

Air Quality Strategy 2015 – 2020. Progress to date

Air Quality Strategy Policy	Action to date	Planned Action – next 6 months
<p>1. The City Corporation will monitor air pollutants to assess compliance with air quality objectives, to evaluate the effectiveness of policies and to provide alerts when pollution levels are high.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous NOx analysers at Walbrook Wharf, Beech Street and Sir John Cass School • PM10 analysers in Beech Street and Upper Thames Street • PM2.5 analyser in Farringdon Street • Post mounted NO2 analysers in Liverpool Street and Smithfield • NO2 diffusion tubes in Mansell Street, Barbican, St Bart's, Fleet Street • Detailed NO2 diffusion tube monitoring around the Barbican Estate, Mansell Street estate – Citizen Science • Detailed monitoring at Sir John Cass School, part of school engagement programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install a PM2.5 analyser at Sir John Cass School • Detailed air quality monitoring around Bank junction • Detailed air quality monitoring around Cheapside BID
<p>2. The City Corporation will seek opportunities to influence air quality policy across London to secure lower levels of air pollution in the Square Mile.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chairman of PHES met Defra Minister for air quality, post meeting letter sent • The City Corporation provides the Chair for the London Air Quality Steering Group • Supporting research by Policy Exchange on actions required across London to meet air quality limit values • Various pieces of press coverage, evening standard and national papers • Regular reports have been submitted to the Town Clerk's Supporting London Group which recognises the importance of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Round table discussion with Defra Minister and City business Air Quality Champions • Responding to national consultation on draft air quality action plan to be submitted to the European Commission • The issue is now on the Corporate Risk Register and updates will be provided on action taken • A presentation will be made to the Central London Forward Group to

	the issue	consider how the issue can be tackled on a London-wide basis
<p>3. The City Corporation will work with the Mayor of London on air quality policy and action in order to improve air quality in both the Square Mile and across London</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responded to the Mayor of London on a consultation for changes to the statutory system Local Air Quality Management • Worked with the GLA to shape proposals for dealing with emissions from Non Road Mobile Machinery • Implement London Plan policy for air quality neutral developments • Implementing London Plan policy for minimising emissions from non-road mobile machinery • Implementing London plan policy for minimising emissions from CHP and biomass • Applied for funding from the Mayor's Air Quality Fund to support air quality improvement work • Written commitment to signing up to Cleaner Air Borough criteria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate options for minimising the impact of standby generators used for short term operating reserve in central London. Application for funding pending
<p>4. The City Corporation will work with a range of external organisations to encourage action to reduce emissions across the Square Mile and raise awareness of air quality and its potential impact on health.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pioneered CityAir business engagement programme which has been rolled out across London • On-going support for City businesses, including recognising 20 CityAir business air quality champions • Working with Bart's Heath NHS Trust: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ working with clinicians to give advice to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with Cheapside BID on proposals for minimising impact on local air quality • Continued support for CityAir business air quality champions • Continue to work with Bart's Health NHS Trust

	<p>the most vulnerable patients on how to reduce their exposure to air pollution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ working with Bart's Health own fleet to reduce emissions through efficient driving behaviours ○ increasing green spaces at 3 Bart's hospital sites, creating a Cleaner Air mural with NOx reducing paint. ○ engaging staff at Bart's Health to switch from car journeys to active travel 	
<p>5. The City Corporation will seek opportunities for a significant reduction in emissions associated with road traffic in the Square Mile.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Extra street washing in Beech Street to reduce levels of particles ● Assessment of air quality impact of changes to Aldgate Gytratory ● 20mph zone ● Assess the impact of timed closure on local air quality ● Various action to deal with idling engines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Signs in hotspot areas ○ Letters sent to companies perceived to be causing a problem ○ CEOs ask drivers to turn engines off ○ Cleaner Air Action Days to encourage driver behaviour change ○ Business and construction / demolition site support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Feasibility study to look at options for significant reduction in emissions from diesel vehicles ● Feasibility of establishing a Low Emission Neighbourhood in the City ● Cleaner Air Action days rolled out to include volunteers across the City ● Input into forthcoming Freight Strategy ● Joint research project funded by DfT into transport emission reduction ● Assess options for a trial of 'City trees'
<p>6. The City Corporation will ensure that new developments have a minimal impact on local air quality both during the development phase and when occupied.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Enforce City Code of Practice for reducing emissions from construction / demolition ● Ensure construction / demolition sites comply with new GLA Non Road Mobile Machinery requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Update Construction Code of Practice to reflect best practice ● Develop Supplementary Planning Guidance for Air Quality ● Take part in King's College London

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure new developments are air quality neutral • Ensure chimneys terminate at roof height and comply with the requirements of the Clean Air Act 	<p>research project - reducing emissions from construction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host an event for construction and demolition companies to explain the new NRMM controls
7.The City Corporation will assess the impact of its activities on local levels of air pollution in the Square Mile and take steps to minimise it wherever possible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure new vehicles are low emission • Work with City suppliers to encourage low emission vehicles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a policy for air quality and procurement
8.The City will promote, reward and disseminate best practice for tackling poor air quality through its award schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Sustainable City Award for Air Quality • Annual Considerate Contractors Environment Award 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with new partner for Sustainable City Award for air quality – Building and Engineering Services Association
9.The City Corporation will take action to raise awareness amongst City residents and workers about air pollution and provide information on how to reduce exposure on days of high levels of pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizen science programmes for Barbican estate and Mansell Street estate residents • Sir John Cass School part of the GLA Clean Air for Schools programme • Develop free CityAir smartphone App • Provide information to Healthwatch for dissemination and support events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the CityAir smartphone App • Develop communications strategy for use on days of high air pollution
10.Improving air quality and reducing public exposure will remain a key public health priority for the City Corporation until concentrations are at a level not considered to be harmful to health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of how the urban realm can be designed to reduce exposure to air pollution • Report on how the health and wellbeing Board can assist with Air Quality Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify exposure hotspots with high footfall and high concentrations.