Air Quality a Health Emergency

CIIr Alexander Ehmann



Commitment from the Administration

- Elected on a Manifesto Commitment to air quality
- Created a new Air Quality & Transport Committee to cement this priority
- Involving our community groups and embedding their voice in policy
- Help people make the right choices Parking policy
- Being honest in our conversations
- Transparency in decision making







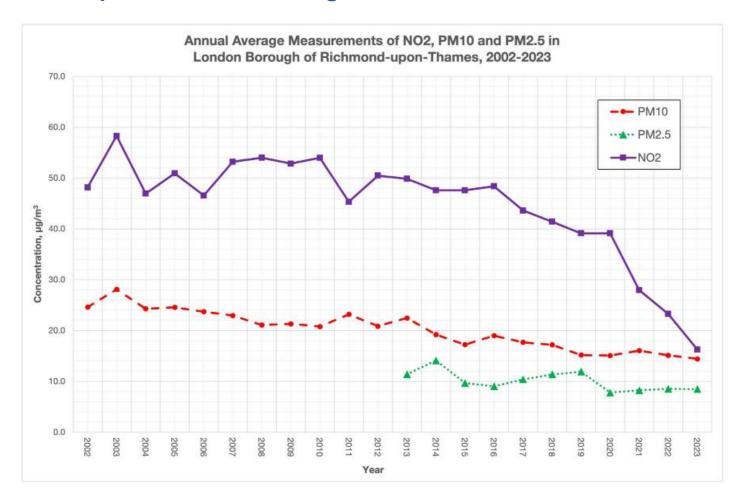
Why is AQ a priority for the borough

- We listened
- Our community groups and leaders were organised
- The health impact was clear
- First recorded death attributed directly to air pollution.
- Government was challenged by Client Earth
- Creating a healthy environment and protecting health is in our DNA





What's the picture in the borough





Highlights for AQ

- Joint Committee (Air Quality & Transport)
- 20 MPH borough a safer environment
- AQ Assessments of our exceedance locations
- Plan for our Town Centre
- Robust and challenging monitoring network
- Unprecedented commitment to active travel (Infrastructure)





Highlights for AQ (cont)

Schools

- Priority for us
- Schools audits and assessments with mitigation where needed
- 19 Schools Streets ...so far
- Phased approach to schools streets with soft starts

Good Move Scheme

- The first borough to support its residents through the ULEZ
- Focused on active travel as a priority rather than the car
- Continued the scheme as BAU







Our New Air Quality Action Plan 2025 (What we wanted)

- Built in partnership with our community groups (a critical friend)
- Pre consultation feedback incorporated
- Task Group of Cabinet Chairs (Health, Climate & Air Quality)
- Challenge our officers to go further
- Be bold but realistic
- Must speak to our community
- Comprehensive comms and engagement Plan
- Must listen to feedback











Our New Air Quality Action Plan 2025 Outputs

- Well written, well designed, well received
- Recognises our successes, but understands we must go further
- Commitment to the strictest (but achievable) WHO Objectives
- Pushing the legislation on our idling problem recognising we need to be firm
- Links directly to health initiatives such as indoor air quality and asthma
- Keeps our commitments to schools and vulnerable groups
- Pushing cleaner transport without isolating the motorist

Table 1: WHO recommended air quality guideline levels and interim targets						
Pollutant	Averaging time	Interim target				Level,
		1	2	3	4	μg/m³
PM _{2.5}	Annual	35	25	15	<u>10</u>	5
NO ₂	Annual	40	30	<u>20</u>		10

Table L WHO guidelines for incremental reduction of NO₂ and PM_{2.5} targets until the guideline level is attained. Our targets for 2024-2029 are shown in green, bold, underlined. Range of current measurements in the borough are shown in orange italics.



Questions?

