

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Our ref: MGLA070421-0114

Date: 27 April 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the GLA received on 6 April 2021. Your request has been dealt with under the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) 2004.

You asked for;

Have you published the increase of air pollution in and around the vicinity of the North and South Circulars yet?

I couldn't see any figures in your email sent.

However they must have rocketed sky high as a consequence of Sadiq Khan's gross indulgence to shut down our roads we paid for with our car tax and make these arterial roads a giant gas gushing car park.

So before you start to self congratulate let's see the full evidence. What you are doing is displacing the problem elsewhere not actually addressing it. Why can't electric cars use these shut down roads, they don't pollute do they?

The loss of man hours, the burning of fuel with thousands of stationary vehicles. Is this really the way we will jump start economy after this global pandemic . No it's a way to control us .

Please square the circle and publish these figures

Our response to your request is as follows:

Air quality monitoring takes place across London and there are monitors in place that have been detecting changes in air quality over the long term, including the past year where changes in travel behaviour (and therefore emissions) due to coronavirus have taken place. The London Air Quality Map provides more information. It can be accessed here:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/pollution-and-air-quality/london-air-quality-map>. Links from the map allow you to access full historical data sets for most of the monitoring stations, this data is hosted on external websites and is not owned by the GLA.

Transport for London (TfL) implements the Mayor's Transport Strategy and is the main agency for transport services in London. As such, it is responsible for monitoring the impact of transport schemes on the Transport for London Road Network (TLRN), which includes the North and South Circular Roads. You may want to consider writing to TfL as it may have further

information on recent traffic monitoring of these roads. The air quality map (see link above) includes all air quality monitoring by automatic monitors on or near these roads.

The London boroughs are responsible for delivering and monitoring transport schemes on non-TLRN roads (95 per cent of roads in London) and for the majority of air quality monitoring in London. Additional diffusion tube monitoring may be undertaken by the boroughs, either linked to or independent from transport schemes, and you could contact them for further information.

Regarding electric vehicle access to areas like low traffic neighbourhoods and other roads restricted to vehicle traffic, it is true that electric vehicles produce less air pollution than conventionally fuelled diesel and petrol vehicles. However, they still produce non-exhaust emissions of particulates from wear to the tyres and brakes. The LAEI models the particulate emissions from electric vehicles in London in the workbook 'Emissions – Detailed Road Transport – Major Roads – Excel' which is available to download here: <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/london-atmospheric-emissions-inventory--laei--2016> . The methodology used for calculating emissions from tyre and brake wear is available in the document 'LAEI 2016 Methodology document' which is available to download at the same link.

Delivering more walking and cycling infrastructure has benefits outside of improving air quality. It also reduces road danger and congestion and addresses inequality by providing more safe and convenient routes for the 45 per cent of London households that do not have access to a car. Importantly, residents of low traffic neighbourhoods, whether they drive electric or conventionally fuelled vehicles, are still able to access their residence in every scheme.

More information and supporting data on the causes of road deaths and ways to reduce them is available here: <https://content.tfl.gov.uk/vision-zero-action-plan.pdf>

More information on car ownership trends in London is available in the 'London Travel Demand Survey Workbook' which you can download here: <https://tfl.gov.uk/corporate/about-tfl/how-we-work/planning-for-the-future/consultations-and-surveys>.

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>