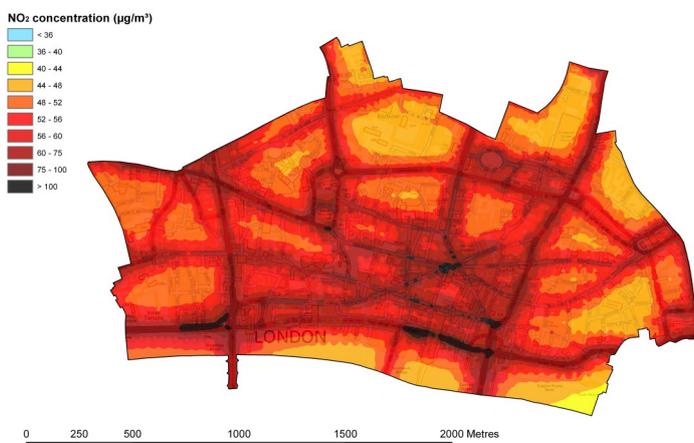


Air Pollution in the City of London

Is air pollution a problem in the City?

The City of London, along with much of central London, can experience high levels of air pollution. The pollution is made up of gases and very tiny particles that are not visible to the naked eye. The main source of this pollution is diesel vehicles. Air quality is monitored in the City and the data compared to health based targets. The targets for small particles (PM₁₀) and nitrogen dioxide are not being met. At busy roadsides in the City, the annual average level of nitrogen dioxide is around three times the target. The map below shows how this pollutant varies across the City. Concentrations are highest next to busiest roads, the darker the colour, the higher the concentration.

US Open Data. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2010.



Where can I find out about daily pollution?

Pollution levels in London vary from day to day depending on the weather. To be advised when air pollution is going to be high you can register for a free mobile 'phone text message service at www.airtext.info.

Current data from monitoring stations is made available on the London Air web site: www.londonair.org.uk. The City of London has also developed a **Smart Phone App** called **CityAir** which displays current levels of air quality and is free of charge.

What is the City of London Corporation doing about the problem?

The City published an Air Quality Strategy in 2011, which outlines plans and programmes to improve air quality in the Square Mile. For more information see www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/air . Follow us on Twitter [@_CityAir](https://twitter.com/_CityAir)

How does it affect health?

Air pollution in London can have a serious impact on health. Children and the elderly are the most susceptible.

It is estimated that over 4,000 Londoners die each year due to poor air quality.

Recent studies in East London have shown a reduced lung capacity in children exposed to high levels of pollution.

How can I help?

If you drive, avoid using your car for short journeys and turn your engine off when stationary.

When buying a new car, select petrol over diesel as it will have much lower emissions .

Ask your employer to specify low emission vehicles for deliveries.

You can reduce your exposure to pollution by walking away from busy roads. Plan a low pollution route using www.walkit.com or the **CityAir** iPhone App .

