

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Our ref: MGLA011121-7221

30 November 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the GLA received on 5 November 2021. Your request has been dealt with under the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) 2004.

You asked for;

I would like to see the amount of ULEZ personally paid for by MPs.

I would like you to consider us and think about the public who picks up the financial burden your decision. AFFORDABILITY should have been your first thought in a time when London is one of the most expensive cities and where cost of living is increasing at a higher rate than income. Adding this ULEZ charge has only added further taxation, a regressive tax at that.

A cost of £5-7 would be better cost point for the ULEZ fee. As i said above, I agree with reasoning for the charge but the pricing is HARSH! First you need to consider that there is already a Congestion charge and some cars pay a LEZ charge, meaning that driving through london cost £20-25. Secondly, It is not just the responsibility of diesel/older model car drivers to pick the bill for pollution, it is a SOCIAL responsibility as we all pollute in our own way!

Our response to your request is as follows:

Neither the Greater London Authority (GLA) nor Transport for London (TfL) hold data on who owns or drives compliant or non-compliant vehicles. Under data protection legislation, TfL is only allowed to use personal information if it has a proper reason or 'legal basis' to do so. More details on the information held or processed by TfL with respect to Road User Charging schemes can be found on its website here: <https://tfl.gov.uk/corporate/privacy-and-cookies/road-user-charging>

On 24 October, The Independent (an online newspaper) reported that 116 MPs have expensed the Congestion Charge or ULEZ charge at least once since the beginning of the current financial year. You may wish to send a further request to the House of Commons at foicommmons@parliament.uk.

The level of the daily ULEZ charge was set by TfL after public consultation, at a point where it was intended to be low enough to be affordable for occasional travellers whilst still providing an effective incentive for frequent drivers to upgrade their vehicle and help reduce air pollution.. The Mayor and TfL would prefer for all drivers to use vehicles that meet the standards rather than pay the charge.

The different options considered for the level of the charge itself were published in the consultation documents on the TfL website which can be found here:

<https://tfl.gov.uk/corporate/publications-and-reports/ultra-low-emission-zone>.

Introducing a lower charge was raised by some respondents to the consultation, as set out in the Report to the Mayor (available at the above link). TfL modelled different charge levels and found that at the lower range of charges there was a significantly lower level of expected compliance with the emission standards as a larger proportion of drivers would opt to pay the charge rather than change their vehicle or mode of transport. This would therefore reduce the air quality benefits of the scheme.

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

Yours sincerely



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>