



City of Westminster

Committee Agenda

Title: **Communities, Regeneration and Housing Policy and Scrutiny Committee**

Meeting Date: **Thursday 14th October, 2021**

Time: **7.00 pm**

Venue: **Hybrid - MS Teams and Rooms 18.01 & 18.03, 18th Floor, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP**

Members: **Councillors:**

Antonia Cox	Matt Noble
Elizabeth Hitchcock	Hamza Taouzzale
Ian Rowley	Jim Glen
Barbara Arzymanow	Liza Begum

Members of the public and press are welcome to attend the meeting and listen to the discussion Part 1 of the Agenda.

[Link to Live Meeting](#)

This meeting will be live streamed and recorded. To access the recordings after the meeting, please revisit the link.

If you require any further information, please contact the Committee Officer, Hannah Small.

**Email: Hsmall@Westminster.gov.uk
Corporate Website: www.westminster.gov.uk**

Note for Members: Members are reminded that Officer contacts are shown at the end of each report and Members are welcome to raise questions in advance of the meeting. With regard to item 2, guidance on declarations of interests is included in the Code of Governance; if Members and Officers have any particular questions they should contact the Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison in advance of the meeting please.

AGENDA - PART 1 (IN PUBLIC)

1. MEMBERSHIP

To note any changes to the Membership and to nominate a new Chairman for this Committee.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive declarations by Members and Officers of the existence and nature of any pecuniary interests, or any other significant interest in matters on this agenda.

3. MINUTES

To agree the minutes of the Committee's meeting held on 6th July 2021.

(Pages 3 - 8)

4. REPORT ON AIR QUALITY IN WESTMINSTER

To receive a report on Air Quality in Westminster. Expert independent witnesses have also been invited to present on this agenda item.

(Pages 9 - 84)

5. WRITTEN UPDATE FROM THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES AND REGENERATION

To provide a written update to the Committee on current and forthcoming issues in this portfolio.

(Pages 85 - 88)

6. UPDATE FROM THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING

To update the Committee on current and forthcoming issues in this portfolio.

(Pages 89 - 92)

7. WORK PROGRAMME

To receive a report on the Committee's suggested work programme for the remainder of the municipal year 2021/22.

(Pages 93 -100)

Stuart Love
Chief Executive
5th October 2021



CITY OF WESTMINSTER

MINUTES

Communities, Regeneration and Housing Policy and Scrutiny Committee

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of a hybrid meeting of the **Communities, Regeneration and Housing Policy and Scrutiny Committee** held virtually on **Monday 6 July 2021 at 7.00 pm** via Microsoft Teams.

Members Present: Councillors Andrew Smith (Chairman), Barbara Arzymanow, Antonia Cox, Elizabeth Hitchcock, Matt Noble, Ian Rowley, and Hamza Taouzzale.

Also Present: Cllr David Harvey (Cabinet Member for Housing), Lewis Aaltonen (Policy and Scrutiny Co-ordinator), Simon Brooker (Chief Inspector for the Metropolitan Police Service), Tim Davis (Head of Environmental Health, Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea), Debbie Jackson (Executive Director, Growth, Planning and Housing), Alex Juon (Team Manager in Public Protection and Licensing), Artemis Kassi (Lead Scrutiny Advisor/Statutory Officer), Calvin McLean (Director of Public Protection and Licensing), Raj Mistry (Executive Director of Environment and City) and Neil Wightman (Director of Housing).

1 MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Heather Acton, Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration and from Councillor Guthrie McKie.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

3 MINUTES

- 3.1 **RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 10 May 2021 be approved and signed as a correct record of proceedings.

4 CABINET MEMBER UPDATE

- 4.1 The Committee had received apologies for absence from the Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration, Cllr Heather Acton. The Committee was informed that they could submit questions in writing about the Cabinet

Member's portfolio in writing, and they would be taken forward for as action items.

5 CABINET MEMBER UPDATE

- 5.1 Cllr David Harvey, Cabinet Member for Housing, provided a written update and responded to questions about the ongoing resident survey, which aimed to measure resident satisfaction with Council housing. The Committee queried the reliability of the responses to the survey. The Committee welcomed Councillor Harvey's reply, which explained that the sample size of the survey and the quality and diversity of responses was likely to have a low margin for error, and that on first inspection, the responses received were consistent with known issues. The Committee accepted that more robust interrogation of the results of the survey would follow.
- 5.2 The Committee was given an update about the Churchill Gardens Pilot, and the multi-agency panel. The Cabinet Member clarified that the multi-agency panel was a measure to collaborate with several fields and disciplines where objectives were shared.
- 5.3 The Committee discussed the Smart Homes initiative, and was informed that interim results from the trial period of the Smart Homes programme would be available in October or November for scrutiny by the committee. It was raised that residents generally needed to have an active internet connection so that they could benefit from these innovations. The Committee was pleased to hear that a voucher scheme was under consideration that would get residents connected at very favourable rates.
- 5.4 Regarding drones checking the status of repairs and home conditions, the Committee was advised that, whilst there may be a teething period where residents were sceptical of drones inspecting their property, this technology was expected to be very useful. The Committee heard that, when repairs were needed in high places, the birds-eye view they offered would be valuable.
- 5.5 The Committee discussed the issue of anti-social behaviour on Council Property, and the enforcement measures that the Council could take against persistent anti-social behaviour. The Committee heard that only one eviction had been necessary over the last year, and that there were approximately 30 Notice of Possession Orders (NPOs) active or being processed. The Committee further heard that these NPOs would allow the Council to indicate to residents that, were they to misbehave or act anti-socially, they would be evicted, and that courts would have the ability to pass that measure rapidly.
- 5.6 The Committee was advised that cases of anti-social behaviour could be sensitive and complex, and that the Council endeavoured to respond to each case with the requisite nuance. The Committee discussed how situations involving families where only one member behaved anti-socially complicated enforcement against anti-social behaviour.
- 5.7 The Committee noted that the Cabinet Member aimed to reshape the agreements signed with tenants to emphasise neighbourliness as a key component. The Cabinet Member explained that a pilot scheme investigating

two Council Estates would seek consensus on tenants' expectations of good behaviour and that this would enable the Council to respond more effectively to cases of poor behaviour in Council-owned properties.

- 5.8 The Committee suggested benchmarking, using analysis of other countries, which could be a valuable exercise for the Council. Singapore was named as a country that may provide good examples of enforcement against anti-social behaviour.
- 5.9 The Committee requested clarity around Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for leaseholder satisfaction and heard that satisfaction rates in Westminster had gone up by approximately 6% in the past year. The Committee heard that this placed Westminster's rates relatively highly when compared with other London boroughs. The Committee was told that hard work had been done in communicating with Leaseholders about major works in the past five years, though the dividends of these efforts would likely take time to realise in the data. The Committee heard that measures taken by the Cabinet Member and the relevant Council departments in this regard included hosting small-group workshops, which clarified to leaseholders the details of major works. It was noted that Leaseholders may not have had a good experience in the past, and so it was an ongoing process to rebuild trust with them.
- 5.10 The Committee requested more information about the status of Agilysis, the Council's repair call centre, and performance in the face of reduced staff capacity and ongoing high demand for services and repairs. The Committee heard that staffing of the main centre was facing a cut of nearly 30% of its capacity. The Committee discussed the advancements in the call system used by the centre in aiding performance. The Committee also heard that, in addition, the changes to the call centre would be graduated over the course of two or three years and that additional capacity could be provided in an urgent situation if needed, with some 15 additional staff able to be drafted in to increase capacity in a crisis or over the winter months.
- 5.11 The Committee requested and received reassurances that drones were legal to operate on Council property, provided that they were seen and managed by an operator. The Committee was also advised that, before drone repair inspections were implemented, the measures would be checked thoroughly with Legal Services and that this step ensured that no Council officer or department breached regulations on drones.
- 5.12 The Committee requested information about the employment of Westminster residents as apprentices and officers involved with this portfolio. The Committee welcomed the Cabinet Member's position, which was that, whilst the top priority was to employ the best candidates available, he had consulted senior officers about the number of attractive jobs on offer for residents. The Committee heard that the Cabinet Member aspired to hold job fairs for residents to seek employment with the Council in housing roles.
- 5.13 The Committee inquired about the reliability of data in recent housing surveys, and whether residents were included in the questioning process. The Committee welcomed the information that an online survey group had been set up to ensure resident input was accounted for in questioning.

6. REPORT ON NUISANCE CAUSED BY NOISY VEHICLES AND CAR MEETS

- 6.1 The Committee received a report from Calvin McLean, Director of Public Protection and Licensing and Alex Juon, Team Manager in Public Protection and Licensing at Westminster City Council, regarding noisy vehicles and car meets in the City. The Committee also welcomed Simon Brooker, Chief Inspector for the Metropolitan Police Service, and Tim Davies, Head of Environmental Health for the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, who lent their expertise and experience to the presentation and discussion of the report.
- 6.2 The Committee was given an update about existing and new measures which the Council had at its disposal in order to tackle the issue of noisy vehicles and car meets. Officers presented Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) as a measure which empowered the Council to order people to cease drinking or surrender their alcohol.
- 6.3 The Committee was informed that RBKC had trialled the use of acoustic cameras, which aimed to detect high decibel levels in localised areas. The Committee further heard that this trial had seen some success in reducing numbers of car meets and vehicles causing nuisance in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.
- 6.4 The Committee was presented with details of the acoustic camera trial in RBKC by Tim Davies. The Committee heard how the trial had taken place over the three months before 25 December 2020 and how instances of car meets had fallen over this three-month period, although it was uncertain whether this could be attributed directly to acoustic cameras.
- 6.5 The Committee heard that many residents in RBKC took this matter extremely seriously, with RBKC receiving multiple letters and emails of complaint, and petitions formed to encourage RBKC to take more action against car meets.
- 6.6 The Committee was advised that, according to the data held by RBKC and the Metropolitan Police Service, the chief culprits in car meets and noisy vehicle disturbances were people who drove into London, such as (but not limited to) young men from Essex with customised cars. The Committee was further advised that, contrary to popular resident opinion, most Fixed Penalty Notices (PCNs) were not applied to owners of 'super-cars' during Ramadan, for example. The Committee welcomed the news that RBKC had seized one vehicle, following an incident witnessed by enforcing officers.
- 6.7 The Committee was further advised that co-operation between boroughs was essential in this matter, as there was likely to be displacement from one borough to neighbouring boroughs, depending on which Council cracked down on car meets more severely.
- 6.8 The Committee invited Chief Inspector Simon Brooker to give a verbal update from the perspective of the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS). The Committee was reassured that the MPS was supportive of the implementation of PSPOs, but was advised that the MPS wished to put in place as many tactical options

as possible. The ability to pursue remote prosecutions via evidence from acoustic cameras was also commended by Chief Inspector Brooker.

- 6.9 The Committee heard that policing priorities focused on violence and major disturbances, especially currently within the context of easing COVID-19 restrictions. The Committee further heard that, despite this, there was a policing plan to tackle car meets and noisy vehicles in place that spanned until the end of August and for example, even the past weekend, several dispersal orders had been issued. The Committee welcomed the commitment of the MPS to dedicating resources to tackling car meets throughout the summer, with the caveat that this could not be committed to for the long term.
- 6.10 The Committee expressed that its own members had been inconvenienced by noisy vehicles and car meets, with Waterloo Place noted as a hotspot in Westminster. Member discussion focused on the highly attractive public realm that attracted car meets. The Committee queried whether persistent offenders could be banned from driving. However the Committee was satisfied that, whilst people causing disturbances with noisy vehicles could not be banned from driving in the area, PSPOs combined with other measures could limit their behaviour.
- 6.11 The Committee agreed that whilst noisy vehicles and car meets were a significant nuisance for residents, it was of utmost importance that serious violent crimes and robberies took precedence for policing.
- 6.12 The Committee requested more detail about the acoustic cameras and asked whether acoustic cameras were set manually, what decibel levels triggered them, and whether video was captured alongside audio. The Committee was advised by officers that a sound level of 80 decibels had been decided upon because it met the threshold required when a fixed penalty notice within a PSPO was issued and that therefore, nuisance vehicles could be penalised if they breached this limit. The Committee was further advised that acoustic cameras, when activated, captured a short video clip of the vehicle which caused the noise.
- 6.13 The Committee discussed hotspots in Westminster where further enforcement would be useful, such as, but not limited to, the Edgware Road. It was agreed that better communication with residents would be beneficial so that these problem areas could be identified.
- 6.14 The Committee observed that the collection of data should be prioritised so that Parliament could be lobbied with a firm case for improved primary legislation. The Committee was reassured by officers that this would be taken forward.
- 6.15 It was raised by the Committee that some vehicles involved in noise disturbances and parking violations were foreign vehicles, including from the Gulf states, and that preventing the importation of certain cars could be considered as one method to alleviate problems in central London. This matter was noted as difficult, as offending vehicles varied, and a traffic officer with keen knowledge of legislation was needed to enforce against such vehicles.

- 6.16 The Committee received an update on slowing and stopping measures such as additional speed bumps and ‘stingers’ and how they could be used to prevent misuse of vehicles. The Committee heard that temporary public realm works (such as temporary speed bumps) were under consideration but had financial and resource implications. The Committee further heard that acoustic cameras, in conjunction with PSPOs, would help to enforce in specific areas. However, the Committee was informed that severe measures such as stingers were rarely deployed by police and would not be useful, for example, in stopping ongoing car meets.
- 6.17 The Committee queried the cost-effectiveness of acoustic cameras Debate centred on the cost of the cameras, and the resource implications of staff required to review footage. The Committee was advised by officers that acoustic cameras would be a cost-effective measure for tackling this issue. The Committee thanked the report authors and the external witnesses for their contributions to the meeting and the productive discussions.

7. WORK PROGRAMME

- 7.1 The Committee received a report on its work programme from Artemis Kassi, Lead Scrutiny Advisor/Statutory Officer. The Committee was advised that it would be timely to discuss air quality at the next meeting of the Committee in October, ahead of COP26.
- 7.2 The Committee requested that post-COVID19 recovery, and the environmental implications of major works and construction in the City be raised as connected matters to discuss as part of the wider discussion around air quality.
- 7.3 The Committee received an update on the scrutiny function from Artemis Kassi, who indicated that, with increased resource, the Policy and Scrutiny Team would be able to provide a more detailed Work Programme to the Committee after the summer recess. The Committee welcomed Lewis Aaltonen, who joined the team as a Policy and Scrutiny Co-ordinator.

The meeting concluded at 21.05.

CHAIRMAN _____

DATE _____



Communities Regeneration and Housing: Policy and Scrutiny Committee

Date:	14 th October 2021
Classification:	General Release
Title:	Westminster's Air Quality Programme 2021
Report of:	Cllr Heather Acton
Cabinet Member Portfolio	Communities and Regeneration
Wards Involved:	All / Specific
Policy Context:	Climate Emergency / Environment / Public Health
Report Author and Contact Details:	Ceridwen John cjohn@westminster.gov.uk Adam Webber awebber@westminster.gov.uk

1. Executive Summary

1.1 Improving air quality continues to be a corporate and resident priority. The council has a very ambitious air quality programme and is taking an evidence-based approach to challenge ourselves to further strengthen our policies and projects across this portfolio.

1.2 The covid-19 pandemic created a dramatic traffic reduction intervention. Despite this, Nitrogen Dioxide levels fell significantly but Particulate Matter did not. The two appended slide decks were presented to Informal Cabinet on July 12th 2021 and provide a summary analysis of pollutant data from the past two years. It also provides an overview of the air quality programme and its priorities for the coming year, supported by the current Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) which runs to 2024.

1.3 The data and analysis of the levels of pollutants during and post pandemic demonstrate the need to specifically prioritise Particulate Matter reduction through strong policies and projects as well as continuing with our sustainable transport interventions.

2. Key Matters for the Committee's Consideration

Officers are seeking a view from the committee on the following:

- 2.1 What is the best way to ensure that the actions in the current Air Quality Action Plan appropriately reflect post pandemic green recovery and public health priorities?
- 2.2 How should the council be responding to the Ella Aloo-Kissi-Debrah case and maximising interventions for residents that live within 25m of the strategic road network?
- 2.3 Do the committee agree that a resident led air quality focus group should be created to provide a dedicated forum for the co-creation of responses to the city's poor air quality? How could it be most effective? What should this look like? How can we ensure good representation across the community?
- 2.4 The revised 2021 draft Code of Construction Practice has recently completed a public consultation. It has been updated to reflect the representations received both internally and externally. Do the committee have further comments on the document?

3. Background

3.1 Air Quality Programme (see both Informal Cabinet Slide Decks appended)

Westminster's Air Quality Programme aims to exceed national and international standards in air quality (WCC have committed to achieving WHO guidelines, which were further strengthened in September 2021) by reducing emissions from buildings and transport through technological innovation and working with our communities.

The attached slide decks were presented at Informal Cabinet in July 2021. They set out:

- the current objectives of the programme
- detailed data analysis of pollutant levels during lockdown
- how the AQ programme contributes to the council's climate emergency targets, how the AQ programme is embedded across Cabinet portfolios, and
- current activity in the programme.

The strategies mentioned in the slides have been submitted with this report as background reading.

The committee is being asked to consider the following as key matters of consideration.

3.2 Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) 2019-2024

Westminster City Council is required to produce an AQAP as part of its duty to London Local Air Quality Management, and all London councils work with the GLA on this. Part one sets out the context incorporating the council's statutory requirements as an Air Quality Management Area. Part two is the Action Plan - 88 individual actions that the council will undertake to support air quality improvement in the city across five themes:

1. **Monitoring Air Quality** – to consistently monitor air quality across the city to continually assess our compliance with Air Quality Limit Values and against World Health Organisation targets
2. **Reducing emissions from transport** – to implement a range of measures to reduce emissions from transport sources throughout the city, to continue to be the leading local authority for Electric Vehicle Charging infrastructure and to continue to support major policy interventions to reduce emissions from transport sources
3. **Reducing emissions from buildings and new development** – to mitigate and minimise emissions from both existing buildings and from new development using a combination of policy, partnership working and specific projects and interventions that will support creating a net zero emission city by 2040

4. **Awareness raising** - to continue to research and implement wide ranging behaviour change and awareness raising projects around air quality to inform and educate our stakeholders, and
5. **Lobbying and partnership working** – to call for more action from where necessary from regional and national government

The current iteration of the AQAP was published in December 2019 after a detailed development and consultation process – but was pre-pandemic and pre Ella Adoo-Kissi-Debra’s landmark ruling (see below). The council publishes an annual monitoring report - the latest monitoring update was submitted August 2021 (2020 data) but is heavily caveated to consider the specific impact of lockdowns on the data.

Following Cllr Acton’s direction, it is planned to update the AQAP to reflect both these factors and our strengthened public health priorities (see para 3.3) and ensure our air quality work underpins the city’s green economic recovery while retaining as much of the air quality improvements as possible as the city reopens.

As such it is proposed that there will be a combination of new actions and strengthened existing actions within the AQAP. These will fall under four categories, which the committee is encouraged to provide feedback on:

1. Reflecting the impact of the covid-19 pandemic and its impact on the city: the covid-19 pandemic has necessitated a variety of changes in how we as a council manage, support and promote our city. A number of these ambitious policies and actions have had additional environmental benefits and improvements, which a revised AQAP can help promote and advance.
2. Closer alignment of air quality goals with the council’s Climate Emergency work: since the original publishing of the AQAP, the council’s work on the Climate Emergency has advanced significantly, and there are considered opportunities to maximise the co-benefits of policies and projects that will reduce air pollution and contribute to our ambitious city-wide Climate Emergency targets.
3. An increased focus on actions to reduce Particulate Matter emissions: reducing Particulate emissions has been a focus of attention for the GLA and London boroughs for some time, and the relative lack of reduction of articulate emissions due to covid-19 related lockdowns has highlighted a need for more work in this area. For Westminster, it is increasingly understood that emissions from wood burning stoves (domestic and commercial) are a larger than previously realised source of harmful Particulate pollution; this is one area where the AQAP can be strengthened.
4. Strengthening working with Public Health: while already considered throughout the existing AQAP, the Ella Adoo-Kissi-Debra case has highlighted potential areas for stronger partnership working between local authorities and Public Health counterparts, particularly focusing on how we communicate information and advice around air pollution to vulnerable resident groups and families.

In addition, over the summer three strategies from the environment portfolio that significantly impact the air quality agenda underwent public consultation:

- Climate Emergency Action Plan,
- Environment Supplementary Planning Document and the
- Code of Construction Practice (see para 3.5)

Reviewing the AQAP at this stage will ensure that the actions are fully aligned with the three strategies and that all actions coming out of these four policy documents complement and strengthen each other.

3.3 Ella Adoo-Kissi-Debrah

Nine-year-old Ella Adoo-Kissi-Debrah lived in Lewisham and tragically died in 2013 from asthma. She lived close to the South Circular (A215) and had been exposed to air pollutants at a level that exceeded both World Health Organisation (WHO) and legal limits. Ella Adoo-Kissi-Debrah's case is ground-breaking as for the first time in the UK, air pollution was listed as a cause of her death.

Southwark's assistant coroner authored the [Report to Prevent Future Deaths](#) following Adoo-Kissi-Debrah's inquest which has the following recommendations for healthcare providers, local authorities, and central government:

- Medical professionals must provide information for patients about the adverse health effects of air pollution
- Government and local authorities must improve public awareness about air pollution and its adverse impacts upon health
- Government must adopt WHO air quality standards as legally-binding objectives in the UK

The council's response to this case is going to be discussed jointly with the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea at the next Health and Wellbeing Board (date to be confirmed). Through the Schools Clean Air Fund, the council has been actively providing information to raise awareness and facilitating the installation of air quality interventions at schools including installing green walls. Westminster also supported the GLA's [London Schools Pollution Helpdesk](#) which promotes anti idling and air quality audits to schools. Officers are currently drafting a bid to the Defra Air Quality Fund (closes 8th October) to develop specific training for front line workers (such as our social workers) and follow up online training on the health impacts of air quality.

3.4 Air Quality Focus Group

The review of the responses to the consultations that have been carried out over the summer has demonstrated the widespread commitment that residents have to supporting the council on climate change challenges and specifically improving air quality. The city benefits from stakeholders with an unsurpassed breadth of expertise and the opportunity to co-create policies and projects that are reflective of what communities want and allow us to be ambitious and innovative in our thinking. Co-creation of policy development through meaningful conversations and welcoming external challenge will ensure that the council benefits from both diversity of opportunity, experience and innovation and ensure that we are engaging and

consulting with our communities regularly and not only when the authority is seeking a consultation response to pre-thought out work.

3.5 Code of Construction Practice

The newly updated Code strengthens our requirements for developers in a number of areas. As well as updating the Code to reflect changes in best practice since it was first published in 2016, there are many brand-new requirements that go beyond current accepted best practice. While not an exhaustive list of updates, some of the new requirements for developers include:

- Community liaison – stronger requirements for large scale developments to provide ongoing information and communications channels to the local community and local stakeholders, through regular email newsletters and dedicated project websites. Major developments are also required to work with other ‘overlapping’ developments to reduce potential cumulative impacts.
- Sensitive receptors – the council is now able to ‘upgrade’ projects to require stronger mitigation from developers in areas where there are higher than average incidences of public health concerns such as asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). The council also reserves the right to ‘upgrade’ projects based on their proximity to sites such as schools/nurseries, care homes and other healthcare uses.
- Noise – the CoCP updates and strengthens previous wording around noisy working and hours of working, and embeds a number of new best practice guidance published since the 2016 version of the Code.
- Dust / air pollution – the new CoCP goes beyond requirements made by the GLA or by any other London borough in our standards for emissions from construction equipment (Non Road Mobile Machinery, often abbreviated to NRMM), and in the ‘trigger levels’ we require for monitoring dust emissions on site. These standards have been developed in conjunction with the GLA and are an example of the new Code’s ‘best in class’ status in many areas.
- Live hoardings – the CoCP includes a new requirement for major developments to use green hoardings where practicable.

The final draft of the Code has been provided as a background paper. The representations received during the public consultation have been incorporated into the document along with comments from colleagues from Environmental Sciences, Highways and Transportation and Planning. Subject to the committee’s agreement / comments, the Code will be published in time for COP 26 (1st November onwards) and uploaded to the council website.

If you have any queries about this Report or wish to receive or inspect any of the Background Papers, please contact Report Author 02076411021 cjohn@westminster.gov.uk

APPENDICES:

None

BACKGROUND PAPERS

This section is for any background papers used to formulate the report or referred to in the body of the report.

Background paper 1 - WCC Air Quality Programme 2021 slide deck (presented to informal cabinet on 12/07/21)

Background paper 2 - WCC Air Quality in Westminster, *the impact of lockdown* slide deck (presented to informal cabinet on 12/07/21)

Background Paper 3 - WCC Air Quality Annual Status Report 2020

WCC Draft Code of Construction Practice 2021 – available on request due to size of document

[WCC Air Quality Action Plan 2019 – 2023](#)

[WCC Climate Action Plan 2021 - 2040](#)

[WCC Draft Environment SPD 2021](#)

[WCC Schools Clean Air Fund programme report](#)

[Phillip Barlow, April 2021 - Annex A: Regulation 28 Report to Prevent Future Deaths \(Judiciary\)](#)

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Westminster's Air Quality Programme 2021

Maximising opportunities to reduce air pollution in the city post pandemic

The City for All Vision

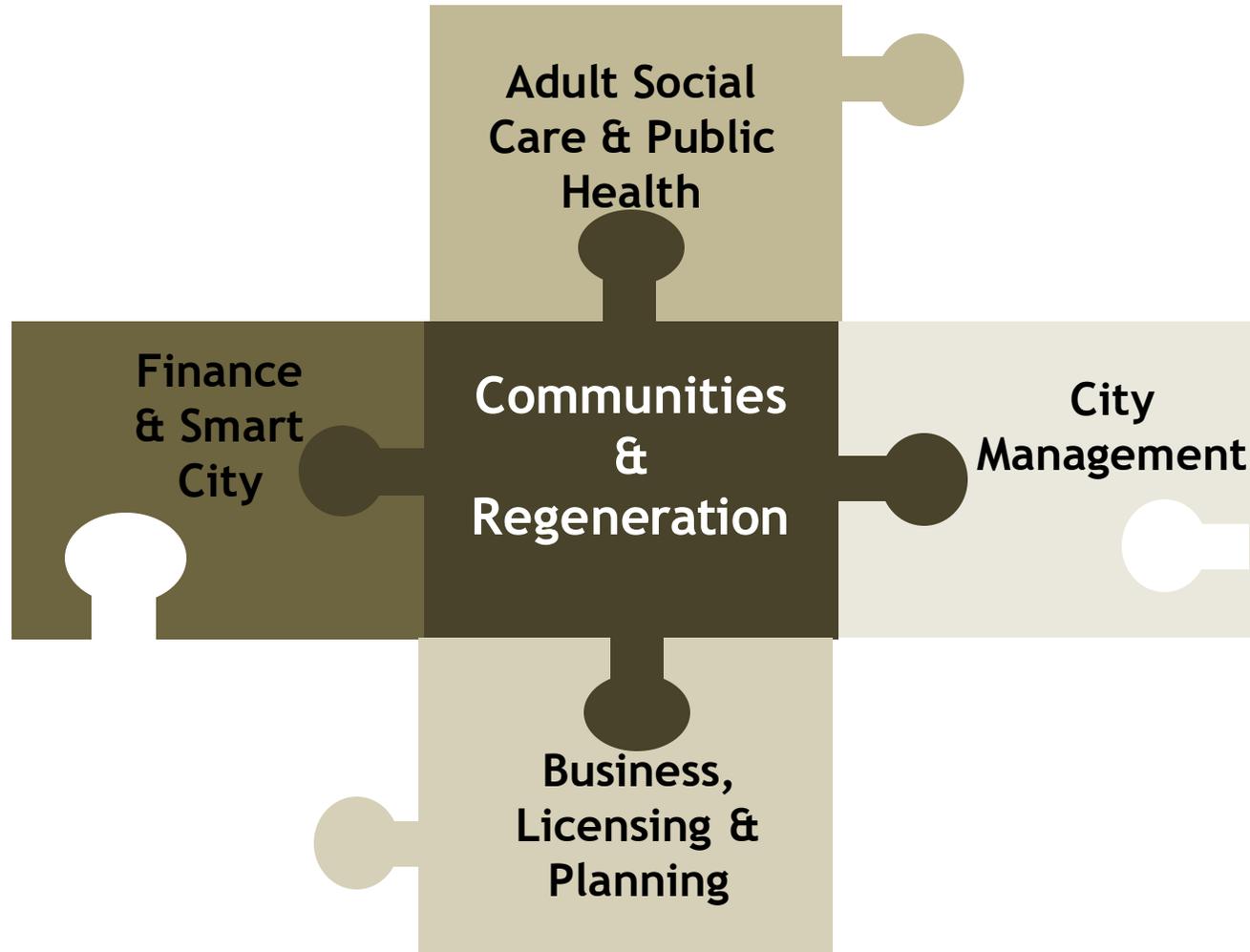


Leading the way in tackling climate change and improving air quality

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- ▶ A world leading carbon neutral local authority with the capability and innovation to eliminate emissions from the council's estate and services, delivering a zero carbon city by 2040 and a greener and cleaner Westminster where residents, communities and businesses can thrive and be resilient to the impacts of climate change.
- ▶ Exceeding national and international standards in air quality by reducing emissions from buildings and transport through technological innovation and working with communities.

Air quality is embedded across portfolios



Delivering on local, regional and national targets and ambitions

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- ▶ **City for All** - A global destination by improving air quality and providing excellent open spaces for the health and wellbeing of our residents, visitors and workers, and maintaining the highest standards in street cleanliness.
- ▶ **GLA** - for London to have the best air quality of any major world city by 2050, going beyond the legal requirements to protect human health and minimise inequalities - London Environment Strategy 2018
- ▶ **Defra** - Reduce Nox emissions by 73% and PM2.5 by 46% by 2030 (against a 2005 baseline)' - National Clean Air Strategy 2019

Air Quality Delivery to date includes

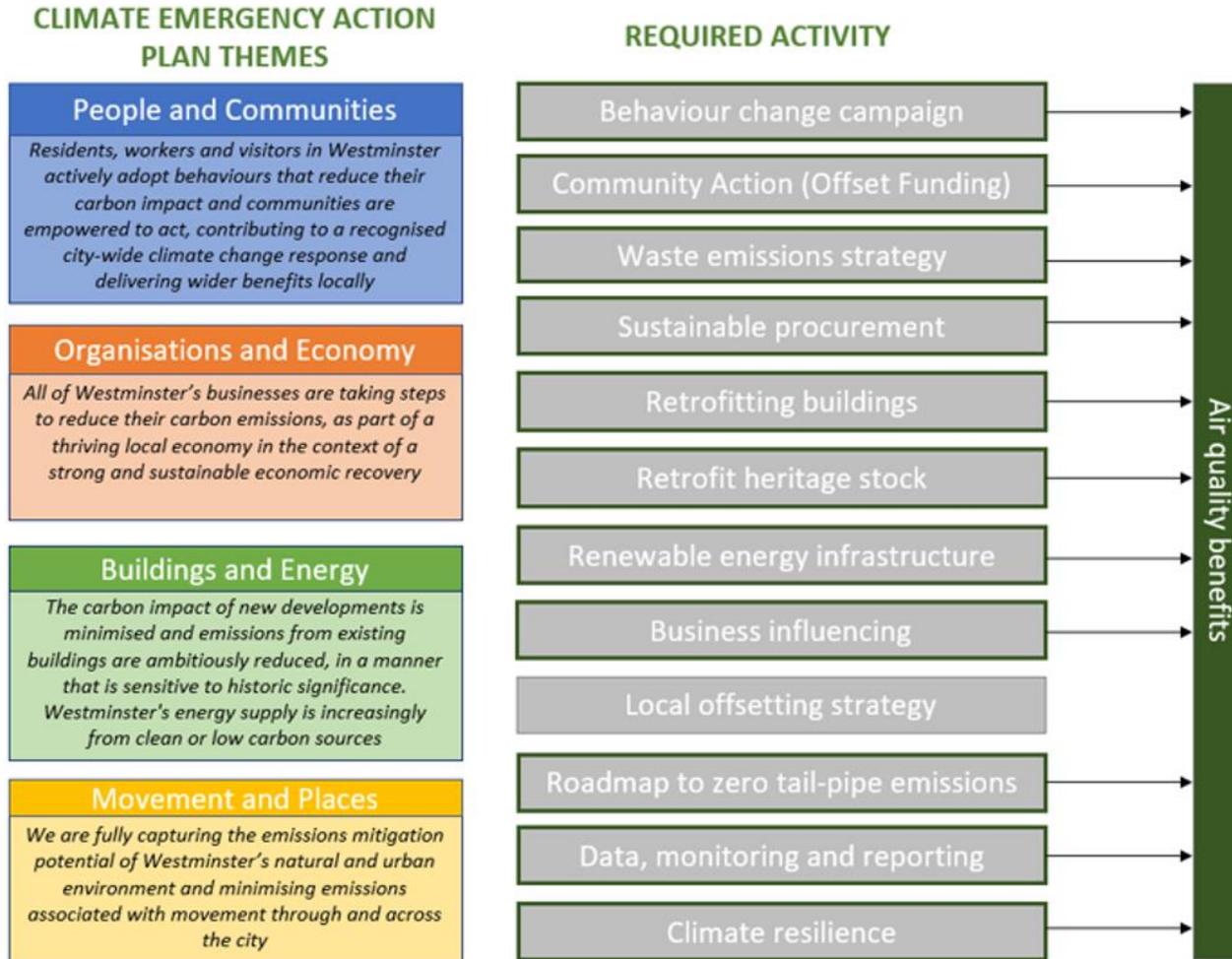
- ▶ Air Quality Action Plan (2019 - 2023)
- ▶ City Plan (2019 - 2040)
- ▶ Environment SPD (public consultation finishes 28th June)
- ▶ Code of Construction Practice 2021 (public consultation finishes 28 July)
- ▶ Installation of 1000 electric vehicle charging points
- ▶ Review of resident parking policy (developing an emissions based charging model)
- ▶ Roll out of city wide Diesel Surcharge
- ▶ Clean Air Villages project
- ▶ Breathe London project
- ▶ Healthy Streets Everyday programme
- ▶ Active Streets programme
- ▶ Activities to support Clean Air Day 2021
- ▶ Schools Clean Air Fund (ongoing)

Policies that deliver the strategic air quality objectives

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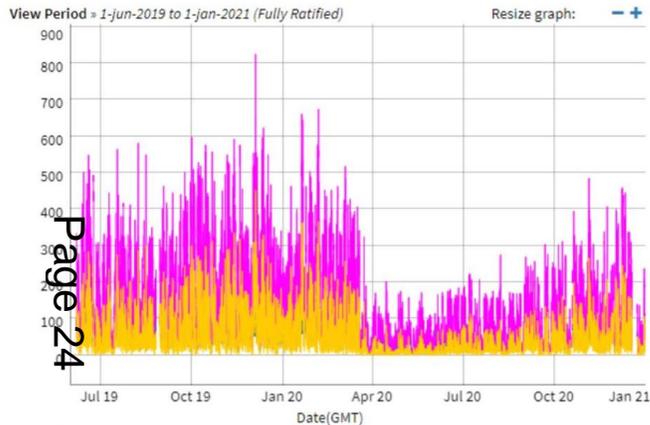


Integrating Air Quality into the Climate Emergency programme

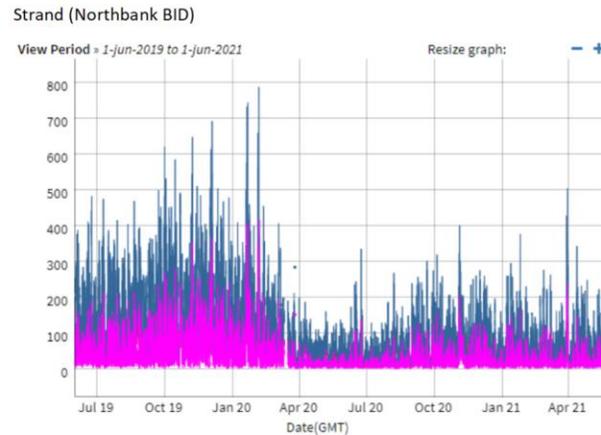


Air Quality during lockdown

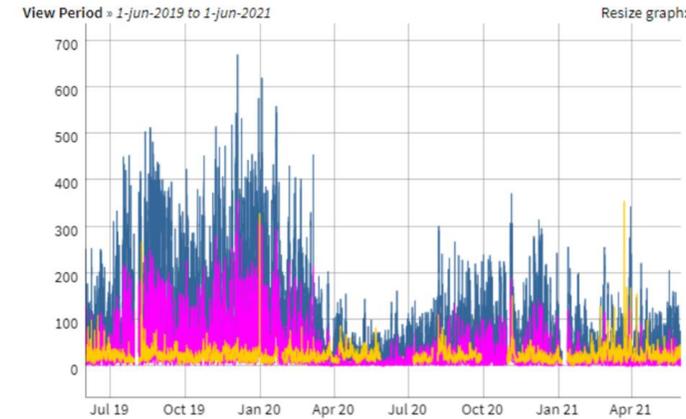
Marylebone Road



The Strand



Oxford Street



Key: pink - oxides of nitrogen, blue - nitrogen dioxide, yellow - particulate matter (PM10), red - nitric oxide

- ▶ Appendix A provides detailed information on the impact of lockdown on air quality in Westminster
- ▶ The data shows that the level of air pollutants reduced significantly at the beginning of lockdown and has risen steadily over the past 18 months
- ▶ **But new research from the University of Birmingham suggests the effect of lockdown may have been overstated when removing the effects of weather and seasonal changes highlighting that radical action is needed to improve air quality.**

Air Quality Programme 2021

The Air Quality Programme for 2021 is seeking to

- ▶ maximise air quality improvements seen during the lockdown, and
- ▶ maintain the momentum for change post pandemic

And to learn from national and international best practice

- ▶ Milan - Strade Aperte Plan, creating 35 km of cycle routes
- ▶ Birmingham - Clean Air Zone for private cars
- ▶ Barcelona - Superilles , utilising a grid structure to minimise through traffic

That have wider benefits not only for air quality but also physical and mental health and wellbeing, reducing noise pollution and increasing green infrastructure

Current Activity: Air Quality Monitoring



Monitoring is carried out in different ways across the city as different technologies provide different types of datasets and different methods are suited to different tasks.

- ▶ **Ten automatic monitoring stations** - part of the London-wide monitoring system, and Westminster's statutory monitoring network. They are highly accurate (and expensive) 'reference method' monitors that provide data in **15 minute intervals for a wide range of pollutants**
- ▶ Since 2020 we also have a **city-wide diffusion tube monitoring network** (approx. 20 locations), which provides **low cost monthly readings for NO2 across the city.**
- ▶ Trialling new **medium cost 'indicative' sensor technologies**, such as through the Breathe London programme, which aims to **provide real time pollution data at a much lower cost than reference method monitors.**

Current Activity: Air Quality Status Report



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- ▶ Annual report that is produced to meet the requirements of the London Local Air Quality Management statutory process (Defra/GLA)
- ▶ Officers currently finalising the draft report for 2020 for sign off by the GLA
- ▶ The report sets out details on
 - ▶ Air Quality Monitoring,
 - ▶ Actions to improve Air Quality and
 - ▶ an update on Planning and New Sources of Emissions
- ▶ Publication Date - August 2021

Current Activity: Updated Code of Construction Practice

Detailed guidance that sets out standards and procedures that developers in the city must adhere to when doing construction in the city. Improved standards in the document include,

- Community liaison - stronger requirements for large scale developments to provide ongoing information and communications channels to the local community and local stakeholders, through regular email newsletters and dedicated project websites. Major developments are also required to work with other ‘overlapping’ developments to reduce potential cumulative impacts.
- Sensitive receptors - the council is now able to ‘upgrade’ projects to require stronger mitigation from developers in areas where there are higher than average incidences of public health concerns such as asthma and Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). The council also reserves the right to ‘upgrade’ projects based on their proximity to sites such as schools/nurseries, care homes and other healthcare uses.
- Noise - the CoCP updates and strengthens previous wording around noisy working and hours of working and embeds a number of new best practice guidance published since the 2016 version of the Code.
- Dust / air pollution - the new CoCP goes beyond requirements made by the GLA and by any other London borough in our standards for emissions from construction equipment (Non Road Mobile Machinery), and in the ‘trigger levels’ we require for monitoring dust emissions on site. These standards have been developed in conjunction with the GLA and are an example of the new Code’s ‘best in class’ status in many areas.
- Live hoardings - the CoCP includes a new requirement for major developments to use green hoardings where practicable.

Current Activity: Environment SPD

Detailed guidance that sets out how policies in the City Plan will be implemented

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- ▶ Explains when ‘air quality neutral’ and ‘air quality positive’ approaches are required in development proposals
- ▶ Outlines requirements of Air Quality Assessments
- ▶ Gives examples of appropriate mitigations to meet standards:
 - ▶ Green infrastructure
 - ▶ Managing energy demand and use of low emission technologies
 - ▶ Filtration, ventilation, etc.

Current Activity: Review of the Air Quality Action Plan

Westminster City Council is required to produce an Air Quality Action Plan as part of its duty to London Local Air Quality Management.

Part 1 sets out the context incorporating the council's statutory requirements as an Air Quality Management Area.

Part 2 is the Action Plan - 88 individual actions that the council will undertake to support air quality improvement in the city across five themes

Page 30

- **Monitoring Air Quality** - to continue to monitor air quality across the city to continually assess our compliance with Air Quality Limit Values and against World Health Organisation targets
- **Reducing emissions from transport** - to implement a range of measures to reduce emissions from transport sources throughout the city, to continue to be the leading local authority for Electric Vehicle Charging infrastructure and to continue to support major policy interventions to reduce emissions from transport sources
- **Reducing emissions from buildings and new development** - to mitigate and minimise emissions from both existing buildings and from new development using a combination of policy, partnership working and specific projects and interventions that will support creating a net zero emission city by 2040
- **Awareness raising** - to continue to research and implement wide ranging behaviour change and awareness raising projects around air quality to inform and educate our stakeholders, and
- **Lobbying and partnership working** - to call for more action from where necessary from regional and national government

Current Activity: Aviation Impact from Heathrow



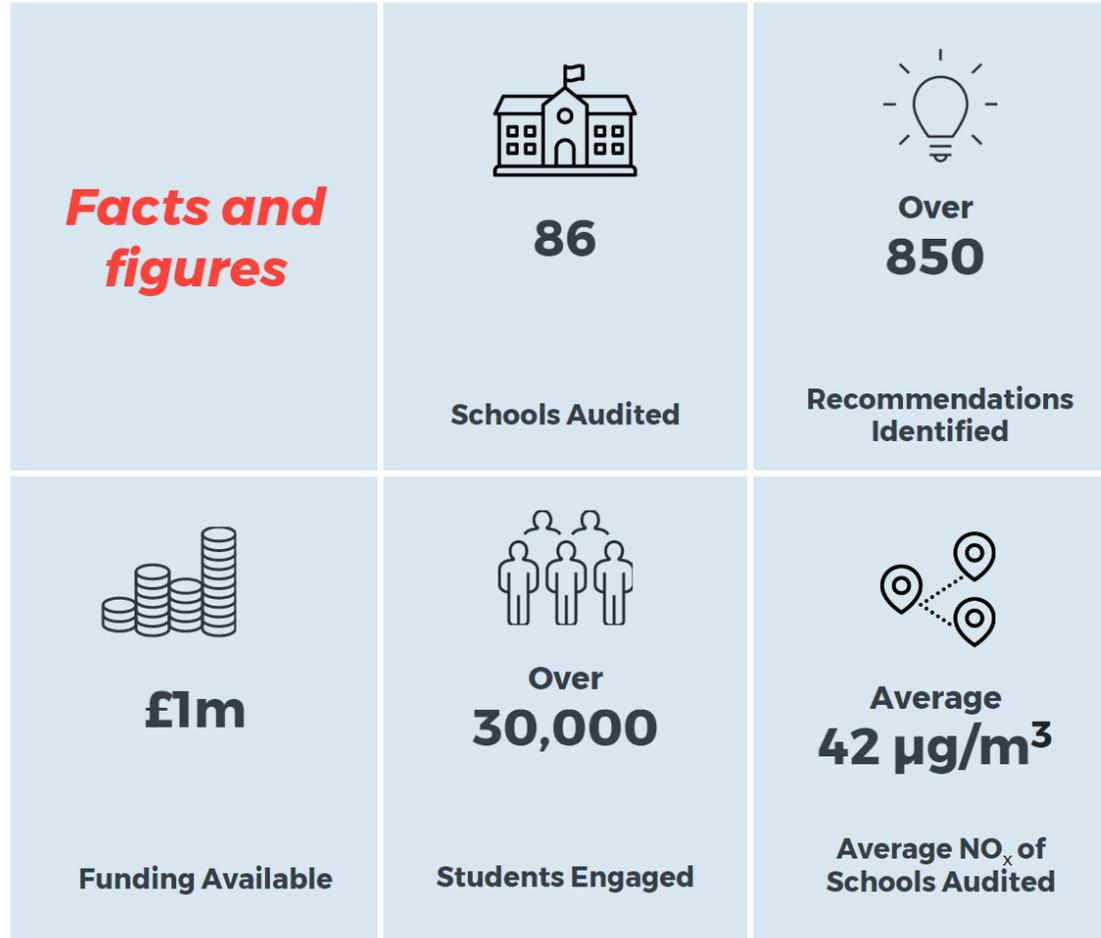
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- ▶ In Spring 2019 Heathrow consulted on proposals for the potential introduction of Independent Parallel Approaches 'IPA' at the airport.
- ▶ IPAs are used when the airport is experiencing delays. Sometimes there is a need to land aircraft on both runways. IPAs is considered a way of making the arrivals process more efficient when this happens by utilising new flight paths from the holding stacks to the final approach; in effect allowing more aircraft to land using both runways.
- ▶ IPAs have the potential to increase the number of flights across Westminster and may impact on air quality and noise pollution
- ▶ On 16 December 2020 - the Supreme Court overturned the February judgment that a third runway at Heathrow Airport was unlawful. This means the project can now seek a development consent order, a type of planning permission for nationally significant infrastructure.

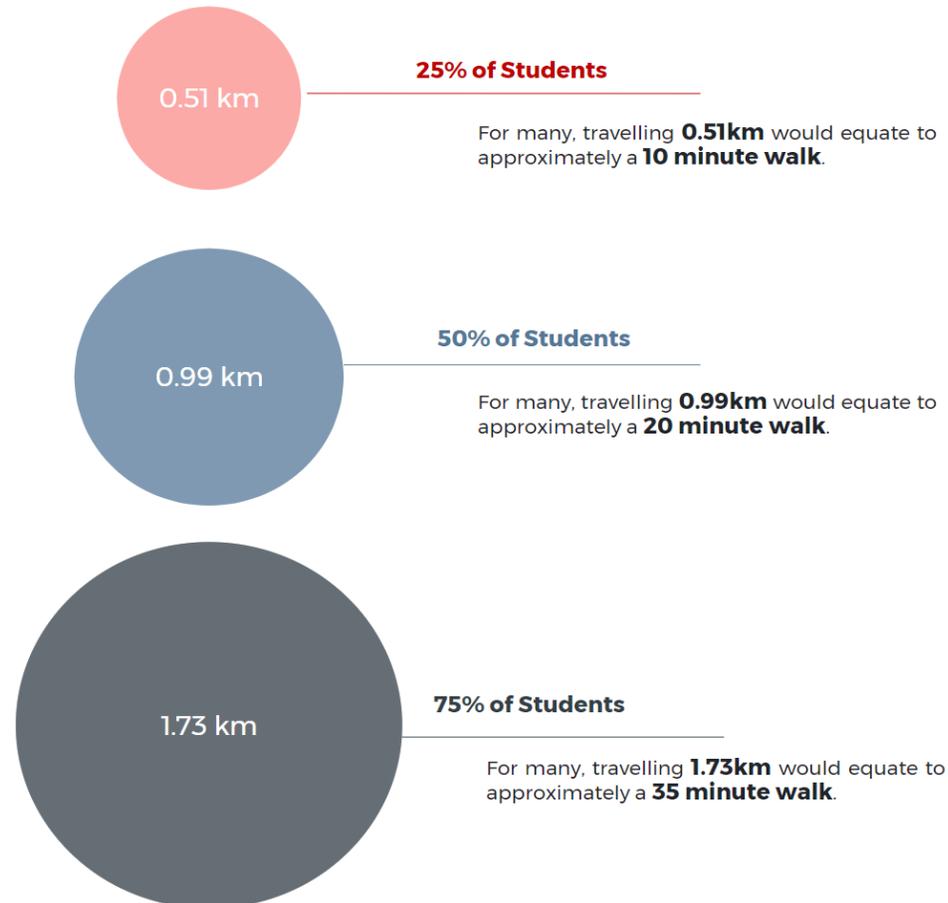
Current Activity: Rail Impact of Locomotive Diesel

- ▶ Marylebone Station is the only London station that is not serviced by any electrified lines, so only has diesel trains
- ▶ Emissions from rail are only a small part of the wider emissions picture in Westminster and in London as a whole. However, localised emissions caused by rail can be very high
- ▶ Westminster provided technical support to Chilterns Railways (who were working in partnership with JCDecaux and BNP Paribas) in advance of them installing air purifiers around Marylebone Station in 2019.
- ▶ Westminster are continuing to lobby for and support the electrification of UK rail lines

Current Activity: Schools Clean Air Fund



Schools Clean Air Fund - Student Catchment areas



Current Activity: Health and Wellbeing Board

- ▶ Air Quality is on the agenda for the Health and Wellbeing Board in September
- ▶ Consideration of the government's response to the death of Ella Adoo-Kissi Debrah will be discussed alongside opportunities to collaborate with the NHS and other partners to:
 - ❖ Continue to increase public awareness about air pollution
 - ❖ Embed health and wellbeing outcomes in our air quality objectives
 - ❖ Build on the positive outcomes of the SCAF and other projects

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**BACKGROUND
PAPER 2**

Air Quality in Westminster

The impact of lockdown

Strategy and Intelligence, June 2021

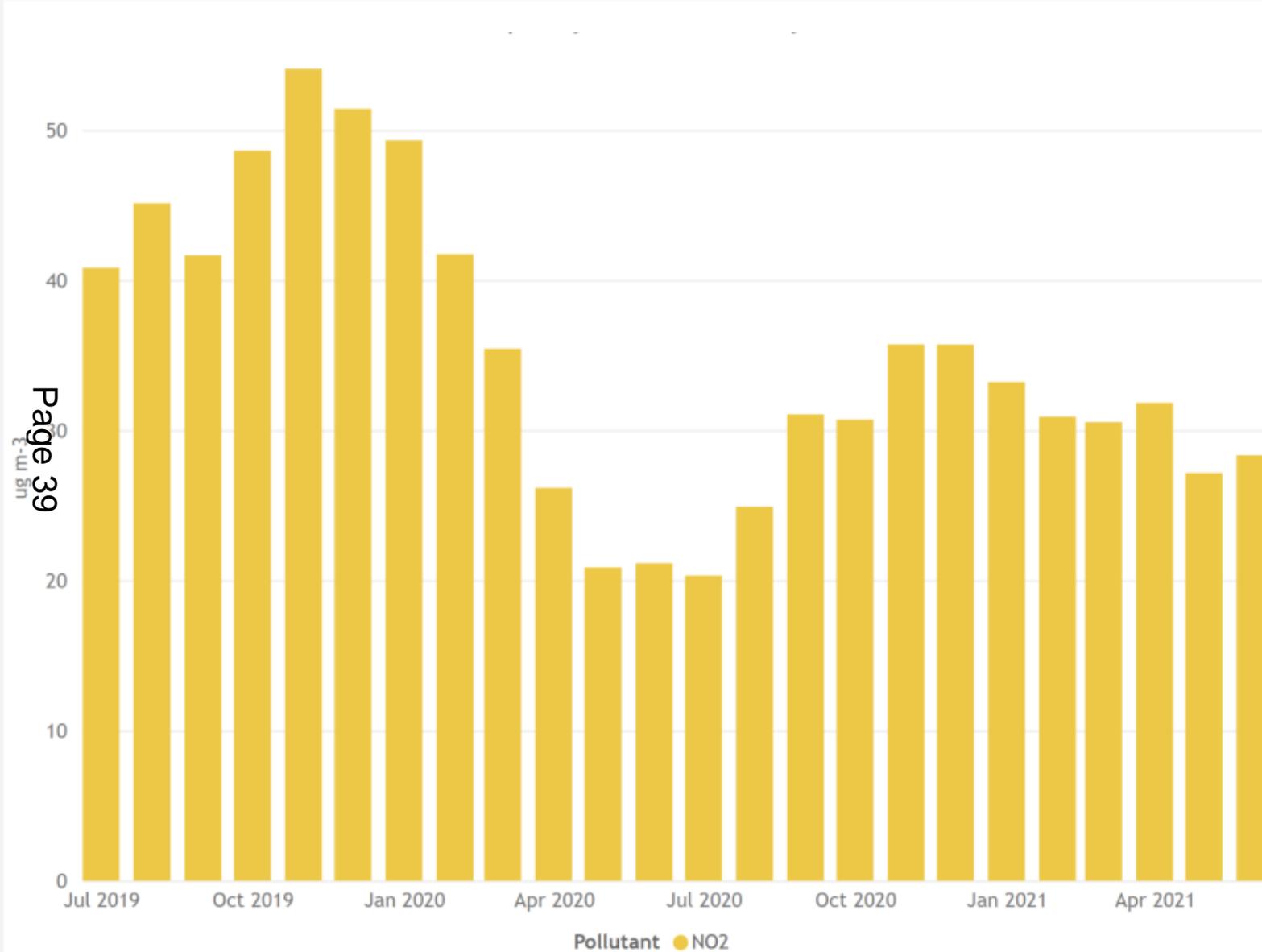
Summary

- In 2020, **lockdown was widely acknowledged to have improved air quality**¹.
 - In September 2020, Westminster residents **reported a significant decrease in concern** about air quality (City Survey).
 - In London, we saw cycling increase by around a third on weekdays and over 100% on weekends. The number of vehicles on our roads dropped by 70%².
- This report summarises two years of data for Westminster from **London Air**³. There are **ten operating monitoring sites** in Westminster which monitor three pollutants: NO₂ and two sizes of particulate matter, PM2.5 and PM10.

Page 38 In Westminster, when comparing before during and after lockdown:

- NO₂ reduced
- PM2.5 and PM10 increased
- The GLA reported in April 2020 that the number of particulate pollution episodes at the beginning of the first lockdown highlights that **London's poor air quality is not solely related to road transport**.
- In 2021 Birmingham University academics found that the **effect of lockdown may have been overstated** when removing the effects of weather and seasonal changes⁴. They highlight that **radical action is needed to improve air quality**.
- The **high concentrations of PM2.5 in London were also observed in Beijing and Paris**⁴. Two possible reasons have been proposed:
 - That weather patterns caused pollution from regions with lots of heavy industry to drift over cities.
 - The changing chemical nature of the atmosphere during lockdown caused more gaseous compounds in the air to convert to these fine particles.
- One weakness of the *London Air* data is that the monitoring sites tend to be located near roads. The London Atmospheric Emissions Inventory (LAEI) is widely regarded to be the best way to measure trends as estimates and projects data across the whole of London. Unfortunately, there is a three year lag in analysis due to the high number of data points and the latest data is from 2018.

Air Quality - NO₂



Air Quality Strategy (AQS) Objectives for annual average concentration of:

PM₁₀ - 40

NO₂ - 40

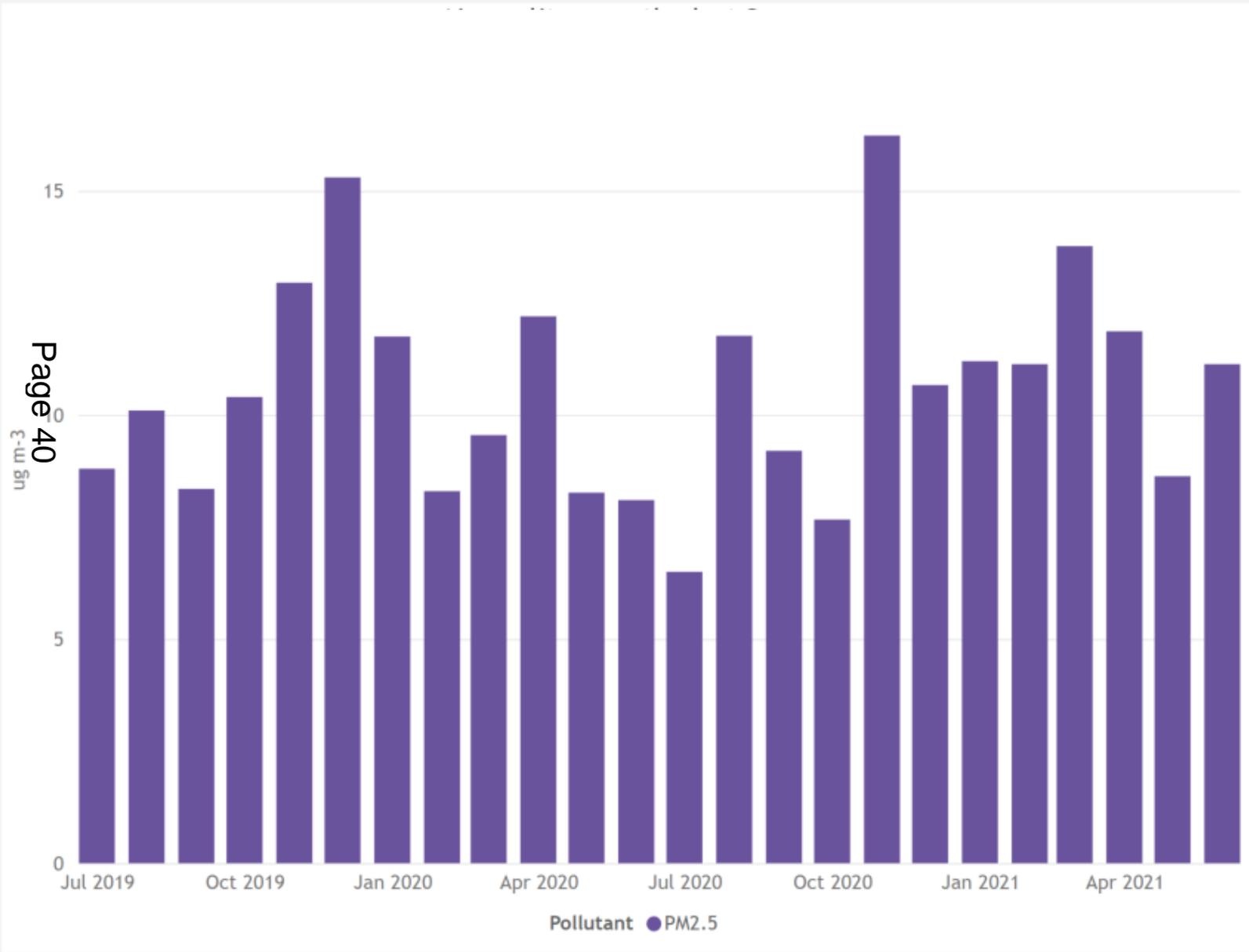
PM_{2.5} - 25

Air quality monitoring sites in Westminster



Pollutant(s) ... ● NO₂

Air Quality - PM2.5



Air Quality Strategy (AQS) Objectives for annual average concentration of:

PM₁₀ - 40

NO₂ - 40

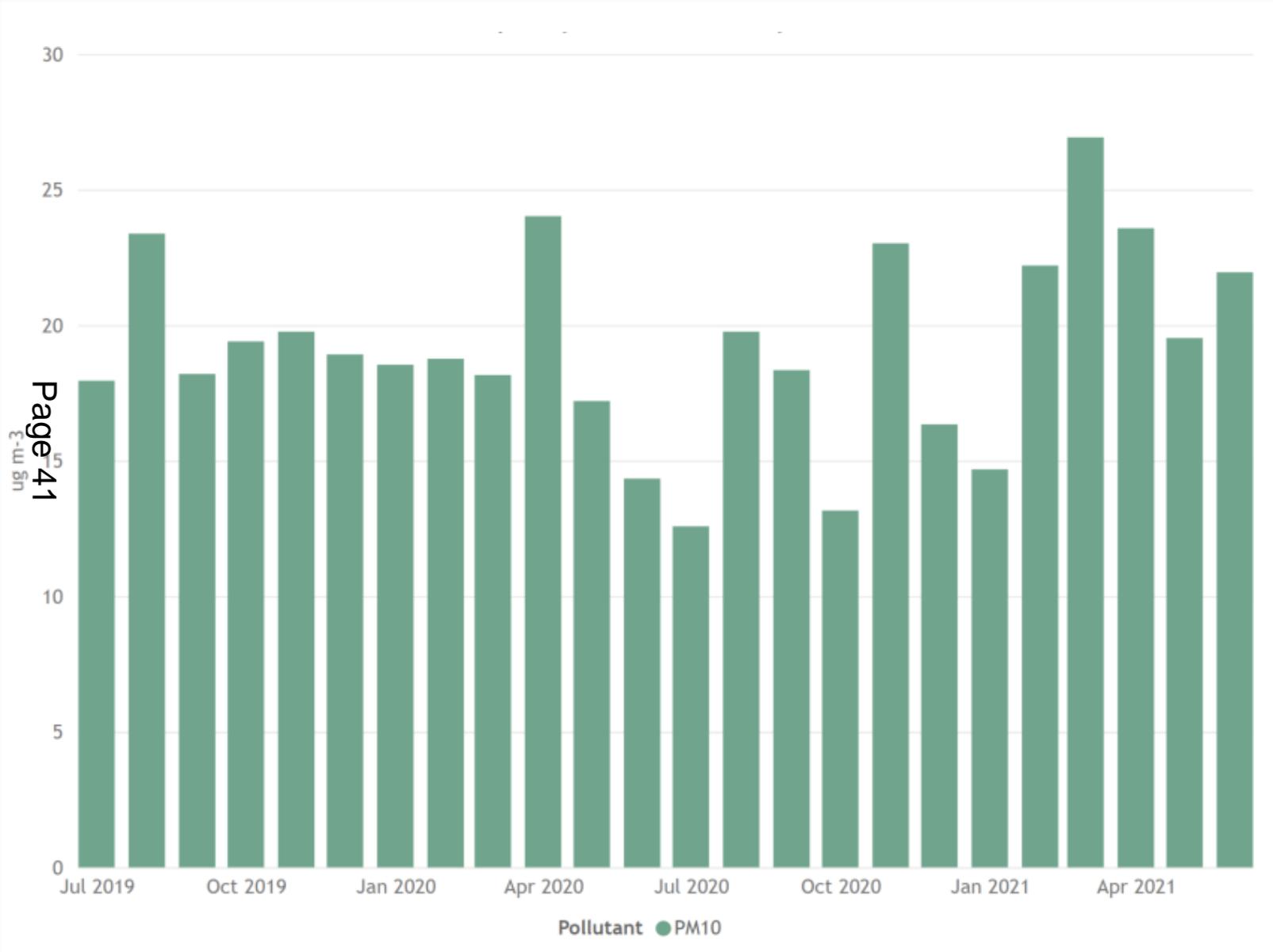
PM_{2.5} - 25

Air quality monitoring sites in Westminster



Pollutant(s) ... ● PM2.5

Air Quality - PM10



Air Quality Strategy (AQS) Objectives for annual average concentration of:

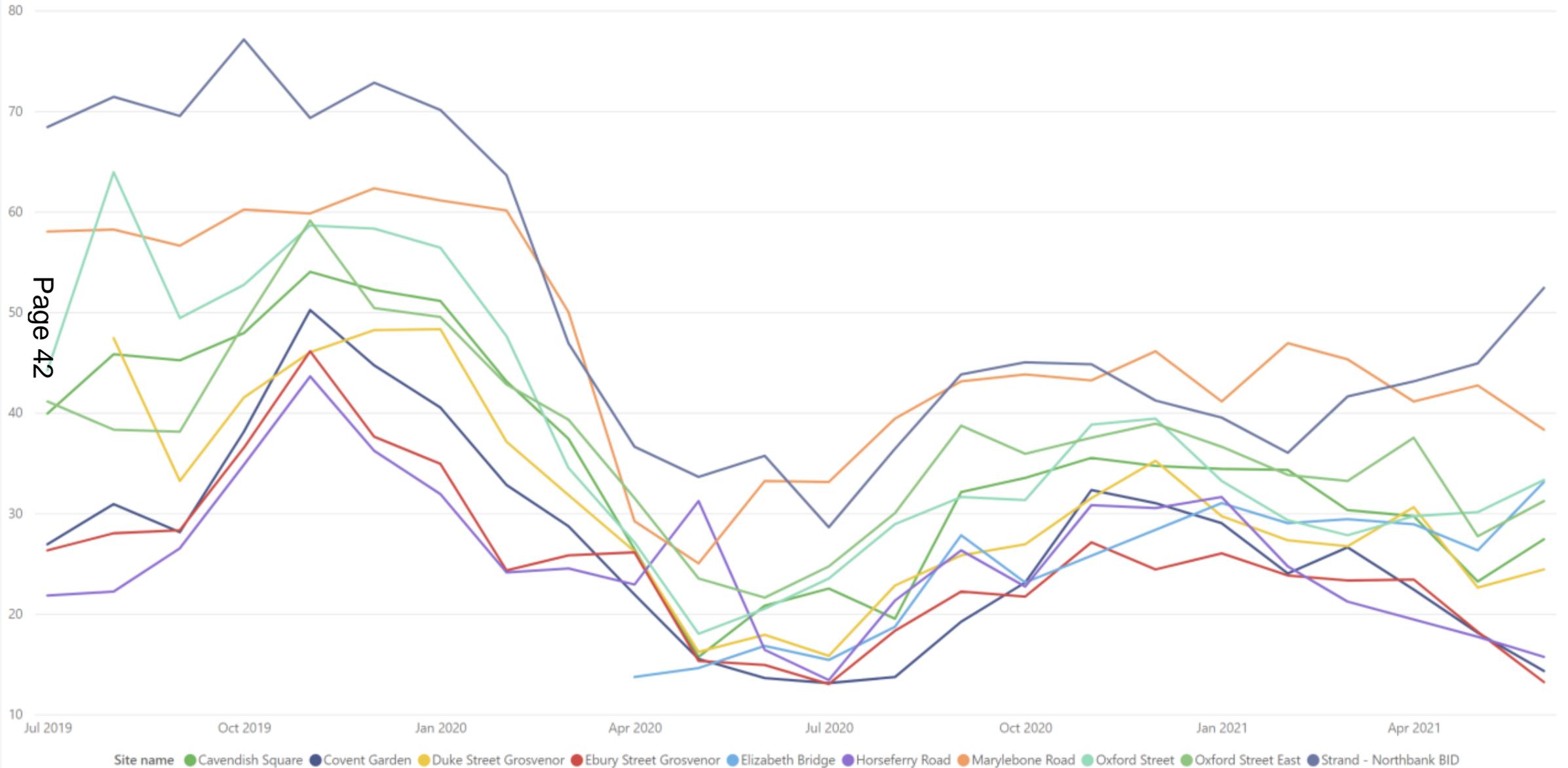
- PM₁₀ - 40
- NO₂ - 40
- PM_{2.5} - 25

Air quality monitoring sites in Westminster



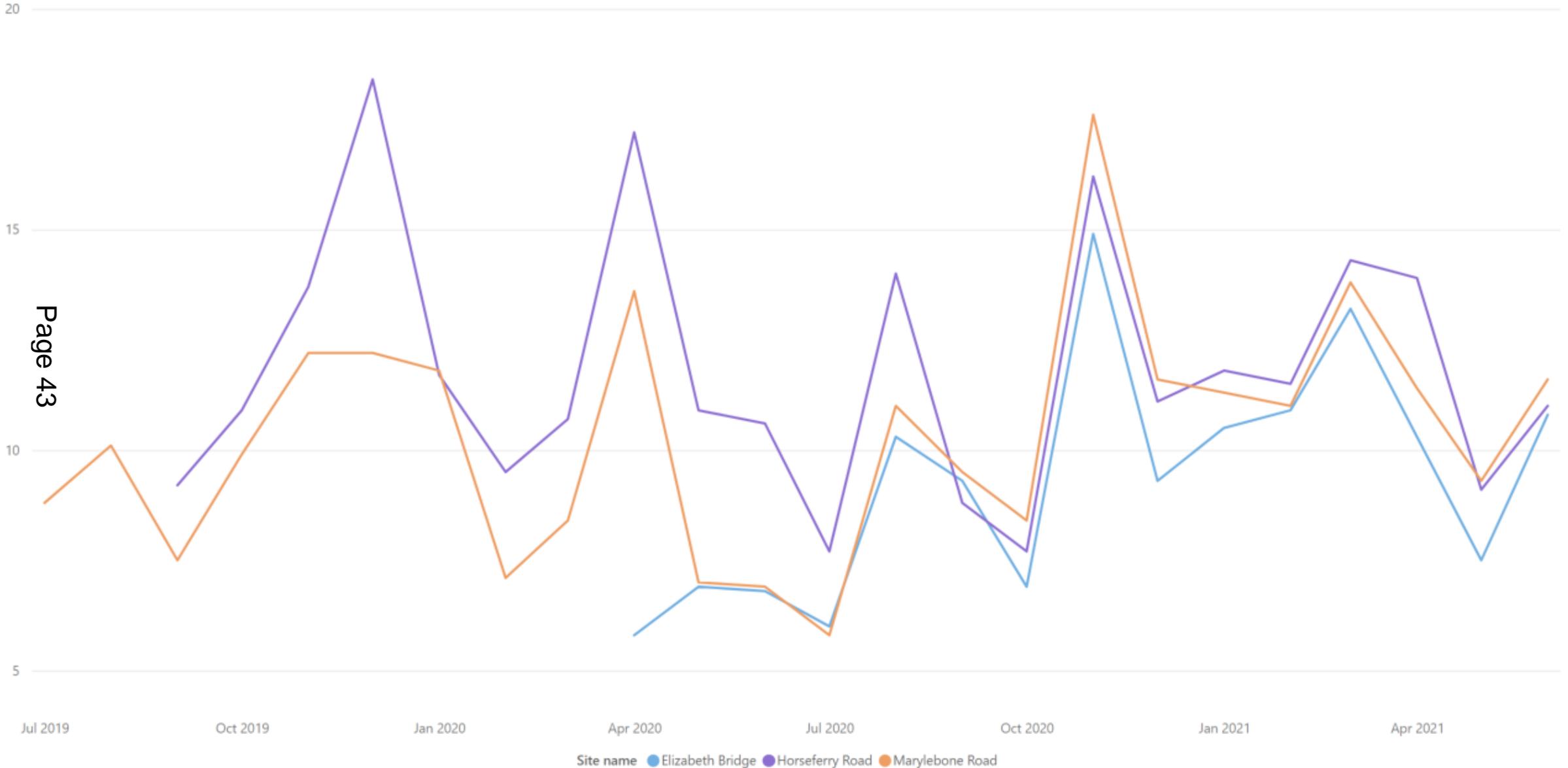
Pollutant(s) ... PM10

Monitoring Sites - NO₂

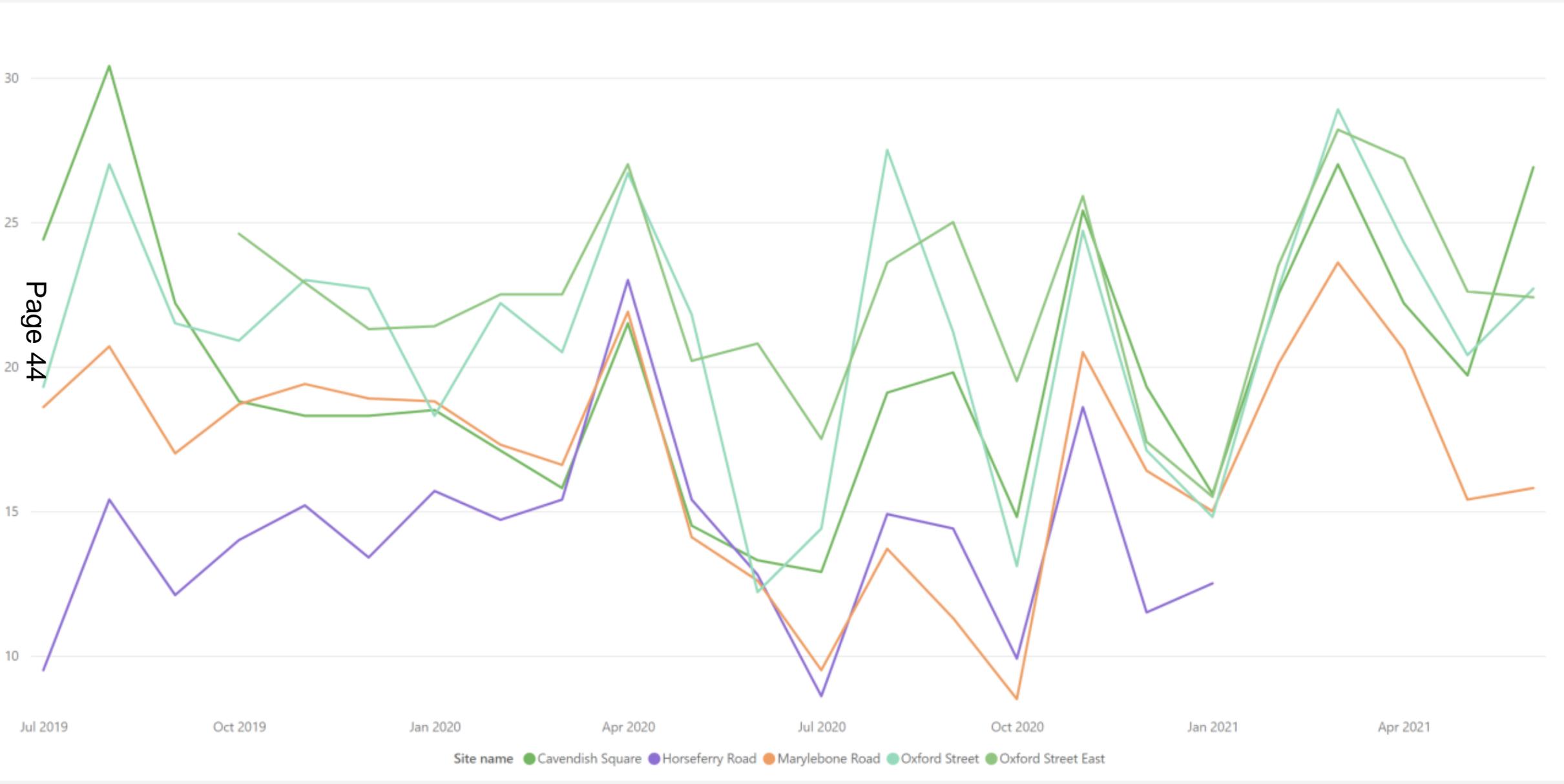


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Monitoring Sites - PM2.5



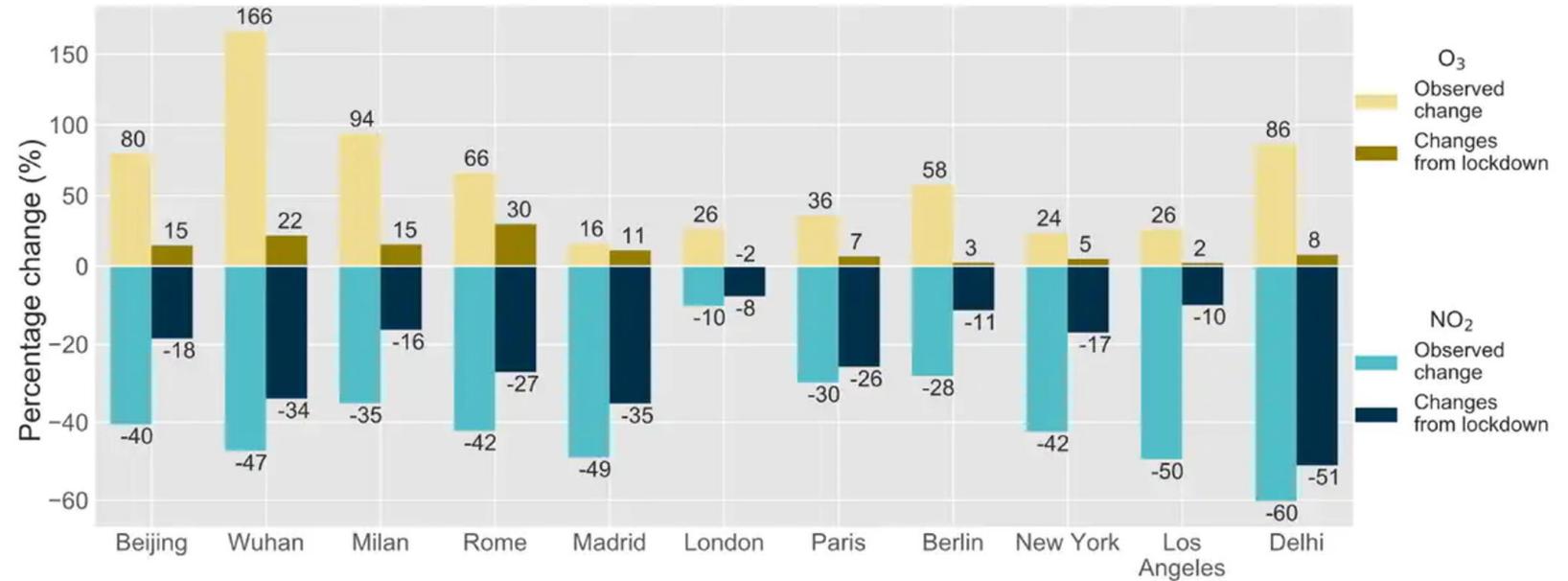
Monitoring Sites - PM10



Caution over lockdown impact on air quality

- Benefits of lockdown on air quality may have been overstated – a study by Birmingham University (sponsored by NERC) proposes that to **simply compare measurements before and after lockdown is misleading**. Other factors include: weather, fossil fuels burned for heating in Winter and Spring, and seasonal impacts on pollutants.
- When adjusting for the effects of weather and seasonal changes, they found that NO₂ levels dropped but the lockdown effect was smaller than first thought – for London -8%.
- The number of heavily emitting vehicles on roads, such as diesel-powered freight trucks, fell only slightly compared to commuter traffic.
- Ozone (harmful to health at ground level) actually increased at most locations largely because traffic emissions of nitrogen oxides would usually have removed some of this ozone by reacting with it.

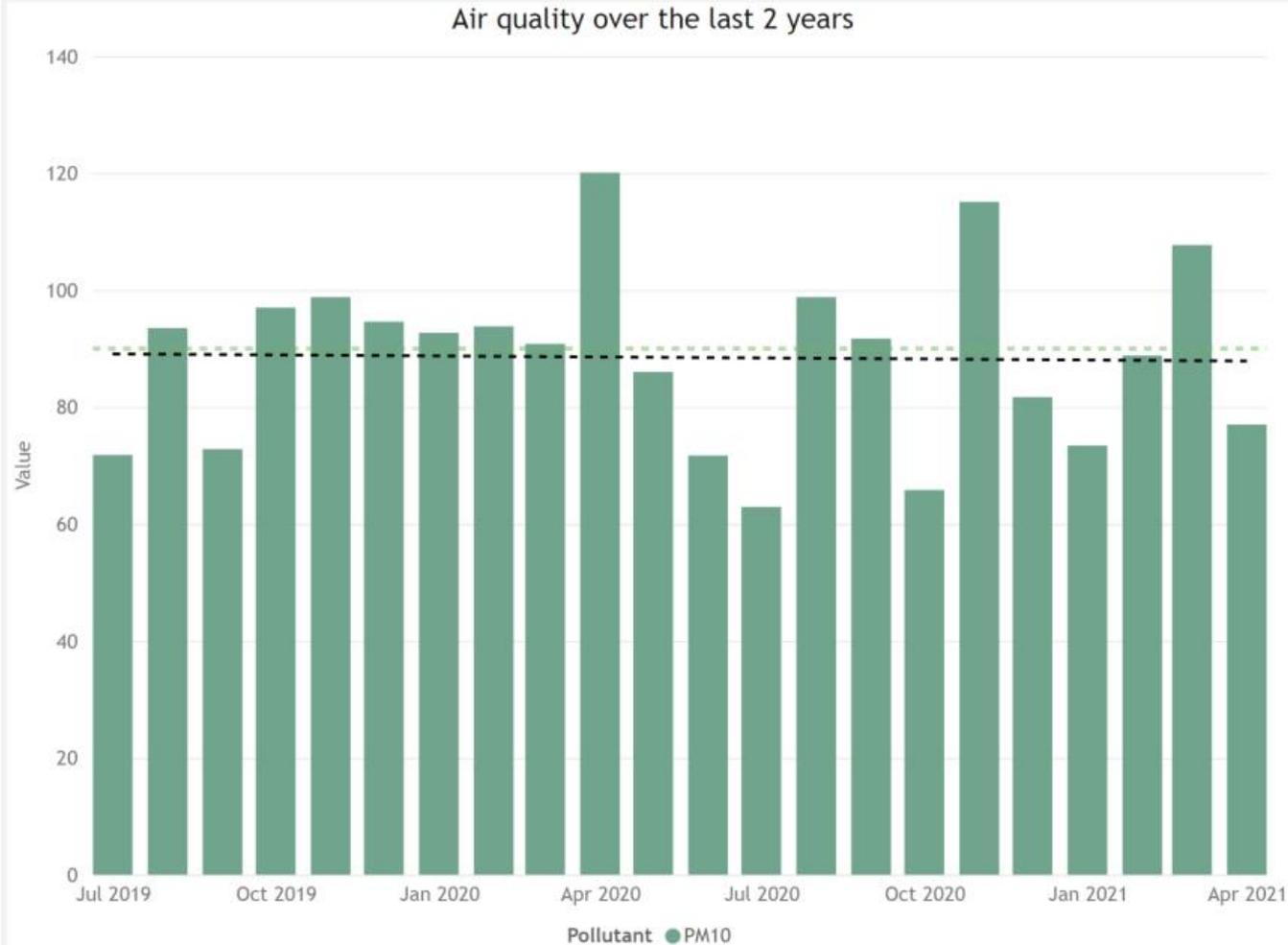
Removing seasonal and weather effects helps isolate the influence of lockdown on air pollution. Shi et al. (2021),



“If people overestimate the benefits of the lockdown on air quality they could underestimate the scale of the air pollution challenge in the world’s cities and fail to take the radical action necessary to bring urban air quality within healthy limits. Globally, air pollution is linked to nearly [seven million premature deaths](#) each year.”

As an example - trendline in black

Air Quality - PM10



Air Quality Strategy (AQS) Objectives for annual average concentration of:

PM₁₀ - 40

NO₂ - 40

PM_{2.5} - 25

Air quality monitoring sites in Westminster



BACKGROUND PAPER 3

Westminster City Council Air Quality Annual Status Report for 2020

Date of publication: 16 August 2021



This report provides a detailed overview of air quality in Westminster City Council during 2020. It has been produced to meet the requirements of the London Local Air Quality Management (LLAQM) statutory process¹.

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¹ LLAQM Policy and Technical Guidance 2019 (LLAQM.TG(19))

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Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
AQAP	Air Quality Action Plan
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area
AQO	Air Quality Objective
BEB	Buildings Emission Benchmark
CAB	Cleaner Air Borough
EV	Electric Vehicle
GLA	Greater London Authority
LAEI	London Atmospheric Emissions Inventory
LAQM	Local Air Quality Management
LLAQM	London Local Air Quality Management
NRMM	Non-Road Mobile Machinery
PM ₁₀	Particulate matter less than 10 micron in diameter
PM _{2.5}	Particulate matter less than 2.5 micron in diameter
TEB	Transport Emissions Benchmark
TfL	Transport for London

Table A. Summary of National Air Quality Standards and Objectives

Pollutant	Standard / Objective (UK)	Averaging Period	Date ⁽¹⁾
Nitrogen dioxide (NO ₂)	200 µg m ⁻³ not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	1-hour mean	31 Dec 2005
Nitrogen dioxide (NO ₂)	40 µg m ⁻³	Annual mean	31 Dec 2005
Particles (PM ₁₀)	50 µg m ⁻³ not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	24-hour mean	31 Dec 2004
Particles (PM ₁₀)	40 µg m ⁻³	Annual mean	31 Dec 2004
Particles (PM _{2.5})	25 µg m ⁻³	Annual mean	2020
Particles (PM _{2.5})	Target of 15% reduction in concentration at urban background locations	3-year mean	Between 2010 and 2020
Sulphur dioxide (SO ₂)	266 µg m ⁻³ not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	15-minute mean	31 Dec 2005
Sulphur dioxide (SO ₂)	350 µg m ⁻³ not to be exceeded more than 24 times a year	1-hour mean	31 Dec 2004
Sulphur dioxide (SO ₂)	125 µg m ⁻³ not to be exceeded more than 3 times a year	24-hour mean	31 Dec 2004

Notes:

(1) Date by which to be achieved by and maintained thereafter

1. Air Quality Monitoring

1.1 Locations

Table B. Details of Automatic Monitoring Sites for 2020

Site Name	X (m)	Y (m)	Site Type	In AQMA ?	Distance from monitoring site to relevant exposure (m)	Distance to kerb of nearest road (N/A if not applicable) (m)	Inlet height (m)	Pollutants monitored	Monitoring technique
Marylebone Road	528125	182016	Kerbside	Y	44m	1.5m	2.5m	NOx; PM ₁₀ ; PM _{2.5} ; SO ₂	Chemiluminescent, TEOM, FDMS
Horseferry Road	529802	178962	Urban Background	Y	21m	n/a	3m	NOx; PM ₁₀ ; PM _{2.5} ; Heavy Metals ¹	Chemiluminescent, FDMS, BAM, Partisol
Oxford Street (Selfridges)	528276	181065	Kerbside	Y	0m	1m	1.5m	NOx, PM ₁₀	Chemiluminescent, BAM
Strand	530785	180911	Roadside	Y	0m	2.5m	1.8m	NOx	Chemiluminescent
Covent Garden	530444	180903	Urban Background	Y	0m	n/a	2m	NOx	Chemiluminescent
Cavendish Square	528763	181397	Roadside	Y	15m	5 m	1.7 m	NOx, PM ₁₀	Chemiluminescent, BAM
Oxford Street East (94 Oxford Street)	529493	181331	Roadside	Y	0m	1.2 m	1.7 m	NOx, PM ₁₀	Chemiluminescent, BAM

Buckingham Palace Road	528709	178773	Roadside	Y	50m	6m	1.5m	NOx	Chemiluminescent
Duke Street	528409	180965	Roadside	Y	2m	2m	2m	NOx	Chemiluminescent
Ebury Street	528350	178921	Roadside	Y	1.5m	1.5m	1m	NOx	Chemiluminescent
Elizabeth Bridge	528731	178662	Roadside	y	6m	1m	1m	NOx PM2.5	Chemiluminescent, BAM

Table C. Details of Non-Automatic Monitoring Sites for 2020

Site ID	Site Name	X (m)	Y (m)	Site Type	In AQMA? If so, which AQMA?	Distance to Relevant Exposure (m)	Distance to Kerb of Nearest Road (N/A if not applicable) (m)	Inlet height (m)	Pollutants monitored	Tube co-located with an automatic monitor. (Y/N)
WCC1	Chelsea Bridge Road	528542	177974	Kerbside	Y	10	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC2	Lupus Street	529385	178099	Kerbside	Y	20	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC3	Belgrave Road	529294	178514	Kerbside	Y	3	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC4	Regency Street	529770	178479	Kerbside	Y	3	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC5	Ebury Square Gardens	528512	178593	Urban Background	Y	20	3	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC6	Eaton Gate	528204	178865	Kerbside	Y	10	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC7	41 Charing Cross Road	529980	180770	Kerbside	Y	3	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC8	13 Soho Square	529715	181231	Kerbside	Y	5	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC9	Park Lane	528104	180574	Kerbside	Y	3	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC10	Baker Street	527990	181743	Kerbside	Y	5	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC11	Park Road/Regents Park	527814	182209	Roadside	Y	10	2	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC12	Lisson Grove	527036	182321	Urban Background	Y	5	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC13	Wellington Road	526948	183009	Kerbside	Y	5	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC14	Abbey Road	526527	183040	Kerbside	Y	15	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC15	Maida Vale	525838	183119	Kerbside	Y	15	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC16	Sutherland Avenue 1	526012	182432	Kerbside	Y	6	0	2.5	NO ₂	N

WCC17	Sutherland Avenue 2	525531	182116	Kerbside	Y	6	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC18	Shirland Road	525142	182507	Kerbside	Y	3	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC19	Harrow Road	524596	182339	Kerbside	Y	3	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC20	Woodfield Road	524887	181979	Urban Background	Y	3	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC21	Westbourne Park Road	525254	181559	Kerbside	Y	3	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC22	Westbourne Grove	525324	181122	Kerbside	Y	3	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC23	Whitley's / Queensway	525817	181136	Urban Background	Y	3	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC24	Sussex Gardens	526892	181140	Kerbside	Y	20	0	2.5	NO ₂	N
WCC25a	Buckingham Palace Road Co-location	528709	178773	Roadside	Y	50	1	1.5	NO ₂	y
WCC25b	Buckingham Palace Road Co-location	528709	178773	Roadside	Y	50	1	1.5	NO ₂	y
WCC25c	Buckingham Palace Road Co-location	528709	178773	Roadside	Y	50	1	1.5	NO ₂	y
WCC26a	Oxford Street East Co-location	529493	181331	Roadside	Y	50	1	1.5	NO ₂	y
WCC26b	Oxford Street East Co-location	529493	181331	Roadside	Y	50	1	1.5	NO ₂	y
WCC26c	Oxford Street East Co-location	529493	181331	Roadside	Y	50	1	1.5	NO ₂	y

WCC27a	Covent Garden Co-location	530446	180900	Urban Background	Y	5	60	2.5	NO ₂	y
WCC27b	Covent Garden Co-location	530446	180900	Urban Background	Y	5	60	2.5	NO ₂	y
WCC27c	Covent Garden Co-location	530446	180900	Urban Background	Y	5	60	2.5	NO ₂	y

1.2 Comparison of Monitoring Results with AQOs

The results presented are after adjustments for “annualisation” and for distance to a location of relevant public exposure (if required), the details of which are described in Appendix A.

Table D. Annual Mean NO₂ Ratified and Bias-adjusted Monitoring Results

Site ID	Site type	Valid data capture for monitoring period % ^(a)	Valid data capture 2020 % ^(b)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Marylebone Road	Kerbside	97	97	<u>94</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>84</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>63</u>	44
Horseferry Road	Urban background	100	100	46	39	37	36	31	34	26
Oxford Street	Kerbside	98	98	<u>143</u>	<u>135</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>63</u>	55	34
Strand	Roadside	97	97	n/a	<u>122</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>76</u>	44
Covent Garden	Urban background	94	94	n/a	n/a	n/a	37	39	39	21
Cavendish Square	Roadside	92	92	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	<u>64</u>	50	32
Oxford Street East	Roadside	97	97	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	<u>76</u>	51	35
Buckingham Palace Road	Roadside	99	31	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	52	51	32
Duke Street	Roadside	98	98	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	41	28
Ebury Street	Roadside	98	98	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	35	21
Elizabeth Bridge	Roadside	70	40	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	26

Notes:

The annual mean concentrations are presented as $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$.

Exceedances of the NO_2 annual mean AQO of $40\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ are shown in **bold**.

NO_2 annual means in excess of $60\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, indicating a potential exceedance of the NO_2 hourly mean AQS objective are shown in **bold and underlined**.

All means have been “annualised” in accordance with LLAQM Technical Guidance if valid data capture for the calendar year is less than 75% and greater than 33%.

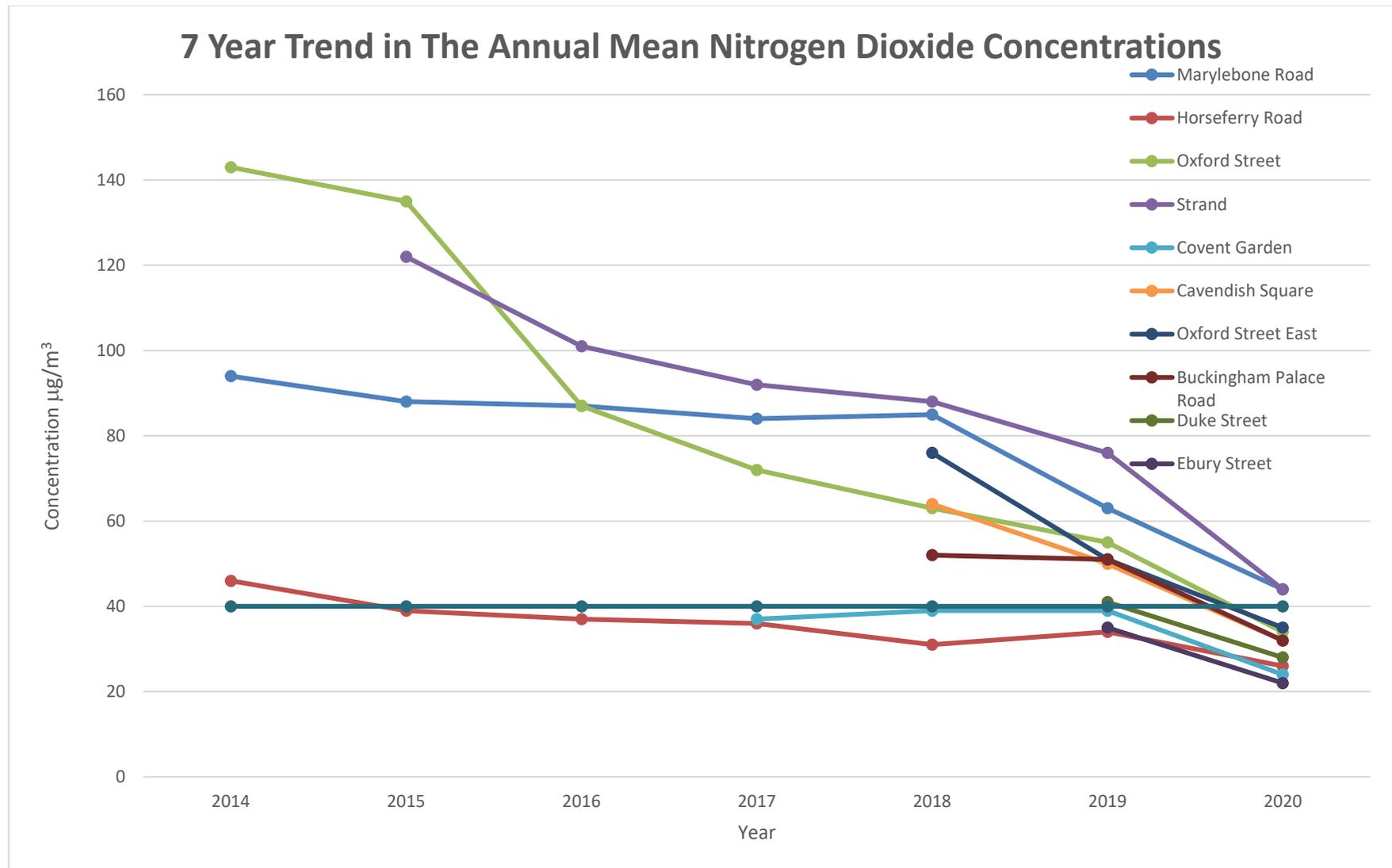
Results have been distance corrected where applicable.

(a) Data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year.

(b) data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for six months the maximum data capture for the full calendar year would be 50%).

7 Year Trend in The Annual Mean Nitrogen Dioxide Concentrations

The 7-year trend in annual Nitrogen Dioxide concentrations shows a general improvement at the roadside and kerbside sites. There has been a steady decrease in concentrations at the Oxford Street and Strand sites. Marylebone Road has shown little improvement between 2014 to 2018, but noticeable improvement is reported for 2019. The Horseferry Road background site has been in operation for the whole 7-year period and is therefore the most relevant to consider for background patterns and this also shows a gradual improvement in nitrogen dioxide concentrations. An increase at Covent Garden was noted from its first year of operation, although it is noted that it has remained static for 2018/2019. 2020 has seen further reductions in measured nitrogen dioxide concentrations across the monitoring network. Oxford street, Covent Garden, Cavendish Square, Buckingham Place Road, and Duke street all reporting that measured concentrations are now below the national objectives. It should be noted that these measurements have the potential to be influenced by the restrictions implemented in response to the Covid-19 pandemic therefore this data should be used with caution.



*Elizabeth Bridge Data has not presented as it has only been operating for part of 2020.

Table E. NO₂ Automatic Monitoring Results: Comparison with 1-hour Mean Objective, Number of 1-Hour Means > 200µg m⁻³

Site ID	Site type	Valid data capture for monitoring period % ^(a)	Valid data capture 2020 % ^(b)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Marylebone Road	Kerbside	97	97	60	56	49	38	29	0	0
Horseferry Road	Urban background	100	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oxford Street	Kerbside	98	98	1532	1391	168	1	3	0	0
Strand	Roadside	97	97	n/a	284	235	26	34	21	0
Covent Garden	Urban background	94	94	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0
Cavendish Square	Roadside	92	92	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0
Oxford Street East	Roadside	97	97	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	11	5	0
Buckingham Palace Road	Roadside	99	31	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	0	(0)
Duke Street	Roadside	98	98	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0
Ebury Street	Roadside	98	98	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0
Elizabeth Bridge	Roadside	70	40	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	(0)

Notes

Results are presented as the number of 1-hour periods where concentrations greater than 200µg m⁻³ have been recorded.

Exceedance of the NO₂ short term AQO of 200µg m⁻³ over the permitted 18 hours per year are shown in **bold**.

If the period of valid data is less than 85%, the 99.8th percentile of 1-hour means is provided in brackets.

(a) Data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year

(b) Data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for six months the maximum data capture for the full calendar year would be 50%)

7-year trend with the 1 hour mean objective for Nitrogen Dioxide

The 7-year trend in short term Nitrogen Dioxide concentrations shows an improvement at the roadside and kerbside sites, with a substantial improvement reported at Oxford Street. All sites have reported no exceedances of the short term AQO. It should be noted that 2020 measurements have the potential to be influenced by the restrictions implemented in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, therefore any conclusions with regards to this data should be used with caution.

Table F. Annual Mean PM₁₀ Automatic Monitoring Results ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)

Site ID	Valid data capture for monitoring period % ^(a)	Valid data capture 2020 % ^(b)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Marylebone Road	0	0	31	30	29	27	26	24	n/a
Marylebone Road FDMS	75	75	26	24	26	24	24	22	16
Horseferry Road	97	97	19	17	17	17	17	17	15
Oxford Street	76	76	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	28	27	22
Cavendish Square	90	90	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	28	25	17
Oxford Street East	98	98	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	28	24	22

Notes

The annual mean concentrations are presented as $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$.

Exceedances of the PM₁₀ annual mean AQO of $40 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ are shown in **bold**.

All means have been “annualised” in accordance with LLAQM Technical Guidance, if valid data capture is less than 75% and more than 33%.

(a) Data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year.

(b) Data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for six months the maximum data capture for the full calendar year would be 50%).

7-year trend in annual mean PM₁₀ concentrations

The 7-year trend shows continued compliance with the PM₁₀ national objective and continued reduction in the annual mean concentration across the monitoring network, including reductions in measured concentrations at Horseferry Road urban

background site in 2020. It should be noted that 2020 measurements have the potential to be influenced by the restrictions implemented in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, therefore any conclusions with regards to this data should be used with caution.

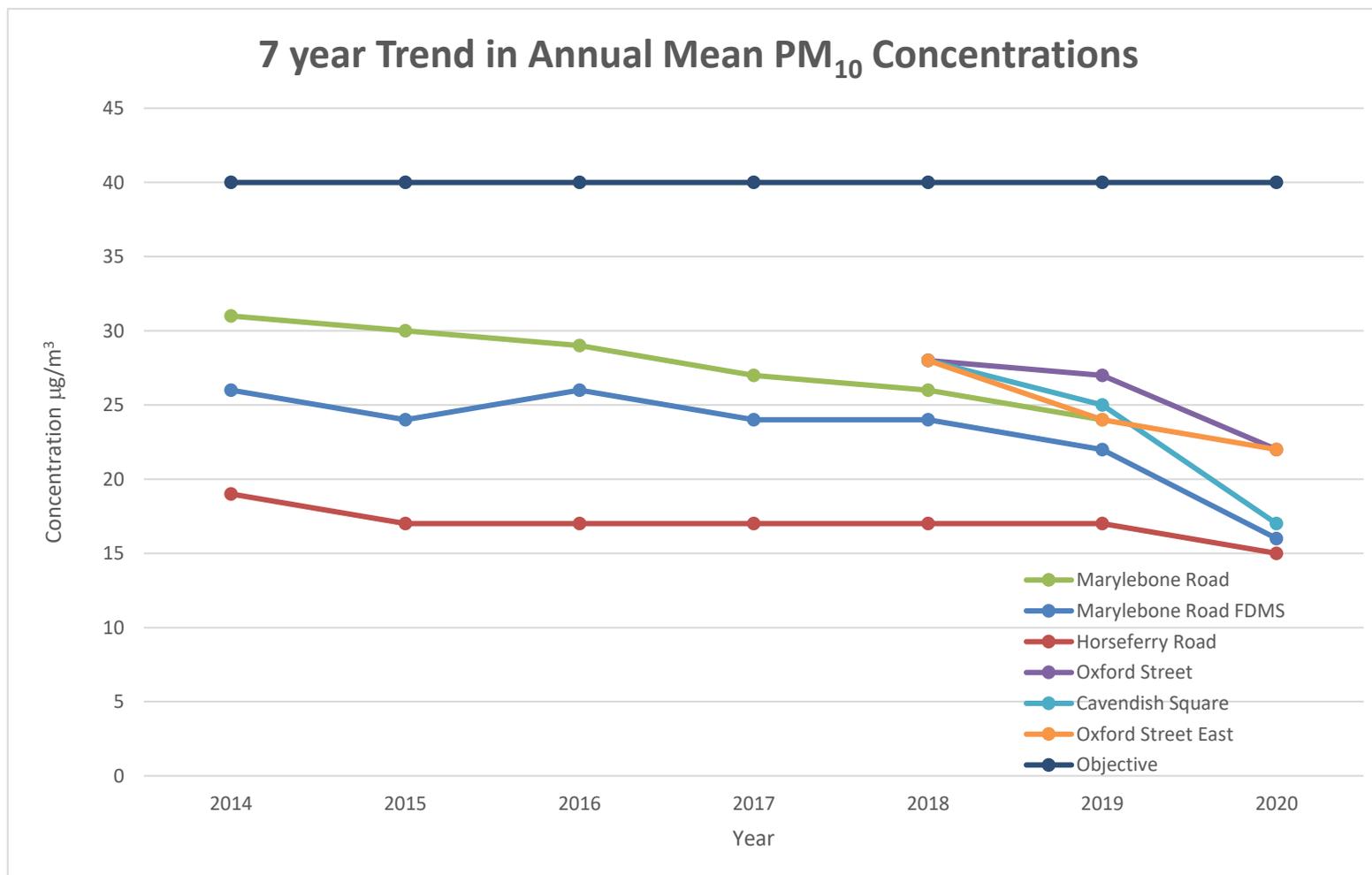


Table G. PM₁₀ Automatic Monitoring Results: Comparison with 24-Hour Mean Objective, Number of PM₁₀ 24-Hour Means > 50 µg m⁻³

Site ID	Valid data capture for monitoring period % ^(a)	Valid data capture 2020 % ^(b)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Marylebone Road	0	0	22	13	15	12	5	11	n/a
Marylebone Road FDMS	75	75	14	10	14	8	7	10	1
Horseferry Road	97	97	8	3	6	6	1	7	2
Oxford Street	76	76	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	17	6
Cavendish Square	90	90	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	10	0
Oxford Street East	98	98	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	0	6

Notes

Exceedances of the PM₁₀ 24-hour mean objective (50 µg m⁻³ over the permitted 35 days per year) are shown in **bold**.

Where the period of valid data is less than 85% of a full year, the 90.4th percentile is provided in brackets.

(a) data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year

(b) data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for six months the maximum data capture for the full calendar year would be 50%).

7-year trend for the 24 hour mean objective for PM₁₀

A general improvement in measured levels was reported 2014 through to 2018, however a sharp increase is reported at all sites within 2019, particularly high at the Horseferry Road (urban background) and Oxford Street (kerbside) sites. 2020 has seen a reduction in the measured levels at all sites. It should be noted that 2020 measurements have the potential to be influenced by the restrictions implemented in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, therefore any conclusions with regards to this data should be used with caution.

Table H. Annual Mean PM_{2.5} Automatic Monitoring Results ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)

Site ID	Valid data capture for monitoring period % ^(a)	Valid data capture 2020 % ^(b)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Marylebone Road FDMS	79	79	18	16	16	15	16	14	9
Horseferry Road	86	86	12	10	10	9	11	12	11
Elizabeth Bridge	99	68	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	9

Notes

The annual mean concentrations are presented as $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$.

Exceedances of the PM_{2.5} annual mean AQO of $25 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ are shown in **bold**.

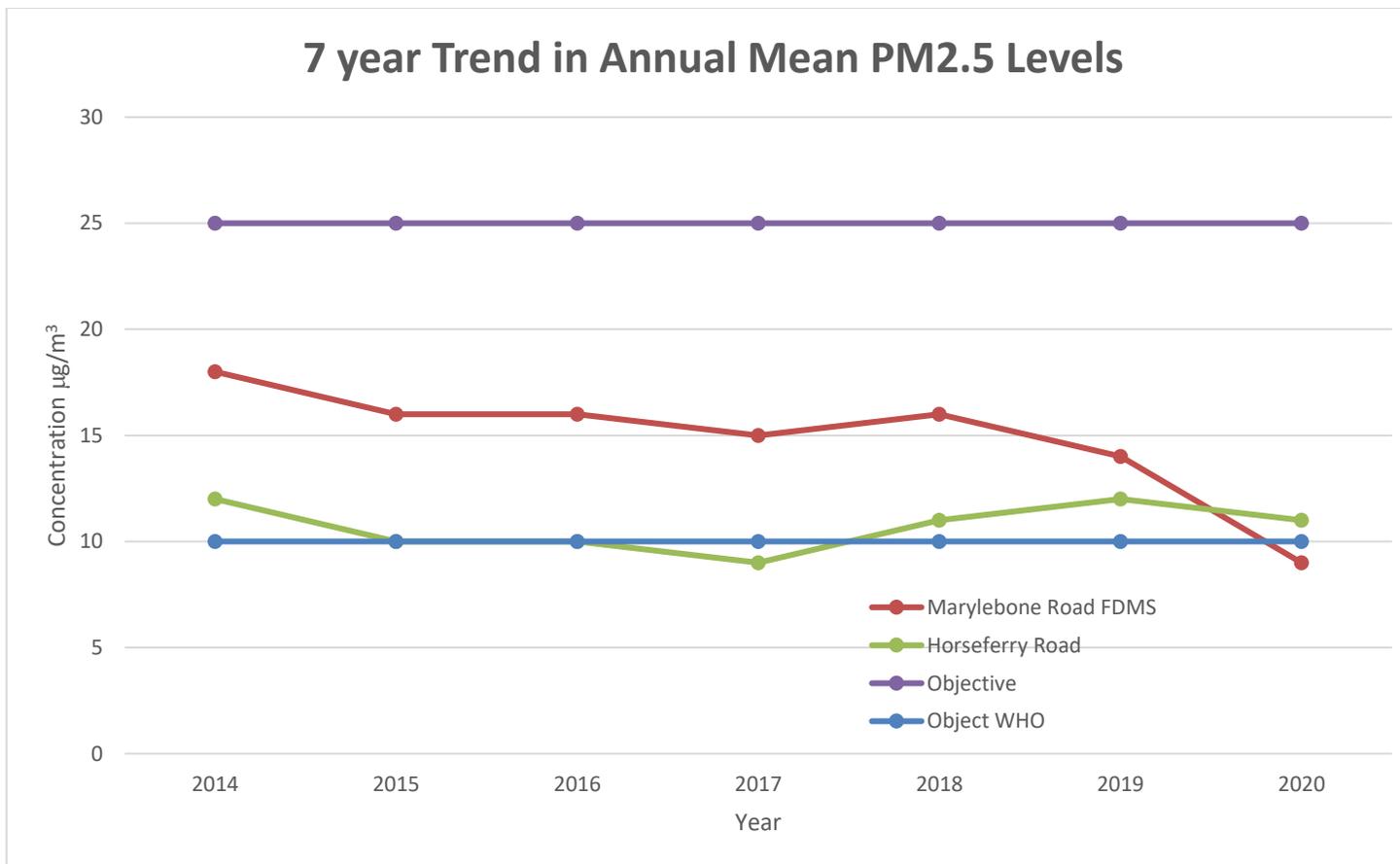
All means have been “annualised” in accordance with LLAQM Technical Guidance, if valid data capture is less than 75% and more than 33%.

(a) Data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year.

(b) Data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for six months the maximum data capture for the full calendar year would be 50%).

7-year trend in annual mean PM2.5 levels

The 7-year trend shows a general improvement in the measured annual mean concentration at both sites until 2018, at which point both sites reported an increase. Both sites have reported a reduction in measured PM2.5 concentrations in 2020. Elizabeth Bridge monitoring station was installed and operating in 2020 in addition to Westminster's PM2.5 monitoring network. All sites continue to meet the national objective for PM2.5. Comparing reported concentrations to the World Health Organisation PM2.5 guideline limit values, both kerbside sites (Marylebone Road and Elizabeth Bridge) meets this limit, where as background measurements recorded at Horseferry Road, continue to exceed this value. It should be noted that 2020 measurements have the potential to be influenced by the restrictions implemented in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, therefore any conclusions with regards to this data should be used with caution.



*Elizabeth Bridge Data has not presented as it has only been operating for part of 2020.

Table I. 2020 SO₂ Automatic Monitoring Results: Comparison with Objectives

Site ID	Valid data capture for monitoring period % ^(a)	Valid data capture 2020 % ^(b)	Number of 15-minute means > 266 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$	Number of 1-hour mean > 350 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$	Number 24-hour mean > 125 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$
Marylebone Road	96	96	0	0	0

Notes

Results are presented as the number of instances where monitored concentrations are greater than the objective concentration.

Exceedances of the SO₂ objectives are shown in **bold** (15-min mean = 35 allowed a year, 1-hour mean = 24 allowed a year, 24-hour mean = 3 allowed a year).

If the period of valid data is less than 85%, the relevant percentiles are provided in brackets.

(a) Data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year.

(b) Data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for six months the maximum data capture for the full calendar year would be 50%).

2. Impact of COVID-19 upon LAQM

During the pandemic business as usual was maintained but activity on some existing projects especially related to activity in schools experienced delays due to closures and social distancing and initiation of new projects were postponed.

Movement Strategy

A set of measures and interventions that were installed in the city from June 2020 to support the safe movement of pedestrians during the pandemic. The scope of works was split into two phases. Phase 1 included footway schemes to widen pavements, cycle schemes to increase cycle capacity, as well as the installation of cycle stands and temporary barriers and bollards to assist with social distancing. Whereas Phase 2 focused on hospitality schemes to assist businesses in reopening as restrictions eased.

In total the Movement Strategy featured:

- 16 footway schemes
- 6 cycle schemes
- 7 combined cycle and footway schemes
- 37 hospitality schemes
- 3 street closures
- 13 school street closures
- 106 cycle stand installations
- 9.5km of cables
- 1.2km of barriers for hospitality measures

<https://www.westminster.gov.uk/businesses/coronavirus-helping-hand-businesses/temporary-al-fresco-schemes-road-closures-or-barriers>

<https://www.westminster.gov.uk/news/westminsters-cycling-revolution>

There are also examples of projects that were council priorities but have been directly influenced by Covid, such as the Freight, Servicing and Deliveries Strategy and Action Plan <https://www.westminster.gov.uk/media/document/freight-servicing-and-deliveries-strategy-and-action-plan-2020%E2%80%932040pdf>

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, Westminster will be refreshing its current Air Quality Action Plan in 2021 and will liaise with the GLA accordingly on its contents and new actions.

3. Action to Improve Air Quality

3.1 Air Quality Action Plan Progress

Table J provides a brief summary of Westminster City Council progress against the Air Quality Action Plan, showing progress made this year. New projects which commenced in 2020 are shown at the bottom of the table ([where applicable](#)).

In Westminster's AQAP actions are listed under five main themes: monitoring, reducing emissions from building and new development, reducing emissions from transport, raising awareness, and lobbying and partnership working. As per the ASR instructions, these actions have been mapped to the LLAQM Action Matrix 'themes' in the table below.

Table J. Delivery of Air Quality Action Plan Measures

Measure	LLAQM Action Matrix Theme	Action	Progress
1.1	Monitoring and other core statutory duties	Maintaining and where possible expanding monitoring networks, and fulfilling other statutory duties	<p>Westminster is continuing to monitor air quality within the borough and prioritise PM2.5. A new PM2.5 reference monitor has been installed and operating at the Elizabeth Bridge Monitoring site.</p> <p>Westminster are continuing to support landowners with installing air quality monitors. Ebury Street, Duke Street, Marylebone Road, and the Strand monitoring sites are all owned and operated by third parties.</p>
2.1	Emissions from developments and buildings	Ensuring emissions from construction are minimised	<p>In 2020 Westminster worked to update its Code of Construction Practice, which covers all policy and requirements for reducing emissions from construction. The updated CoCP will be adopted in 2021 and full details will be included in next year's ASR.</p>
2.2	Emissions from developments and buildings	Ensuring enforcement of NRMM air quality policies	<p>See Table K below for full details.</p> <p>39 NRMM inspections were completed in 2020</p> <p>From January 2020 to approximately 8th March 2020 physical audits, site inspections were completed</p> <p>From approximately the 9th March 2020 to December 31 2020 desktop audits only were completed as a result of the pandemic.</p>
2.3	Emissions from developments and buildings	Reducing emissions from combustion-based CHP	<p>Policy 32B and 32D of Westminster's City Plan requires developments where CHP is included to be air quality neutral and that Air Quality Assessments are required for these developments.</p>
2.4	Emissions from developments and buildings	Enforce air quality neutral policy	<p>We have successfully secured funding from developers where AQ neutral benchmarks have not been met. For developments that fail to meet the Air quality Neutral Benchmarks we will continue to see funding where excess emissions cannot be mitigated.</p>

Measure	LLAQM Action Matrix Theme	Action	Progress
			See Table K for additional details. Air quality neutral policy is a key part of the new AQ policy (Policy 32) in Westminster's now adopted City Plan.
2.5	Emissions from developments and buildings	Ensuring adequate, appropriate, and well located green space and infrastructure is included in new and existing developments	Draft City Plan 2019 – 2040 Green Infrastructure Policy went through Examination in Public and has increased requirements for enhancing and improving green infrastructure across the City. GI improvements have also been included in audit reports for all Westminster schools (see comments on action 3.5).
2.6	Emissions from developments and buildings	Declaring Smoke Control Zones and ensuring they are fully promoted and enforced	The whole of Westminster is a Smoke Control Area. Enforcement and awareness raising of the SCA has included communications with commercial properties and engagement around pollution from canals in the Paddington Basin area.
2.7	Emissions from developments and buildings	Promoting and delivering energy efficiency and energy supply retrofitting projects in workplaces and homes through EFL retrofit programmes such as Re:fit, Re:new, and through borough carbon offset funds	In 2020 Westminster published new guidance for its carbon offset fund, which included setting out priority projects for funding in line with GLA guidance and Westminster's carbon reduction targets. More details can be found here: https://www.westminster.gov.uk/planning-building-and-environmental-regulations/planning-policy/planning-guidance-support-policies/carbon-offset-fund-guidance
2.8	Emissions from developments and buildings	Master planning and redevelopment areas aligned with air quality positive and Healthy Streets approaches	With a lack of clarity on the actual proposals for AQ Positive, specific action on this has not been taken. However, AQ policies and priorities are placed at the heart of redevelopment areas and area planning, including for the Oxford Street District and Strand/Aldwych schemes, where air quality considerations are central to the aims of the projects.
3.1	Public health and awareness raising	Public Health department taking shared responsibility for borough air quality issues and implementation of AQ action plans	The most recent iteration of the city's AQAP was developed in conjunction with Public Health department, and further integration has taken place during 2021 including coordination with the city's Health and Wellbeing Board which will be included in 2021's ASR.
3.2	Public health and awareness raising	Engagement with businesses	Engagement with businesses has taken place across a variety of the actions set out in this table, from liaising with the private sector on privately owned monitoring sites, to working closely with business on Westminster's new Freight Servicing and Delivery Strategy and Action Plan, and partnering with businesses to trial EV waste vehicles and ensure Westminster continues to have the largest EV charging network of any UK local authority.

Measure	LLAQM Action Matrix Theme	Action	Progress
3.3	Public health and awareness raising	Supporting direct alert services such as airTEXT, and promotion and sharing of high pollution alert services	Westminster continues to support and promote airTEXT through links on its website and also provides high pollution alerts to schools across the city.
3.4	Public health and awareness raising	Encourage all schools to join the TfL STARS accreditation scheme	All schools in Westminster are accredited through the TfL STARS programme.
3.5	Public health and awareness raising	Air quality in and around schools, and extending schools audits to all polluted schools	Air quality audits have been delivered to all schools and nurseries in Westminster, providing information and recommendations to schools on three key themes: green infrastructure; emissions from buildings; and localised solutions to road emissions.
4.1	Delivery servicing and freight	Update of procurement policies to reduce pollution from logistics and servicing	Published the Freight Servicing and Delivery Strategy and Action Plan Freight, Servicing and Deliveries Strategy and Action Plan 2020–2040.pdf
4.2	Delivery servicing and freight	Reducing emissions from deliveries to local businesses and residents	Published the Freight Servicing and Delivery Strategy and Action Plan Freight, Servicing and Deliveries Strategy and Action Plan 2020–2040.pdf
5.1	Borough fleet	Reducing emissions from council fleets.	All Westminster waste collection vehicles have been retrofitted to reduce NOx emissions by up to 99%: https://cleanstreets.westminster.gov.uk/revolutionary-technology-helps-improve-london-air-quality/ Westminster has also introduced electric refuse collection vehicles in 2020: https://cleanstreets.westminster.gov.uk/westminster-city-council-first-electric-refuse-collection-trucks/ As a result of these projects Westminster won a Future Fleet Award 2020.
6.1	Localised solutions	Expanding and improving green infrastructure.	Draft City Plan 2019 – 2040 Green Infrastructure Policy went through Examination in Public and has increased requirements for enhancing and improving green infrastructure.
6.2	Localised solutions	Low Emissions Neighbourhoods	Westminster does not currently have an active LEN.
7.1	Cleaner transport	Ensuring transport and AQ policies and projects are integrated	Policies are tightly integrated, and major urban realm projects and master planning projects include engagement and involvement with AQ staff from inception point onwards.

Measure	LLAQM Action Matrix Theme	Action	Progress
7.2	Cleaner transport	Using parking policy to reduce pollution emissions.	Draft City Plan 2019 – 2040 Parking Policy went through Examination in Public and now accords with Draft New London Plan policy requirements
7.3	Cleaner transport	Discouraging vehicle idling	Westminster continues to enforce no idling across the city through PCNs, and in early 2020 no idling events were held at sites including Paddington train station.
7.4	Cleaner transport	Regular temporary car free days and pedestrianisation schemes	Westminster's Movement Strategy and response to the Covid-19 pandemic is outlined earlier in this ASR. A particular focus has been on rolling out these projects around schools through the city's ActiveStreets programme: full details can be found at https://active.westminster.gov.uk/accelerated-activestreets-rollout/
7.5	Cleaner transport	Installation of EV and ULEV charging infrastructure	In early 2021 Westminster achieved its target of 1000 EV charging points across the city, the first UK local authority to reach this milestone. Westminster also published a five year strategy for EV charging, including work on ULEZ charging infrastructure: https://committees.westminster.gov.uk/documents/s36600/366_1%20-%20WCC_EV%20Strategy%20Document_web_AW3.pdf
7.6	Cleaner transport	Provision of infrastructure to support walking and cycling	Westminster's Movement Strategy and response to the Covid-19 pandemic is outlined earlier in this ASR. This included significant work to promote walking and cycling across the city.

4. Planning Update and Other New Sources of Emissions

Table K. Planning requirements met by planning applications in Westminster in 2020

Condition	Number
Number of planning applications where an air quality impact assessment was reviewed for air quality impacts	48
Number of planning applications required to monitor for construction dust	<u>117</u>
Number of CHPs/Biomass boilers refused on air quality grounds	<u>0</u>
Number of CHPs/Biomass boilers subject to GLA emissions limits and/or other restrictions to reduce emissions	<u>0</u>
Number of developments required to install Ultra-Low NO _x boilers	<u>0</u>
Number of developments where an AQ Neutral building and/or transport assessments undertaken	<u>48</u>
Number of developments where the AQ Neutral building and/or transport assessments not meeting the benchmark and so required to include additional mitigation	<u>2</u>
Number of planning applications with S106 agreements including other requirements to improve air quality	<u>2</u>
Number of planning applications with CIL payments that include a contribution to improve air quality	<u>0</u>
<p>NRMM: Central Activity Zone and Canary Wharf</p> <p>Number of conditions related to NRMM included.</p> <p>Number of developments registered and compliant.</p> <p>Please include confirmation that you have checked that the development has been registered with the GLA through the relevant NRMM website and that all NRMM used on-site is compliant with Stage IIIB of the Directive and/or exemptions to the policy.</p>	<p>59 applications with conditions included</p> <p>38 registered and compliant</p> <p>2 unregistered/uncompliant and being chased.</p> <p>It can be confirmed that WCC has checked that the development are registered and compliant with the relevant emissions limits and/or exception to the policy</p>
<p>NRMM: Greater London (excluding Central Activity Zone and Canary Wharf)</p> <p>Number of conditions related to NRMM included.</p> <p>Number of developments registered and compliant.</p> <p>Please include confirmation that you have checked that the development has been registered at www.nrmm.london and that all NRMM used on-site is compliant with Stage IIIA of the Directive and/or exemptions to the policy.</p>	<p>58 applications with conditions included</p> <p>12 registered and compliant</p> <p>0 unregistered/uncompliant and being chased.</p> <p>It can be confirmed that WCC has checked that the developments are registered and compliant with the relevant emissions limits and/or exception to the policy</p>

Westminster City council requires all strategic, major and basement developments to comply with Westminster's Code of Construction Practice (CoCP). The CoCP

requires sites to formally agree a Site Environmental Management Plan (SEMP) and/or Construction Management Plan (CMP), prior to commencement of the development. The agreed SEMP and CMP will set out the sites NRMM and dust monitoring requirements. All active sites are proactively monitored to ensure that they are complying with the methodologies set out within their SEMP/CMP including the required NRMM emission limits.

4.1 New or significantly changed industrial or other sources

No new sources identified

Appendix A Details of Monitoring Site Quality QA/QC

A.1 Automatic Monitoring Sites

Site	Calibration (WCC unless otherwise noted)
Marylebone Road (AURN)	ERG arrangements
Horseferry Road (AURN)	NOx calibration every 4 weeks BAM tape change every 8 weeks
Oxford Street	NOx calibration every 4 weeks BAM tape change every 8 weeks
Oxford Street East	NOx calibration every 4 weeks BAM tape change every 8 weeks
Buckingham Palace Road	NOx calibration every 4 weeks
Covent Garden	NOx calibration every 4 weeks
Cavendish Square	NOx calibration every 4 weeks BAM tape change every 8 weeks
Strand (Managed by Northbank BID)	Own arrangements
Duke Street (Managed by Grosvenor)	Own arrangements
Ebury Street (Managed by Grosvenor)	Own arrangements

Horseferry Road and Marylebone Road monitoring sites are AURN sites and therefore have AURN QA/QC procedures. For all other sites monitoring data is collected, validated and ratified by ERG. QA/QC procedures are similar to those of the AURN network.

PM₁₀ Monitoring Adjustment

TEOM data has been adjusted using the volatile correction method (VCM).

BAM PM₁₀ – adjusted with a reciprocal of slope of 1.2.

Smart Heated BAM PM₁₀ – adjusted with a reciprocal of slope of 1.035.

Smart Heated BAM PM_{2.5} – no adjustment required.

A.2 Diffusion Tubes

All tubes used by Westminster City Council are prepared using 50% TEA in acetone, and are supplied and analysed by Lambeth Scientific Services Ltd. Lambeth participates in the AIR Proficiency Testing (PT) external proficiency testing scheme run by the Government. Four spiked diffusion tubes are distributed to participating laboratories on a quarterly basis to assess the analytical performance of those laboratories supplying diffusion tubes to Local Authorities for use in the context of LAQM.

The table below shows the results of the most recent 8 rounds of proficiency testing under AIR-PT. The table gives the % of samples where results returned by the laboratory were considered satisfactory – i.e. 1 out of 4 = 25%, and 4 out of 4 = 100%. The guidance directs that a single round is a snap-shot in time, and thus it is more informative to consider performance over a number of rounds. It is further stated that over a rolling five round AIR-PT window, 95% of results (i.e. 19 out of 20 samples) should be considered to be satisfactory.

AIR PT Round	AIR PT AR030	AIR PT AR031	AIR PT AR033	AIR PT AR034	AIR PT AR036	AIR PT AR037	AIR PT AR039	AIR PT AR040
Round conducted in the period	January – February 2019	April – May 2019	July – August 2019	September – November 2019	January – February 2020	May – June 2020	July – August 2020	September – October 2020

Lambeth Scientific Services	50%	100%	50%	100%	100%	NR ²	NR ²	100%
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Based on the latest rounds of Air PT results Lambeth Scientific Services have returned 90% of satisfactory results, below the requirement stated in the guidance. Westminster is currently in the process of reviewing its diffusion tube analysis contract and a decision will be made with regards to continue with Lambeth Scientific as its tube supplier for future years.

Factor from Local Co-location Studies

Westminster diffusion tube networks includes 3 colocation studies but as a result of the limited data collected in 2020 the factor has not been calculated. The results of the co-location studies will be presented in future year reports.

Discussion of Choice of Factor to Use

Due to the limited amount of data collected in 2020, RAW data has been presented only and has not been bias adjusted.

² NR (no result) Round was cancelled due to pandemic.

A.3 Adjustments to the Ratified Monitoring Data

Short-term to Long-term Data Adjustment

Diffusion tube monitoring commenced in November 2020, therefore Data capture is less than 33% of a full calendar year (2 months). Monitoring data therefore cannot be annualised. Monitoring data is RAW data and is for information purposes only.

Distance Adjustment

As the annual mean cannot be presented data has not been distance corrected and RAW data is presented.

Table M. Short-Term to Long-Term Monitoring Data Adjustment

Site ID	Annualisation Factor Westminster Horseferry Road	Annualisation Factor Islington Arsenal	Annualisation Factor City of London The Aldgate School	Annualisation Factor Hillingdon Harlington	Average Annualisation Factor	Raw Data Annual Mean ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	Annualised Annual Mean ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	Comments
Elizabeth Bridge NO ₂	1.09	1.03	0.99	0.86	0.99	25.69	25.59	
Bucking Palace Road NO ₂	0.90	0.87	0.83	0.62	0.81	39.2	31.78	
Site ID	Annualisation Factor Croydon Norbury Manor	Annualisation Factor City of London The Aldgate School	Annualisation Factor Lewisham Honor Oak Park	Annualisation Factor	Average Annualisation Factor	Raw Data Annual Mean ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	Annualised Annual Mean ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	Comments
Elizabeth Bridge PM _{2.5}	1.14	1.46	1.12	N/A	1.24	9	10.51	Data for Croydon and Lewisham Both provisional and not ratified

Table N. NO₂ Fall off With Distance Calculations

Site ID	Distance (m): Monitoring Site to Kerb	Distance (m): Receptor to Kerb	Monitored Concentration (Annualised and Bias Adjusted ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$))	Background Concentration ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	Concentration Predicted at Receptor ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	Comments
Marylebone Road	1.5	1.5	44	26	44	Background concentration taken from Horseferry Road
Strand	2.5	2.5	44	26	44	Background concentration taken from Horseferry Road

Appendix B Full Monthly Diffusion Tube Results for 2020

Table O. NO₂ Diffusion Tube Results

Site ID	Valid data capture for monitoring period % ^(a)	Valid data capture 2020 % ^(b)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual mean – raw data	Annual mean – bias adjusted
WCC1	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	56	30	n/a	n/a
WCC2	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	52	37	n/a	n/a
WCC3	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	46	32	n/a	n/a
WCC4	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	38	36	n/a	n/a
WCC5	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	37	31	n/a	n/a
WCC6	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	48	33	n/a	n/a
WCC7	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	42	45	n/a	n/a
WCC8	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	36	26	n/a	n/a
WCC9	50	8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	45	30	n/a	n/a
WCC10	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	50	45	n/a	n/a
WCC11	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	50	33	n/a	n/a
WCC12	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	37	26	n/a	n/a
WCC13	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	39	34	n/a	n/a
WCC14	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	45	34	n/a	n/a
WCC15	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	30	n/a	n/a
WCC16	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	39	32	n/a	n/a
WCC17	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	45	31	n/a	n/a
WCC18	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	59	35	n/a	n/a
WCC19	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	47	38	n/a	n/a
WCC20	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	41	32	n/a	n/a
WCC21	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	51	32	n/a	n/a
WCC22	100	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	48	47	n/a	n/a

WCC23	100	17	n/a	39	29	n/a	n/a									
WCC24	100	17	n/a	43	34	n/a	n/a									
WCC25a	100	17	n/a	34	32	n/a	n/a									
WCC25b	100	17	n/a	35	33	n/a	n/a									
WCC25c	100	17	n/a	41	37	n/a	n/a									
WCC26a	100	17	n/a	40	32	n/a	n/a									
WCC26b	100	17	n/a	39	32	n/a	n/a									
WCC26c	100	17	n/a	49	33	n/a	n/a									
WCC27a	100	17	n/a	38	28	n/a	n/a									
WCC27b	100	17	n/a	37	30	n/a	n/a									
WCC27c	100	17	n/a	36	27	n/a	n/a									

Notes

Concentrations are presented as $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$.

Westminster commenced measurement of Nitrogen dioxide by diffusion tube in November 2020. A minimum of 3 months data is required to annualise data therefore Westminster do not have sufficient data to present annual mean concentrations this year. The two months data is presented for information purposes only. A full year monitored data will be presented in the 2021 annual status report.



Communities, Regeneration and Housing Policy and Scrutiny Committee

Date: 14 October 2021

Report of: Councillor Heather Acton

Portfolio: Cabinet Member for Communities, PPL and
Regeneration

Report Author and Contact Details: Alexandra Severino
(adseverino@westminster.gov.uk)

1. City for All Vision and Strategy (2021 – 2022) – Communities, PPL and Regeneration Priorities

1.1 Cleaner and Greener

1.1.1 Code of Construction Practice (CoCP)

The draft Code of Construction Practice has been out to consultation over a 6-week period and the consultation responses are being analysed before preparing the document for final adoption in autumn.

1.1.2 Air Quality Action Plan

Westminster is taking part in the GLA's 'Breathe London' project to trial air quality sensor technology in London and to empower communities to measure and take action to improve air quality. We are planning to undertake a feasibility study and will run a communication campaign funded by DEFRA for the electrification of Paddington basin to potentially provide electric power for mooring canal boats to improve air quality along the basin. We will also be updating our plans in the future to reflect the recently updated Air Quality standards as set by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

1.1.3 Westminster Schools Air Quality Programme

Since my last report, a few real-time Air Quality monitors have been implemented through our IT team. This programme has been supported by environmental consultants WSP who carried out the audits and collated the results. All the schools that undertook an audit have received their audit reports and WSP has collated the findings and completed a final programme report.

1.2 Vibrant Communities

1.2.1 Westminster Connects

The teams across Westminster Connects have continued to provide support across the city through staffing vaccine centres, distributing food, and aiding refugees arriving from Afghanistan. To support Afghan Refugees, 6 van loads of donations of clothes, toys, shoes and toiletries were collected over three days and taken to the quarantine hotel to support the newly arrived evacuees. The Business Community Partnership has also raised over £49,000 in cash donations and goods to support the evacuees, including donations of suitcases, headscarves, long robes and Qurans.

1.2.2 Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Update

Three injunctions covering the Mozart and Lydford Estate area were obtained on 13 July 2021. Two were against high profile individuals known to cause ASB in the area with the third against 'persons unknown' to prevent ASB in the area. If individuals are found to be in breach of the conditions of the injunction and the police are called, the individuals can be arrested for breaching the injunction and have to appear at court. We are working with the police regarding possible breaches and police continue to monitor

The Housing and PP&L services met on 7 September to plan actions around addresses that have been identified as potential contributors to ASB during the coming Halloween and Bonfire night period ('Autumn Nights'), and to discuss actions to be taken in advance.

The PP&L team conducted a successful operation in August on Edgware Road designed to put as many enforcement capabilities as possible into one area to effect positive change through visible deployment. 22 officers from 12 different teams across 5 organisations (Westminster City Council, the Metropolitan Police Service, Transport for London, HMRC and Immigration Enforcement) visited shops and businesses in the area and took formal enforcement action in 8 different premises. Since this operation we have seen the recruitment of additional CIs and an increase in enforcement in areas such as fly-tipping and commercial waste.

1.2.3 Church Street

Following Stage 2 pre-planning consultations, the design for Sites A, B and C is currently being finalised in collaboration with other departments in Growth, Planning and Housing. This is in line with preparation of the planning documentation and officers scheduled workshops during August and September to continue dialogue with key stakeholders. The Church Street Triangle project continues to be developed and recently consultations regarding Phase 2 (the public realm improvements) were well received.

1.2.4 Ebury

The necessary professional team appointments are mostly in place, together with dedicated internal resourcing to ensure the successful delivery of Ebury Phase 1. Local consultation and resident engagement continues on all aspects of the project. The team is liaising with all 'right of light' affected households in advance of formal appropriation and construction start dates for Phase 1 in addition to the engagement with leaseholders concerning acquisitions in order to bring forward future phases of the project. The Ebury Community Futures Group (CFG) also continues to meet on a monthly basis.

1.2.5 Darwin House Redevelopment

The Balmoral Castle/Darwin House scheme was approved at Planning Committee on the 8th of June. A total of 52 affordable homes will be provided, including 18 new high-quality, intermediate rented homes, prioritised for local residents, along with a new landscaped green space. The scheme also includes 34 new community supported homes which will enable the residents at Darwin House to enjoy significant improvement to their standard of accommodation. The development team is concluding the appointment of a main contractor, following which the site will be prepared and demolition will take place.

1.2.6 Harrow Road

300 Harrow Road will provide 51 affordable units and 61 private units as well as new public realm space and enterprise space. The enabling works continue to progress well on site and the commencement of main works commenced in September. This is the first project where Westminster Builds will be assuming the developer role.

2. Major Decisions

Since my last report to Committee, I have formally approved the following decisions:

- Approval of Expenditure from the Ward Budget of Harrow Road and Maida Vale
- Balmoral Castle and Darwin House Project Development Proposals
- Ebury Bridge Final Business Case Phase 1

- Expenditure from the Ward Budget - Holistic Advice and Advocacy in Westminster
- Farm Street: Intermediate Homes at Farm Street

3. Areas of Focus

3.1 Rough Sleeping

In July 2021, Westminster was awarded £451,210 of funding to help ensure women who are rough sleepers and victims of domestic abuse receive access to accommodation, support, advocacy, and counselling in a safe environment. The accommodation provision will provide 24-hour support for up to 16 women at a time and will be available from 1 October 2021.

3.2 HMO Licensing Scheme

The additional licensing scheme for Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) came into place on August 30th. Applications for licences are already being processed using our new software system which allows landlords to make online applications and receive updates on progress when necessary. This scheme will focus on HMOs that fall outside of the national scheme of mandatory licensing, namely, S.254 HMOs. These are typically referred to as house shares, where occupants share basic amenities such as bathrooms, toilets, and kitchens. We estimate there are c.4800 of these HMOs across the borough, with 80% having serious hazards

In order for this scheme to be a success, a comprehensive review of the regulation of the PRS sector has also been carried out. Following this, officers have been regrouped into dedicated teams to deliver the service, and processes have been adjusted to reflect new priorities which have emerged, including the expanded licensing scheme.

3.3 Westminster Builds

The Westminster Builds Business Plan and corporate governance arrangements were approved by Cabinet in July 2021. The business plan will be updated following the 2021/22 CPSR process. The first acquisitions of units on Farm Street and West End Gate are nearing completion.

3.4 Infill Programme

Both the Thurso and Noel Coward schemes are due to be submitted to the local planning authority September. The schemes will provide 7 affordable homes which will be covered by the Local Lettings Plan.

3.5 Nuisance Vehicles Acoustic Camera Updates

The public consultation on a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) has run from 21st July until 29th September, with over 80 responses received.. Ward Members for St James provided some ward funding to the MPS to allow for weekend police operations, including enforcement of traffic violations, and identifying nuisance driving in Waterloo Place. Locations were sought for two acoustic cameras to be placed in the areas most affected by nuisance vehicles, Waterloo Place and Exhibition Road. These cameras were installed by our highways contractors, FM Conway on Thursday 26th August and will be utilised for enforcement once the PSPO is in place. The project is on track to go live on 9th November 2021. We are currently working on identifying other hot spot areas in the city, where there may be potential to apply a similar approach.

3.6 Street Entertainment Updates

Our dedicated team of City Inspectors continues to be deployed 7 days a week, working from 12:00 – 22:00 enabling engagement with performers in the regulated area, both in a proactive way and in response to complaints, in order to raise awareness of the new policy and ensure compliance. Since 1st June we have issued an additional 64 licences, bringing a total of 126. Our main area of non-compliance remains in Covent Garden, but there is positive engagement with the Covent Garden

Street Performers Association. The first 'Buskers Forum' took place on 13th July with a good level of attendance from the street entertainment and busker community.

3.7 Updates on the Shisha Authority Working Group

Across the City, shisha cafes and bars have reopened and are subject to the range of legal obligations under existing legislation. Officers will continue to monitor premises and react to complaints in order to deal with any breaches under the Health Act, Planning law, Fire safety, Health & Safety and Trading Standards law. Following further meetings within the Local Authority Shisha Working Group a meeting with MHCLG was due to be held in September to discuss potential amendments to legislation including consideration of any existing powers that could be strengthened.



Communities, Regeneration and Housing Policy and Scrutiny Committee

Date:	14 October 2021
Report of:	Councillor David Harvey
Portfolio:	Cabinet Member for Housing
Report Author and Contact Details: (adseverino@westminster.gov.uk)	Alexandra Severino

1. City for All Vision and Strategy (2021 – 2022) – Housing Services Priorities

1.1 Greener and Cleaner

1.1.1 Leverage Energy Efficiency Measures in Housing

Significant analysis has been completed in modelling the entire property portfolio, resulting in clear requirements to achieve an average EPC rating of B and to get WCCs social rent homes to a net zero standard. The Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) Wave 1 was launched on 23rd August. Discussions have already taken place with Turner & Townsend, the government consultants for the scheme. They have commented that Westminster was the first local authority they have spoken to that have detailed data on their homes and would be in a good position to bid. The bid is open for 8 weeks from 23rd August to 15th October.

1.2 Vibrant Communities

1.2.1 Supporting Vulnerable Residents

In April leads from the Supporting Vulnerable Residents Project Team developed a pilot proposal which will support vulnerable housing residents on the Churchill Gardens Estate. The proposal formed part of the wider Housing service bid submitted to MHCLG 'Changing Futures Programme'. Our bid has been successful.

Our pilot between Housing and Children's Services which aims to work with our partners to establish multi-agency frameworks to manage complex Housing management cases are still underway with repairs and housing management visiting the properties identified via repair demand and no contact data sets across the city. To date, 15 visits have been conducted with the following referrals and signposting to: Assistance with registering for a Mutual Exchange (4), Referral to Adult Social Care (3), Referral to Mental Health Services (3), Drug & Alcohol Support (1), Westminster Adult Education Service (1), Community Voluntary Partners (2), and assistance with registering for transfer (5).

1.2.2 Redesign of Service Model Through Shared Space and Maximising the Use of Public Buildings - Churchill Garden Pilot

Following a survey earlier on in the year an action plan has been produced which has identified residents' priorities to improve health, wellbeing, and resident engagement. The action plan outlines a number of key actions and initiatives for further discovery and implementation from 2021 – 2024 and includes cross departmental working, to explore community café models with community partners and residents, to engage with youth on estates to understand their health and wellbeing, and to increase the levels of resident engagement and resident volunteering opportunities. This pilot was launched at the Residents Association 70th Year anniversary Churchill Gardens Community Event on Saturday 28th August 2021 with great enthusiasm.

1.2.3 Resident Engagement

Following our consultation with residents that ran in May, findings of our surveys are ready to be relayed to residents through a wide variety of channels including Your Home magazine, Your Home e-zine, the Council's website, and text messaging.

Phase 2 of the project to launch the new structure has commenced. Next steps are setting up the performance and policy group, completing the ASB case review group pilot, piloting the estate briefings, relaunching Westminster Housing Online, and signposting interested residents to local groups and potential themed groups. We will continue to make good use of technology to engage with residents on a wider scale but also still offer face to face contact for those that are not online. We also recognise that this project should proceed step by step, building on success rather than rushing through to a large number of groups.

1.3 Smart City

1.3.1 Trial Smart Homes Technologies

The technology due to be piloted will assist the Council in issues that are prevalent and important to us and residents. Drones will assist our repairs and major works teams to access roofs which are otherwise inaccessible and require the erection of scaffolding. The use of digital notice boards will allow staff to remotely update information proactively and reactively, assisting faster communications. Various types of sensors (leak detection, legionella in water tanks, communal fire door open/close sensors and in flat air quality) will assist the council in being proactive to address the safety and welfare of residents. We have completed that data privacy impact assessment and risk profile forms, as well as risk assessments for the pilot strands and anticipate satisfying the councils IT thresholds on how data is managed.

1.3.2 Facilitating Broadband Connections

The roll-out of Broadband across Westminster's housing stock continues to progress very well. Currently we have 90% of our stock with an available Broadband connection from at least one supplier as of 31st August. We are currently on target to achieve 100% by 31st December 2021.

2. Cabinet Member Decisions (June – September 2021)

Since the last report was made, no notifiable decisions have been made by the Cabinet Member for Housing.

3. Areas of Focus

3.1 Homelessness and Mental Health Pathway

We continue to monitor demand closely to identify any potential risks or issues associated with a potential spike in demand following on from the relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions such as the ban on evictions being lifted in July.

We have a continuing programme of review for all clients placed in Commissioned Mental Health Housing related supported provision. Alongside the Community Mental Health Teams and the Placement Review team we are targeting clients who: are tenancy ready and could be resettled into the private rented sector, those that may be tenancy ready and have a rough sleeping history who can access Clearing house properties, those clients who no longer are deemed to have Care Act support needs but are suitable for Community Supported Housing with a care package if needed, and those individuals whose physical ageing needs warrant a move to residential care.

3.2 Major Works Update

The Major Works programme continues to perform well with our main contractors Axis Europe and United Living both Service Providers are pressing on and delivering their respective capital programmes. The additional resources provided by Axis is evident in the positive feedback received on the Queens Park Estate and at Little Venice Towers. This has in turn allowed the teams to achieve practical completion and Little Venice Towers, and with Hallfield Estate's programmed work due to

complete by the end of September. United Living have a variety of work ongoing within the South of the city- Glastonbury House is a high-profile cladding contract which is currently on programme and given the high-risk nature of these works, it is being tracked through our Programme Board on a monthly basis. All members have been contacted to ensure their understanding and involvement in major works projects planned in their wards. Meetings will be held with members as requested to explore their interests in the programme.

Given the recent media coverage it has been reported nationally, that throughout the construction industry there has been a scarcity and shortage of certain building materials e.g. cement, plasterboard, glass etc, which has had a knock-on effect with a price increase across the building material spectrum. In addition, as has been widely reported, there are pressures on available skilled labour, predominantly due to lockdown and Brexit.

3.3 Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) Updates

There are currently 166 ASB cases open with the team at the moment with a total of 57 new cases raised in August. The first two ASB case panel pilot meetings were held on the 24 and 26 August. Feedback is currently being collated following which a full review will be conducted. Three injunctions covering the Mozart and Lydford Estate area were obtained on 13 July 2021. The individuals can be arrested for breaching the injunction and be produced at court. We are currently working with the police regarding a possible breach and speaking with our legal team regarding this. Housing and PP&L met on 7 September to plan actions around addresses that have been identified as potential contributors to ASB during the coming Halloween and Bonfire night period ('Autumn Nights'), and to discuss actions to be taken in advance.

3.4 Repairs Updates – Summer Flash Flooding

At the end of July and early August, Central London was hit with a downpour of rain. As reported extensively, this caused widespread flooding and damage to property throughout areas of Westminster. Our repairs service, housing staff and contractors all responded admirably to the emergency situation with contractors and our staff working long into the evening to ensure residents were cared for, safe and affected properties were repaired. Despite the significant increase of emergency repairs being reported over this period, causing a huge strain on resources, our contractors and staff all responded very well to the situation. The situation was helped massively due to the Planned Preventative Maintenance (PPM) which is in place and is carried out throughout the year involving cleaning gutters, downpipes and gullies, this assisted in alleviating what could have been a significant emergency.

3.5 Updates to The Fire Safety and Building Safety Bills

In response to the Grenfell Inquiry and bills currently in draft, Housing Services is committed to an enhanced requirement on Fire and Rescue services. Risk assessments are already available via the freedom of information request route. We are currently looking at how we can provide access via the Westminster Website either to request a copy or download the latest version of the fire risk assessment. To ensure Westminster City Council holds comprehensive fire safety and building safety data, a specialist software has been procured to accurately manage and maintain fire safety for both the housing and corporate property portfolio. The implementation of this system will also help satisfy the anticipated requirements of the Buildings Safety Bill.

3.6 Negative Homelessness Applications – Ending Temporary Accommodation Letters

193 affected households without previous Westminster connections will be sent a letter reminding them of their negative homeless decision and that their provision of accommodation is temporary. This letter sets out the support available to find alternative accommodation, and our services that can aid in this process. Those affected will be contacted individually through HSS to work through their housing options. Assistance will also be available through the North London Regional partnership that secured funding to assist authorities with supporting households to move into the private rented sector.

3.7 Afghan Relocation Settlement Scheme

On 30 July, The Council decided to participate in the ARAP scheme. It was requested that officers scoped potential support from civil society and charitable organisations in the area, so that LES families could be properly supported on arrival. As part of ARAP, relocated individuals/ families must be supported for a four-month period with housing and cash support, and a twelve-month period with integration, by a local authority. We have committed to sourcing 5 properties for a mix of individuals and families. Officers across the Council are currently working to identify suitable accommodation.

4. Key Performance Indicators

4.1 Housing Management Contact Centre

In August the Housing Management Contact Centre received **18,150** calls, **71%** of which were answered within 30 seconds (performance above target range), with the longest call waiting time 15 minutes. **62%** of calls were resolved during first contact and resident satisfaction with call handling is at **89%** which is above target. **91%** of stage 1 complaints were responded to in target.

4.2 Satisfaction with Repairs Service

Overall tenant satisfaction with repairs has remained steady at **78%** in August 2021. **98.2%** of emergency repairs in this period were completed on the first visit, and positively **84%** of tenants were satisfied with the quality of their repairs.

4.3 Overall satisfaction with Housing Services

Tenant satisfaction that WCC provides a safe and secure home remains steady at **70%** for tenants and **78%** for leaseholders in August. Satisfaction with cleaning of communal areas is at **77%** for tenants and **81%** for leaseholders, while satisfaction with grounds maintenance is above target at **84%** for tenants and **91%** for leaseholders.



Communities, Regeneration and Housing Policy & Scrutiny Committee

Date:	14 October 2021
Classification:	General Release
Title:	2020/21 Work Programme
Report of:	Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison
Cabinet Member Portfolio:	Cabinet Member for Housing and Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration
Wards Involved:	All
Policy Context:	All
Report Author and Contact Details:	Hannah Small Hsmall@Westminster.gov.uk

1. Executive Summary

1. This report asks the committee members to consider items for the Committee's 2021/2022 work programme.

2. Meeting dates for the 2021/2022 year

- 2.1 The Committee is advised that the scheduled meeting dates for the 2021/2022 year are:
 - 17th November 2021
 - 26th January 2022
 - 17th March 2022

3. Suggested topics

- 3.1 The October meeting will cover Air Quality in the Borough, a priority for the Council. The Committee is therefore asked to reflect on and discuss the suggested work programme for the remainder of the municipal year.
- 3.2 The Committee will also note that the work programme includes a list of suggested task group topics for its consideration. Committee members may have other suggested topics for task group work. Otherwise, the Committee is asked to review this list.

If you have any queries about this report or wish to inspect any of the background papers, please contact Hannah Small.

Hsmall@westminster.gov.uk

Appendix 1 – Terms of Reference

Appendix 2 – Work Programme

Appendix 1. Terms of Reference

COMMUNITIES, REGENERATION AND HOUSING POLICY AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

COMPOSITION

Eight (8) Members of the Council (five Majority Party Members and three Minority Party Members), but shall not include a Member of the Cabinet.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

(a) To carry out the Policy and Scrutiny functions, as set out in Article 6 of the Constitution in respect

of matters relating to all those duties within the terms of reference of the Cabinet Members for

Communities and Regeneration and the Cabinet Member for Housing.

(b) To carry out the Policy and Scrutiny function in respect of matters within the remit of the Council's

non-executive Committees and Sub-Committees, which are within the broad remit of the Committee,

in accordance with paragraph 13(a) of the Policy and Scrutiny procedure rules.

(c) Matters within the broad remit of the Cabinet Members referred to in (a) above which are the

responsibility of external agencies.

(d) Any other matter allocated by the Westminster Scrutiny Commission (WSC).

(e) To have the power to establish ad hoc or Standing Sub-Committees as Task Groups to carry out the

scrutiny of functions within these terms of reference.

(f) To scrutinise the duties of the Lead Members which fall within the remit of the Committee or as

otherwise allocated by the Westminster Scrutiny Commission.

(g) To scrutinise any Bi-borough proposals which impact on service areas that fall within the Committee's terms of reference.

(h) To oversee any issues relating to Performance that fall within the Committee's terms of reference.

(i) To have the power to scrutinise those partner organisations whose services fall within the Committee's terms of reference.

(j) To consider any Councillor Calls for Action referred by a Ward Member to the Committee

February 2021

**Appendix 2. Draft Work Programme 2021/2022
Communities, Regeneration & Housing (CRH) Policy and Scrutiny Committee**

ROUND ONE 10th May 2021		
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Cabinet Member for Housing, Cllr David Harvey
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration, Cllr Heather Acton
Report of the Metropolitan Police Service	To update the committee on crime within Westminster	Superintendent Michael Walsh (Metropolitan Police Service)
Ward Budget Programme	To update the committee on a recent review of the Ward Budget Programme and discuss the recommendations for updating the programme	Richard Cressey, Director of Governance and Councillor Liaison Matt Gaskin, Senior Member Services Officer

ROUND TWO 6th July 2021		
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Cabinet Member for Housing, Cllr David Harvey
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration, Cllr Heather Acton
Nuisance noisy vehicles and car meets	To discuss enforcement options for both Council and Police, current limitations in legislation and the experience of RBKC	Raj Mistry, Executive Director of Environment and City Management Calvin McLean, Director, Public Protection & Licensing

ROUND THREE 14th October 2021		
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Cabinet Member for Housing, Cllr David Harvey
Written Update from Cabinet Member	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration, Cllr Heather Acton
Air Quality	Review of initiatives in Westminster aimed at reducing poor air quality, including the Air Quality Action Plan and the Draft Code of Construction Practice	Ceridwen John, Head of Environment Policy and Projects

ROUND FOUR 17th November 2021		
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Cabinet Member for Housing, Cllr David Harvey
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration, Cllr Heather Acton
Capital Works Program	To discuss the strategic priorities for the capital works programme over the next five years	Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth, Planning and Housing Neil Wightman, Director of Housing Jim Paterson, Divisional Head of Housing Property

ROUND FIVE 26th January 2022		
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Cabinet Member for Housing, Cllr David Harvey
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration, Cllr Heather Acton
Affordable Housing SPD	To review the affordable housing supplementary planning document (SPD)	Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth, Planning and Housing Deirdra Armsby Director of Place Shaping & Town Planning Marina Mollà Bolta, Planning Officer
Rough Sleeping Strategy	To discuss the development of the Council's Rough Sleeping Strategy, whether there is the correct balance of enforcement and supportive measures and to discuss the	Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth, Planning and Housing Kerry Simpkin, Head of Licensing, Place & Investment Policy Kirsty Munro, Principal Policy Officer

ROUND SIX 17th March 2022		
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Cabinet Member for Housing, Cllr David Harvey
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration, Cllr Heather Acton
Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy	To discuss the development of the Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy for residents and visitors to the City	Raj Mistry, Executive Director of Environment & City

		Kerry Simpkin, Head of Licensing, Place & Investment Policy Kirsty Munro, Principal Policy Officer
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SUGGESTED UNALLOCATED ITEMS

Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by
Fire Safety Act and Building Safety Bill	To discuss how the Council is implementing the Fire Safety Act and central concerns on the Building Safety Bill – it has been noted that the new legislation has financial and reputational risk for the Council.	Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth, Planning and Housing Neil Wightman, Director of Housing Deirdra Armsby Director of Place Shaping & Town Planning
Pandemic recovery and financial vulnerability of residents	To discuss how the council supports its residents that are financially vulnerable and how monitoring and data mapping could be improved to target support to those most vulnerable	TBC
Building Emissions	To discuss how the council can lower building emissions from listed buildings. A joint discussion between Climate Policy Team and Town Planners	Raj Mistry, Executive Director of Environment & City Deirdra Armsby Director of Place Shaping & Town Planning Amy Jones, Climate Resilience Programme Director Ceridwen John, Head of Environment Policy and Projects
Westminster Connects	To discuss the future of Westminster Connects and the co-ordination and information sharing between VCS and WWC	Director of Communities (TBD?) Christine Meads, Strategic Commissioner responsible for Westminster Connects
Social Housing	To discuss the Allocation Policy and whether it is working efficiently for residents as well as those on the housing register and the implementation of the Social Housing Charter	Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth, Planning and Housing Neil Wightman, Director of Housing
Youth violence, exploitation and Modern Slavery – enforcement and support	To discuss the Metropolitan Police’s KCPO pilot and the implementation of the Serious Violence Duty on Councils And how the Council supports victims of exploitation.	Metropolitan Police & Council

SUGGESTED TASK GROUPS AND STUDIES

Subject	Reasons & objective	Type
Dangerous cladding on high rise buildings	<p>Council has been proactive in removing dangerous cladding from social housing. This should be praised, as other local authorities have been less proactive. However, potentially many private buildings (and/or housing association) still have dangerous cladding on properties rendering the properties worthless, dangerous, and subject to high interim fees.</p> <p>A task group should ascertain how many residents are affected by dangerous cladding and what levers the Council has to encourage developers and central Govt to remove the cladding as soon as possible and pay for spiralling costs.</p>	
How the council supports those with NRPF	<p>There are many different categories of people in Westminster with No Recourse to Public Funds. As people do not have access to benefits, most of the financial burden for supporting these people falls on local authorities.</p> <p>A task group could investigate the financial burden this places on Westminster City Council and investigate what supportive measures the Council could put into place and lobby central Government on.</p>	(Possibly joint with B&C P&S Committee)
Green/Sustainable Transport	<p>A task group could investigate how the council can facilitate and promote greener alternatives to transportation in Westminster.</p> <p>Greener alternatives to using cars and private hire vehicles include walking, cycling, e-scooters and car sharing.</p>	

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