

██████████
(By email)

Department: Environment

Our ref: MGLA100419-0143

Date: 8 May 2019

Dear ██████████

Thank you for your email request for information which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 8 April 2019.

With regards to the ULEZ (Ultra Low Emission Zone), you asked for:

Can you please tell me what happens to the money raised from the emissions charges? And how will that money be spent?

The ULEZ is about improving the health and wellbeing of millions of Londoners. The ULEZ has been introduced to clean up London's toxic air which is a public health crisis. Over two million Londoners live in areas that exceed legal limits for NO₂, of which over 400,000 are children. Thousands of Londoners die prematurely each year because of toxic air pollution. It's purpose is not to raise revenue.

Based on current estimates, in its first year we estimate ULEZ income will be £213m and operating costs will be £59m, producing a surplus of £154m. Any money received from the ULEZ will be reinvested into improving the transport network – including its cycleways, buses and tube – and helping to improve London's air. It is expected that the income generated will reduce each year as the policy has the desired effect of taking the most harmful and polluting vehicles off the road.

Importantly, TfL is spending much more on improving air quality – around £800m – than it expects to receive through net income from the ULEZ.

The ULEZ, and other measures, like cleaning up buses and no longer licensing diesel taxis since 2018, will deliver cleaner air for millions of Londoners. We expect the ULEZ to reduce harmful exhaust nitrogen oxides (NO_x) emissions by around 45 per cent in central London. And the Mayor's package of measures will have wider impacts for all of London. King's College estimate that without action, it would take 193 years to bring London's air quality to legal levels. The Mayor's action means it is expected we will do this in six years. This means the number of schools in London in illegally polluted areas across London will reduce from over 450 today to zero in 2025.

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, ensuring that you quote the reference at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely,

██████████

Senior Policy and Programme Officer, Air Quality Team

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>