costs and Emissions Impacts	KPI 2023/24
55 - 2	Provide advice and support for energy efficiency improvements, including solar and other renewable energy, insulation and retrofit to homes able to fund it installation themselves.	Assistant Chief Executive Cost: Existing Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete delivery of Green Homes Grant Phase 3, targeting delivery for 30 homes.</li> <li>Seek out additional funding for retrofit and energy efficiency.</li> <li>Support actions emerging from the London Councils Retrofit London programme on promoting retrofit for those on low incomes.</li> </ul>
56 - 1	Provide energy efficiency advice and help for residents to address the Cost-of-Living crisis.	Housing Services Cost: Existing Impact: Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand the work with Thinking Works to ensure that Council tenants experiencing or at risk of fuel poverty have access to support and advice on reducing energy bills, providing help and advice for 125 tenants.</li> <li>Improve communications to residents around energy efficiency measures.</li> </ul>
57 - 2	Replacing heating systems with renewable, low-emission alternatives.	Housing Services Cost: High Impact: High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trial low carbon alternatives to gas boilers including air and ground source heat pumps (dependent upon feasibility surveys).</li> <li>Ensure that when communal heating systems are replaced they have metering and billing to meet Heat Networks Regulations 2014.</li> <li>Complete trial of graphite and graphene-based nanotechnology heating system and consider options for further use.</li> </ul>
58 - 1	Apply Air Quality Neutral, Air Quality Positive, CHP and biomass air quality policies for new construction, as appropriate, and require strict standards on dust and other emissions during building demolition, and during construction of new buildings.	Regulatory Services/ Environmental Health Cost: Low Impact: Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air Quality Neutral Assessments to be required line with the Sustainable Design and Construction SDP being undertaken for major developments, and Air Quality Positive for specified cases.</li> </ul>
59 - 3	Implement the Future Homes Standards when these come into force.	Cost: Low Impact: Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No KPI until introduction of Future Homes Standard by Government, expected 2025.</li> </ul>
60 - 2	Improve the energy efficiency of our social housing stock	Housing Services Cost: High Impact: High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify properties which are eligible under ECO 4 for funding and consider a programme of works based on eligible properties.</li> </ul>
62 - 2	Discourage use of wood burning stoves with a targeted information campaign, while we lobby Government for powers to eliminate wood burning in Wandsworth.	Regulatory Services/ Environmental Health Cost: Low Impact: Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By Q4 2024/5 begin to issue information alerts for residents discouraging wood burning via social media and airTEXT subscribers when a PM<sub>2.5</sub> MODERATE or higher Air Quality Index is triggered. Lobby Government for powers to ban wood and biomass burning entirely in smoke control zones.</li> </ul>
63 - 1	Link together the air quality and climate change agendas.	Climate Change & Sustainability, Assistant Chief Exec Cost: Low Impact: Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Require the Wandsworth Environment and Sustainability Strategy and Air Quality Action Plan to be jointly developed, with collaborative elements throughout.</li> <li>Seek out additional funding for retrofit and energy efficiency.</li> <li>Support actions emerging from the London Councils Retrofit London programme on promoting retrofit for those on low incomes.</li> </ul>

## Appendix B

### Reasons for Not Pursuing Measures

**Table:** GLA Air Quality Matrix Actions Not Pursued and the Reasons for that Decision

Action category	Action description	Reason action is not being pursued (including Stakeholder views)
GLA Action 32	Free or discounted residential parking permits for zero emission cars	Continue our programme of emissions-based parking charges, and consider a review of ZEV charges after implementation of the ULEZ expansion.
GLA Action 31	Free or discounted parking charges at existing parking meters for zero emission cars	Continue our programme of emissions-based parking charges, and consider a review of ZEV charges after implementation of the ULEZ expansion.
GLA Action 21	Virtual Loading Bays and priority loading for ultra-low emission delivery vehicles	Exploring funding options for this at a pilot site, estimated to be £20k per site.

## Appendix C

### GLA AQ Matrix Actions already completed by Wandsworth Council

- Action 5** Ensuring adequate, appropriate, and well-located green space and infrastructure is included in new developments.
- Action 13** Ensure that the Head of Transport has been fully briefed on the Public Health duties. Provide a briefing which can be disseminated amongst the Transport team.
- Action 16** Encourage schools to join the STARs programmes.
- Action 18** Update local authority Procurement policies to include a requirement for suppliers with large fleets to have attained silver Fleet Operator Recognition Scheme (FORS) accreditation.
- Action 22** Join the Fleet Operator Recognition Scheme (FORS) for the borough's own fleet and obtain Gold accreditation.
- Action 25** Smarter Driver Training for drivers of vehicles in Borough Own Fleet i.e. through training of fuel efficient driving and providing regular re-training of staff.
- Action 27** Low Emission Neighbourhoods (LENs) are considered in discussions through the Healthy Streets Forums.
- Action 29** Speed control measures, reduction of the legal speed limit to 20mph in built up residential area.
- Action 34** Continue our programme of emissions-based parking charges, and consider a review after implementation of the ULEZ expansion.



If you have any comments on this AQAP,  
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