



## LB Lewisham Air Quality Annual Status Summary Report for 2015

### Introduction

This report provides a brief overview of air quality in London Borough (LB) of Lewisham during 2015.

The EU sets limits for a number of known air pollutants, that member states must meet. LB Lewisham is exceeding EU limits for the gas Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) in parts of the borough. LB of Lewisham is required by the Government and the Mayor of London to monitor air pollution in the borough, and take action to reduce it. The Government and the Mayor of London also have a range of responsibilities for taking action to reduce pollution.

We are currently meeting the limits that are set by the EU for all other air pollutants, although we remain focused on Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>) because these pollutants have detrimental impacts on health at any level. We are undertaking monitoring for PM<sub>10</sub> at three locations across the Borough as a precautionary measure against pollution from particulate matter.

The main source of pollution in the borough is from road transport, with construction works and energy centres/biomass burning making minor contributions.

#### **NO<sub>2</sub>**

We monitor NO<sub>2</sub> across the borough through a combination of highly accurate continuous (or automatic) monitoring stations and indicative low-cost diffusion tubes. In 2015 levels of NO<sub>2</sub> showed no significant change on previous years' levels. However, there is evidence of a very slight reduction in NO<sub>2</sub> levels at both roadside and urban background diffusion tube sites since 2009.

#### **PM<sub>10</sub>**

We monitor PM<sub>10</sub> at 3 continuous (or automatic) monitoring stations. In 2015 levels of PM<sub>10</sub> decreased slightly relative to those in 2014, although there was a sharper decrease in levels at LW4. Overall, levels of PM<sub>10</sub> have slightly decreased over the seven year period since 2009.

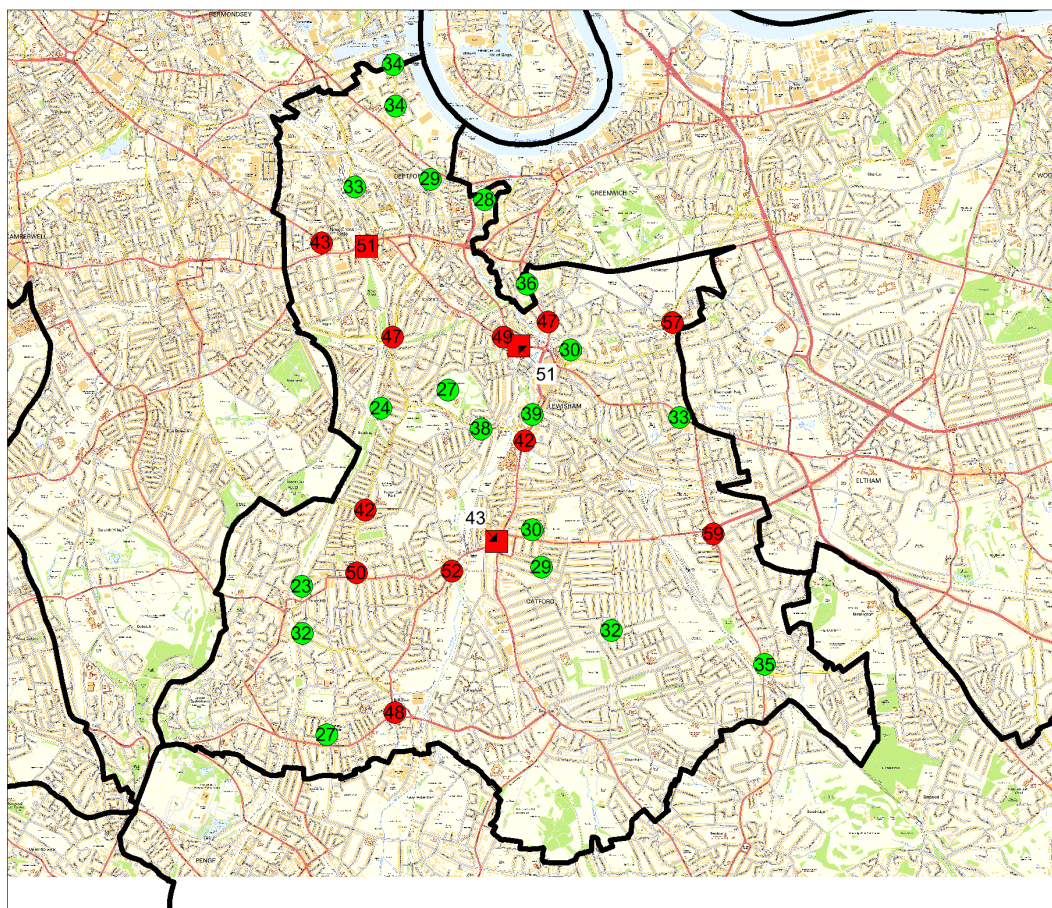
#### **PM<sub>2.5</sub>**

We monitor PM<sub>2.5</sub> at 1 continuous (or automatic) monitoring station (LW2) in Catford. Monitoring of PM<sub>2.5</sub> commenced at this location in 2013 and so long-term trends cannot yet be determined. However, in 2015 levels of PM<sub>2.5</sub> decreased slightly relative to those

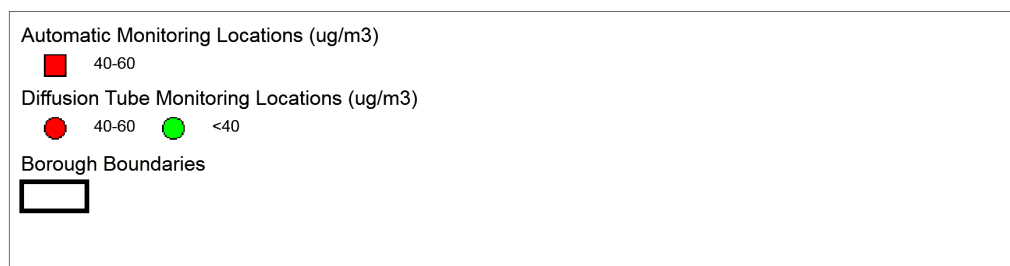
in 2014. PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels decreased in 2014 from 2013 indicating a tendency for slightly decreasing PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations over time.

## NO<sub>2</sub> Monitoring

Figure 1 Map of NO<sub>2</sub> monitoring sites in the London Borough of Lewisham, showing annual mean results from 2015



### Legend



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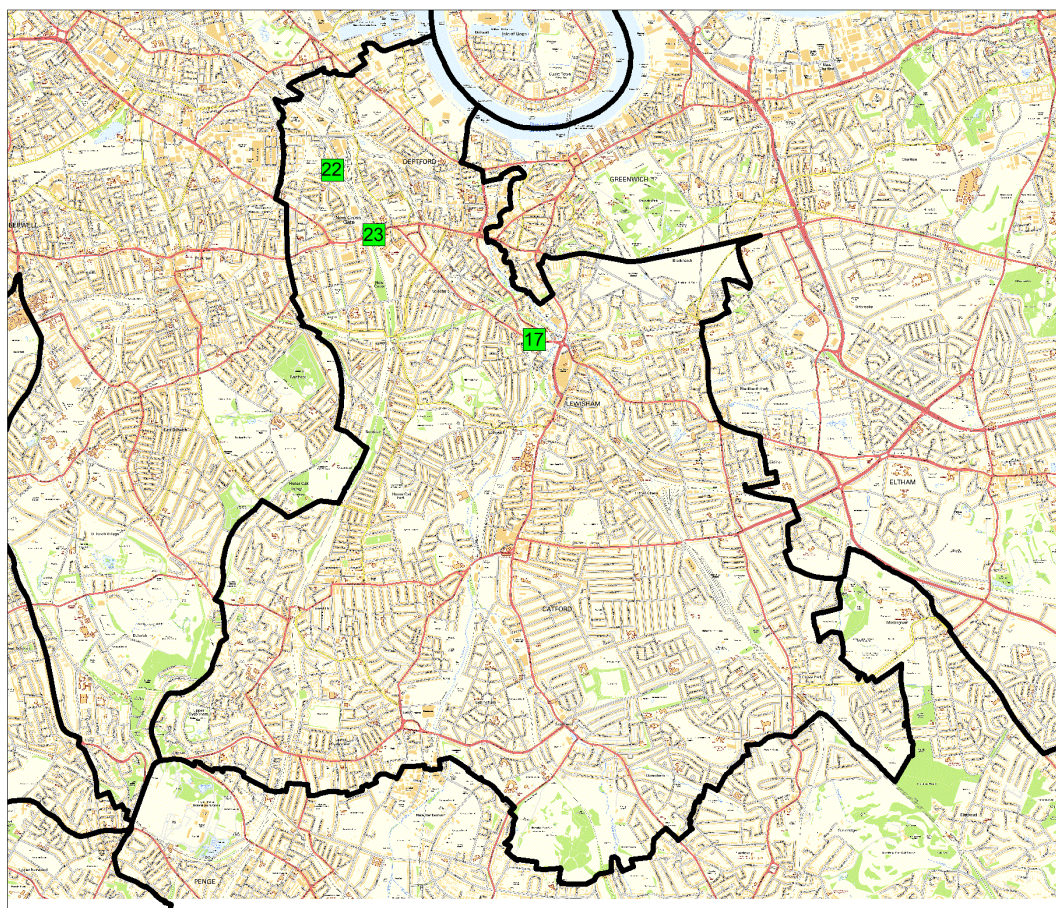
On this map, the circles represent NO<sub>2</sub> diffusion tubes, and the squares represent continuous NO<sub>2</sub> monitors. The numbers in each square or circle are the annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> concentration for 2015. The EU limit value for annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> is 40 µg m<sup>-3</sup>. All monitoring sites that recorded NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations above this level are coloured in red and all that are below this level are coloured in green.

The evidence for any overall trend in annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations is slight, with no significant change in the last three years. However, there is some evidence to suggest a longer-term trend with slightly decreasing concentrations since 2009.

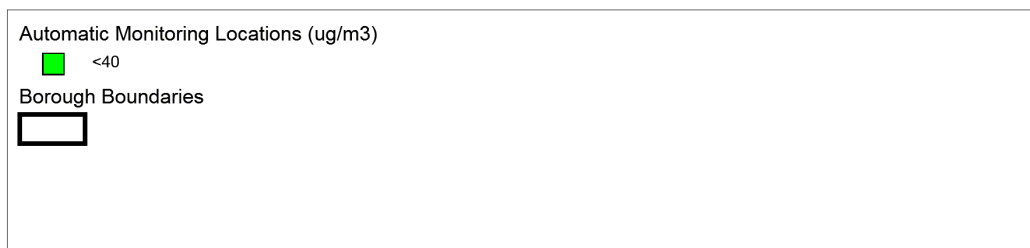


## PM<sub>10</sub> Monitoring

Figure 2 Map of PM<sub>10</sub> monitoring sites in the London Borough of Lewisham, showing annual mean results from 2015



### Legend



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The green squares represent continuous PM<sub>10</sub> monitors. The numbers in each square are the recorded annual mean PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations for 2015. The EU limit value for annual mean PM<sub>10</sub> is 40 µg m<sup>-3</sup>. All monitoring sites recorded levels beneath this threshold, and so are coloured in green.

## **Actions to Improve Air Quality**

LB of Lewisham's main air quality achievements in 2015 and years preceding can be summarised as follows:

- There are currently 10 electric vehicle charging point (EVCP) locations in the Borough, with each location providing 2 to 3 charging points. This is part of the Borough's measures for the reduction of road traffic emissions and support the future infrastructure needed for ultra-low emission vehicles.
- Lewisham has produced a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) regarding air quality to raise the public awareness of issues associated with air quality, with collaboration on this between the Public Health and Environmental Protection teams.
- In Brockley and Crofton Park, lessons in air quality improvement have been introduced in 5 schools to raise awareness and involve the community in air quality matters, with help from the Mayor of London's Air Quality Fund (MAQF). In addition, a "greenscreen" was set up at the Dalmain School along the boundary fencing.

Other progress made includes:

- New 20mph speed limits on all public highways planned for 2016 to help reduce congestion and increase safety.
- Using the Planning Policy to deliver car-free developments.
- Reducing the emissions of vehicles used in the Borough's fleet.

LB of Lewisham's main priorities to reduce exposure to poor air quality for the year ahead are as follows:

- The Borough plans on improving the transport infrastructure by introducing 14 new EVCP locations by March 2017. The North Lewisham Links program has already and will continue to improve walking and cycling routes across Deptford and New Cross.
- As part of the previous MAQF, the Borough is seeking to provide development in the Evelyn Street Corridor major development area that minimises emissions through effective planning policy, development control and environmental protection enforcement. This will be facilitated by establishing, monitoring and enforcing a Zonal Framework Construction Logistics Plan, and in doing so, reducing the impact and emissions from vehicle movements to and from construction sites.
- In addition, as another measure facilitated by the MAQF, a new public art project is currently under construction to increase awareness of the air quality in Brockley and Crofton Park and is due for completion by the end of 2016. Having completed its public education campaign through schools, the Borough plans to approach businesses in the coming year to further raise awareness of the air quality impact on public health.

## Further information

For more detailed information on air pollution in the borough, including progress reports see:  
<https://www.lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/environment/air-pollution/Pages/Air-quality-reviews.aspx>

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