

Committee Port Health and Environmental Services	Dated: 25 September 2018
Subject: Low Emission Neighbourhood Annual Update	Public
Report of: Director of Markets and Consumer Protection	For Information
Report author: Beth Humphrey Low Emission Neighbourhood Project Manager	

Summary

In July 2016 the Mayor of London awarded the City of London Corporation £990,000 over three years to implement a Low Emission Neighbourhood (LEN) in the north west of the Square Mile. The area covers the Barbican and Golden Lane Estates, Barts hospital and the Guildhall.

The project formally commenced in September 2016. This report provides an update of activity over the past 12 months. Projects include greening, air quality monitoring, the installation of electric charge points and business engagement including business air quality grants.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the contents of the report and continue to support the activities of the LEN project.

Main Report

Background

1. The City of London Low Emission Neighbourhood is one of five across eight London boroughs. The overall aim of the LEN is to improve local air quality by piloting a range of measures in the area. It is anticipated that the most successful measures will be rolled out across the City.
2. The key objectives of the City's LEN project are to:
 - Reduce emissions of air pollutants
 - Reduce exposure
 - Raise awareness of air pollution
 - Pilot and test new ideas and approaches
 - Monitor and understand

Update on past 12 months

3. A wide range of activities and schemes have been successfully implemented over the past 12 months. These are summarised below. Further detail is contained in Appendix A.

- *Monitoring:* Ten diffusion tubes in the LEN area continue to provide a monthly overview of nitrogen dioxide levels. The City Corporation's continuous air quality monitors in Beech Street are also used to inform initiatives in the area.
- *Community engagement activities and events:*
 - Air Quality & Cycling Pop Up Event to support Cycle to Work day, Gresham Street – September 2017
 - City in Bloom Clean and Green in Seventeen campaign celebration event – November 2017
 - Barbican Estate EV Charging Points Launch Event – May 2018
 - Air Quality themed day of lessons and greening of Moor Lane Bridge with Year 8 pupils from City of London School for Girls, and Friends of City Gardens volunteers
 - Air Quality themed walks – 'Phyto-sensor walk' with Museum of London and Citizen Sense, Open Fest March 2018; Air Quality Gardens walk with Friends of City Gardens, Open Gardens and Squares Weekend June 2018
 - National Clean Air Day pop-up event in Guildhall Yard – June 2018
- *Business engagement* – the LEN project continues to fund the CityAir Business Engagement programme. As part of this programme, Air Quality Champions workshops are held every 6 months. The two workshops this year have been on the themes:
 - Air Quality Monitoring – November 2017
 - Building Engineer Toolkit – May 2018

The updated AQ focused Building Engineer toolkit is available as a resource for use by businesses.

- *Air Quality Champions business grant* – grants, totaling £70,000, were awarded to 7 City organisations in September 2018 to implement air quality initiatives. These include cycle parking and improved cycle facilities, installation of an air quality monitor, greening office facades, and installation of EV charging points in office car parks. All initiatives funded by this grant are now in place and will be included in a series of case studies to be released at the next Air Quality Champion workshop in November 2018.
- *Moor Lane Ultra Low Emission Vehicle only street* – a feasibility study is underway to consider options for an ultra-low emission vehicle 'ULEV' only vehicle restriction at the southern section of Moor Lane,
- *Resident electric vehicle charging* – 23 electric vehicle charging points were installed across 5 Barbican Estate carparks (Bunyan, Breton, Cromwell, Thomas More and Willoughby), providing access to charging

from a total of 30 bays. The charging points went live in May 2018 at a launch event. A 6-month trial is underway to assess user experience. Once complete, a Best Practice report will be produced, with recommendations for future management of EV charging points.

- *Smithfield Market cargo bike delivery* – In December 2017, the LEN project supported cargo-bike operators to pilot of a zero-emission delivery service based out of Smithfield Market car park. The scheme was initially trialed over the Christmas period. The LEN project is continuing to support the operators as they expand their operating base.
- *Greening in the area* – In September 2017, 'LEN: Urban Garden' planters were installed outside the entrance to the Museum of London. In May 2018, 16 planters were installed on Aldersgate bridge, 8 of these have since been relocated to the Golden Lane Estate community center. In July 2018, air quality themed planters were installed, wrapping around columns just outside 45 Beech Street offices, in a partnership between the City of London Corporation and Business Environment, and funded by the Air Quality Champion grant.
- *Reducing emissions from freight* – the LEN Project Manager has been working closely with DBE to collect data on freight and servicing activity to inform an action plan for reducing freight traffic in the peak hours. Work funded by the LEN project so far has included a survey of all on-street loading and unloading activities in the EC2Y (Barbican) and EC2V (Guildhall) post codes and the development of delivery and servicing plan (DSP) case studies for eight key organisations.

Planned activity for the remainder of the LEN period

4. The following activity will take place during the final 6 months of the Low Emission Neighborhood project:
 - Consultation and final approval for an 'Ultra Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV) only' restriction on the southern section of Moor Lane, which if granted, will see the launch of a year-long pilot from April 2019
 - Communication campaign introducing the ULEV concept
 - Launch of CityAir's Supply Chain Guide for businesses
 - Installation of a NO₂ continuous air quality monitor in Smithfield Market vicinity
 - Assessing the feasibility of installing a green wall in Cheapside
 - Installation of Electric Vehicle Charge Point in Golden Lane Estate car park
 - Develop a proposal for the legacy of the LEN project

Financial implications

5. The financial expenditure for the project is detailed below.

Financial Year	LEN grant	LIP funding
2016/17	255,000	100,000
2017/18	470,000	100,000
2018/19	265,000	100,000
Total	990,000	300,000

Corporate & Strategic Implications

6. The LEN project supports the aims and objectives of the City of London Air Quality Strategy 2015–2020, in addition to a number of other corporate policies and strategies. It also goes towards addressing air quality, which has been identified as a corporate risk.
7. The LEN supports several outcomes from the new Corporate Plan 2018 to 2023.
- Outcome 11 ‘We have clean air, land and water and a thriving and sustainable natural environment’;
 - Outcome 2 ‘People enjoy good health and wellbeing’.
 - Outcome 5 ‘Businesses are trusted and are socially and environmentally responsible’ is supported through the CityAir business engagement work.

Conclusion

8. A range of projects were delivered during the past 12 months for the Low Emission Neighbourhood. With the continued support of other City Corporation Departments such as the Department of Built Environment and Barbican Estate, the LEN project is on schedule to be delivered on time and to budget.

Appendices:

- Appendix A: [Summary](#) of LEN Schemes 2017-18

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Further information

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