GREATER**LONDON**AUTHORITY

Mark Hambelton
mark_hambelton@hotmail.com

Our reference: MGLA030123-6547

Date: 30 January 2023

Dear Mr Hambelton

Thank you for your request for information which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 3 January 2023. Your request has been considered under the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) 2004.

You requested:

> The Mayor has been banging on about how he must improve London's air quality. What I would like to know is what were the pollution levels (of all measured pollutants) from the nearest detector to the London Eye from 12:00 Noon on 31st December 2022 to 12:00 Noon on 1st January 2023 and what is considered the safe level for each pollutant

Please find below the information we hold within the scope of your request

Air quality monitoring is undertaken by the London boroughs as part of their statutory duties with regards to air quality. The continuous reference grade monitors provide readings hour by hour. There are no continuous air quality monitoring sites within the near vicinity of the London Eye. The closest sites are in Westminster located at Waterloo Place and Covent Garden. All the monitoring results are publicly available on the London Air Quality Network website: www.londonair.org.uk. Please see the appendix for the data from the two monitoring sites mentioned above.

In regards to 'safe levels for each pollutant' the World Health Organisation (WHO) sets guidelines for air pollution concentrations based upon the latest health evidence. The guidelines are designed to offer guidance in reducing the health impacts of air pollution based on expert evaluation of current scientific evidence. The guidelines are not specifically deemed as a 'safe level for pollution' but as a level that concenentrations above which are associated with important risks to publich health. These guidelines were updated in 2021.

The current WHO Guidelines are as follows:

Pollutant	**Averaging time**	**Concentration [μgm^{-3}]**
Nitrogen dioxide (NO_2)	Annual	10
Nitrogen dioxide (NO_2)	24 hour	25
Particulates PM_{10}	Annual	15
Particulates PM_{10}	24 hour	45

Particulates $PM_{2.5}$	Annual	5
Particulates $PM_{2.5}$	24 hour	15

For more information on the WHO Guidelines please see here: https://www.who.int/news-room/feature-stories/detail/what-are-the-who-air-quality-guidelines

The current UK legal limits differ from the WHO Guidelines and are as per below:

Pollutant	**Averaging time**	**Concentration [μgm^{-3}]**
Nitrogen dioxide (NO_2)	Annual	40
Nitrogen dioxide (NO_2)	1 hour	200
Particulates PM_{10}	Annual	40
Particulates PM_{10}	24 hour	50
Particulates $PM_{2.5}$	Annual	10

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference MGLA030123-6547

Yours sincerely

Paul Robinson
Information Governance Officer

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the GLA's FOI complaints and internal review procedure, available at:
https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/sharing-our-information/freedom-information

Appdendix

Site 1 Westminster Waterloo Place (Crown Estate)

Site	Species	ReadingDateTime	Value	Units	Provisional or Ratified
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 00:00	30.5	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 01:00	19.9	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 02:00	25.9	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 03:00	17	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 04:00	11.2	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 05:00	6	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 06:00	7.1	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 07:00	8.3	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 08:00	8.4	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 09:00	12.6	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 10:00	19.6	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 11:00	19.7	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 12:00	33	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 13:00	20	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 14:00	19.4	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 15:00	18	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 16:00	19	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 17:00	20.7	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 18:00	21.1	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 19:00	16.3	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 20:00	10.5	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 21:00	8.9	ug m-3	P
CE2	NO2	31/12/2022 22:00	8.2	ug m-3	P

		31/12/2022			
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		01/01/2023			
CE2	NO2	00:00	9	ug m-3	P
		01/01/2023			
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		01/01/2023			
CE2	NO2	02:00	12.4	ug m-3	P
		01/01/2023			
CE2	NO2	03:00	7.9	ug m-3	P
		01/01/2023			
CE2	NO2	04:00	16.6	ug m-3	P
		01/01/2023			
CE2	NO2	05:00	12.8	ug m-3	P
		01/01/2023			
CE2	NO2	06:00	16	ug m-3	P
		01/01/2023			
CE2	NO2	07:00	25.2	ug m-3	P
		01/01/2023			
CE2	NO2	08:00	17.1	ug m-3	P
		01/01/2023			
CE2	NO2	09:00	13.8	ug m-3	P
		01/01/2023			
CE2	NO2	10:00	14.6	ug m-3	P
		01/01/2023			
CE2	NO2	11:00	12.2	ug m-3	P
		01/01/2023			
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CE2	NO2	15:00	18.6	ug m-3	P
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CE2	NO2	17:00	27.1	ug m-3	P
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CE2	NO2	18:00	24.7	ug m-3	P
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CE2	PM10	07:00	7.7	ug/m3	P
		31/12/2022			
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CE2	PM10	16:00	27.8	ug/m3	P
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CE2	PM10	17:00	23	ug/m3	P
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CE2	PM10	18:00	20.9	ug/m3	P
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CE2	PM10	21:00	12.9	ug/m3	P
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		01/01/2023			
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CE2	PM10	02:00	12.7	ug/m3	P
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		01/01/2023			
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		01/01/2023			
CE2	PM10	19:00	9.6	ug/m3	P
		01/01/2023			
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		31/12/2022			
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CE2	PM2.5	03:00	2.9	ug m-3	P
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CE2	PM2.5	15:00	11.7	ug m-3	P
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CE2	PM2.5	16:00	14.1	ug m-3	P
		31/12/2022			
CE2	PM2.5	17:00	12	ug m-3	P
		31/12/2022			
CE2	PM2.5	18:00	10.8	ug m-3	P
		31/12/2022			
CE2	PM2.5	19:00	10	ug m-3	P
		31/12/2022			
CE2	PM2.5	20:00	10.4	ug m-3	P
		31/12/2022			
CE2	PM2.5	21:00	7.1	ug m-3	P
		31/12/2022			
CE2	PM2.5	22:00	5.6	ug m-3	P
		31/12/2022			
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		01/01/2023			
CE2	PM2.5	01:00	5.1	ug m-3	P
		01/01/2023			
CE2	PM2.5	02:00	6.2	ug m-3	P

CE2	PM2.5	01/01/2023 03:00	6.6	ug m-3	P
CE2	PM2.5	01/01/2023 04:00	7.9	ug m-3	P
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CE2	PM2.5	01/01/2023 16:00	9.1	ug m-3	P
CE2	PM2.5	01/01/2023 17:00	8.5	ug m-3	P
CE2	PM2.5	01/01/2023 18:00	7.2	ug m-3	P
CE2	PM2.5	01/01/2023 19:00	7.2	ug m-3	P
CE2	PM2.5	01/01/2023 20:00	6.7	ug m-3	P
CE2	PM2.5	01/01/2023 21:00	5.6	ug m-3	P
CE2	PM2.5	01/01/2023 22:00	4.7	ug m-3	P
CE2	PM2.5	01/01/2023 23:00	5	ug m-3	P

Site 2 Westminster Covent Garden

Site	Species	ReadingDateTime	Value	Units	Provisional or Ratified
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WM5	NO2	02:00	7.6	ug m-3	P
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		31/12/2022			
WM5	NO2	04:00	5.1	ug m-3	P
		31/12/2022			
WM5	NO2	05:00	3.7	ug m-3	P
		31/12/2022			
WM5	NO2	06:00	4.3	ug m-3	P
		31/12/2022			
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		31/12/2022			
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		31/12/2022			
WM5	NO2	09:00	8.7	ug m-3	P
		31/12/2022			
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		31/12/2022			
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		31/12/2022			
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		31/12/2022			
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		31/12/2022			
WM5	NO2	22:00	9.9	ug m-3	P
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		01/01/2023			
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		01/01/2023			
WM5	NO2	01:00	6.5	ug m-3	P

		01/01/2023			
WM5	NO2	02:00	9.3	ug m-3	P
		01/01/2023			
WM5	NO2	03:00	6.4	ug m-3	P
		01/01/2023			
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		01/01/2023			
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		01/01/2023			
WM5	NO2	08:00	8.1	ug m-3	P
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		01/01/2023			
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		01/01/2023			
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		01/01/2023			
WM5	NO2	23:00	27.5	ug m-3	P