

# Annual Status Summary Report

## Royal Borough of Greenwich Air Quality Annual Status Summary Report for 2015



### Introduction

This report provides a brief overview of air quality in The Royal Borough of Greenwich during 2015.

The UK government has set limits for a number of known air pollutants in the Air Quality Standards Regulations. The Royal Borough of Greenwich is required under Part IV of the Environment Act to monitor air pollution in the Borough, and take action to reduce it. The Government and the Mayor of London also have a range of responsibilities for taking action to reduce pollution. The Royal Borough of Greenwich is exceeding the Air Quality Standards Regulations limits for the gas Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) in parts of the Borough principally along major roads.

We are currently meeting the limits that are set by the Air Quality Standards Regulations for all other air pollutants, although we remain focused on Particulate Matter (PM10 and PM2.5) because these pollutants have detrimental impacts on health at any level, these remain a pollutant of concern. Air pollution is associated with a number of adverse health impacts; cardio-vascular disease & stroke, and respiratory diseases. Any improvement in ambient pollution concentrations therefore has the potential to contribute to measures to tackle these conditions.

The main sources of pollution in the Borough are primarily from road traffic - which is one of the most significant contributors; along with, construction and demolition activities; fires, gas boilers and processes.

# Annual Status Summary Report

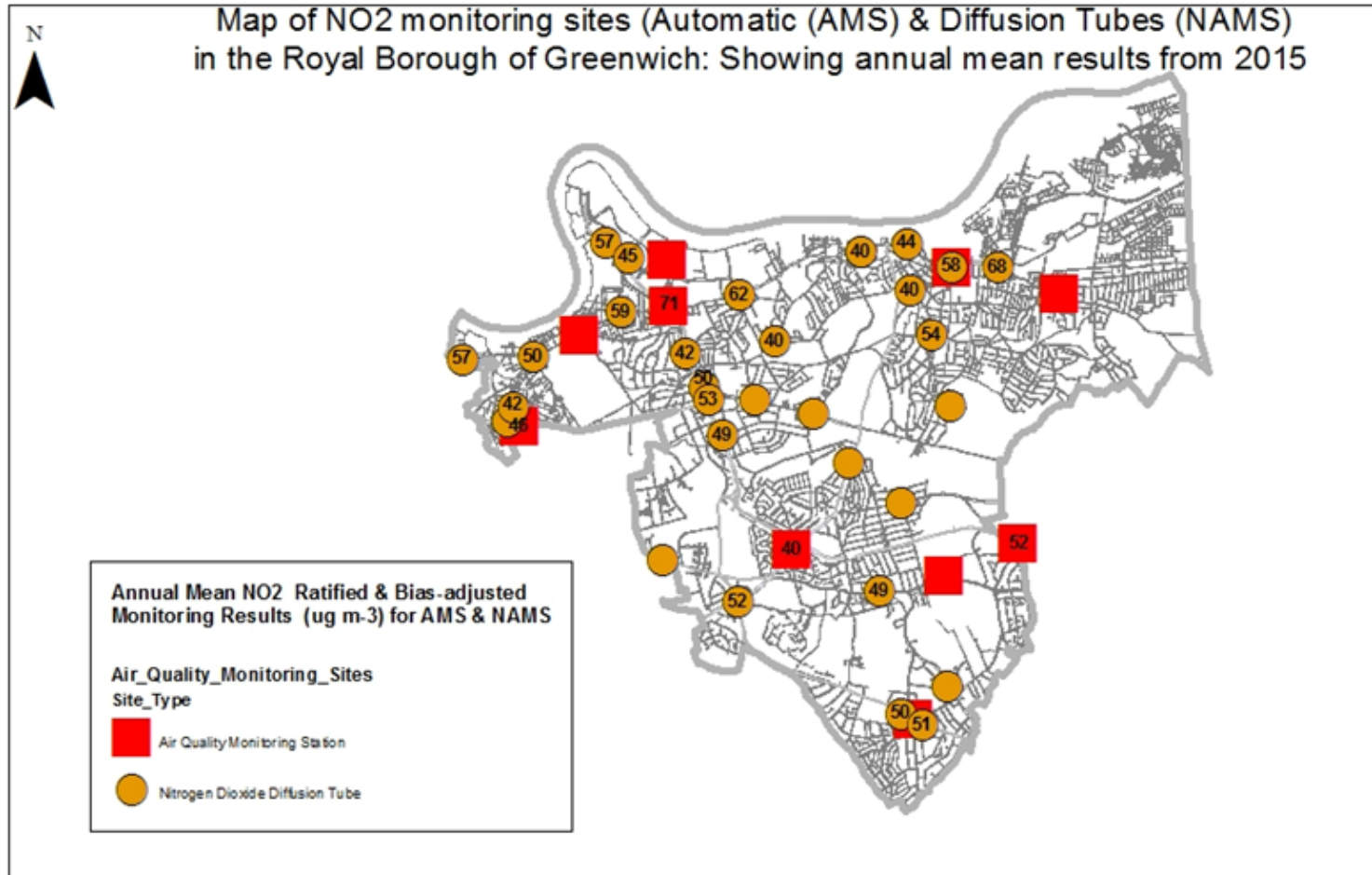
## **NO<sub>2</sub>**

We monitor NO<sub>2</sub> across the Borough through a combination of highly accurate continuous (or automatic) monitoring stations and indicative low-cost diffusion tubes. In 2015 the overall levels of NO<sub>2</sub> for all sites monitored by Greenwich's automatic stations show a slight downward trend from previous years. However a significant number still show pollution levels above the level of 40 ug/m<sup>3</sup>, as set in the Air Quality Objectives. Results from Greenwich's diffusion tube sites again showed a similar slight downward trend, however roadside sites are persistently above the levels set in the Air Quality Standards Regulations.

## **PM<sub>10</sub>**

We monitor PM<sub>10</sub> at 11 continuous (or automatic) monitoring stations. In 2015, overall, levels of PM<sub>10</sub> levels have remained below the air quality objective over the last seven years.

# Annual Status Summary Report

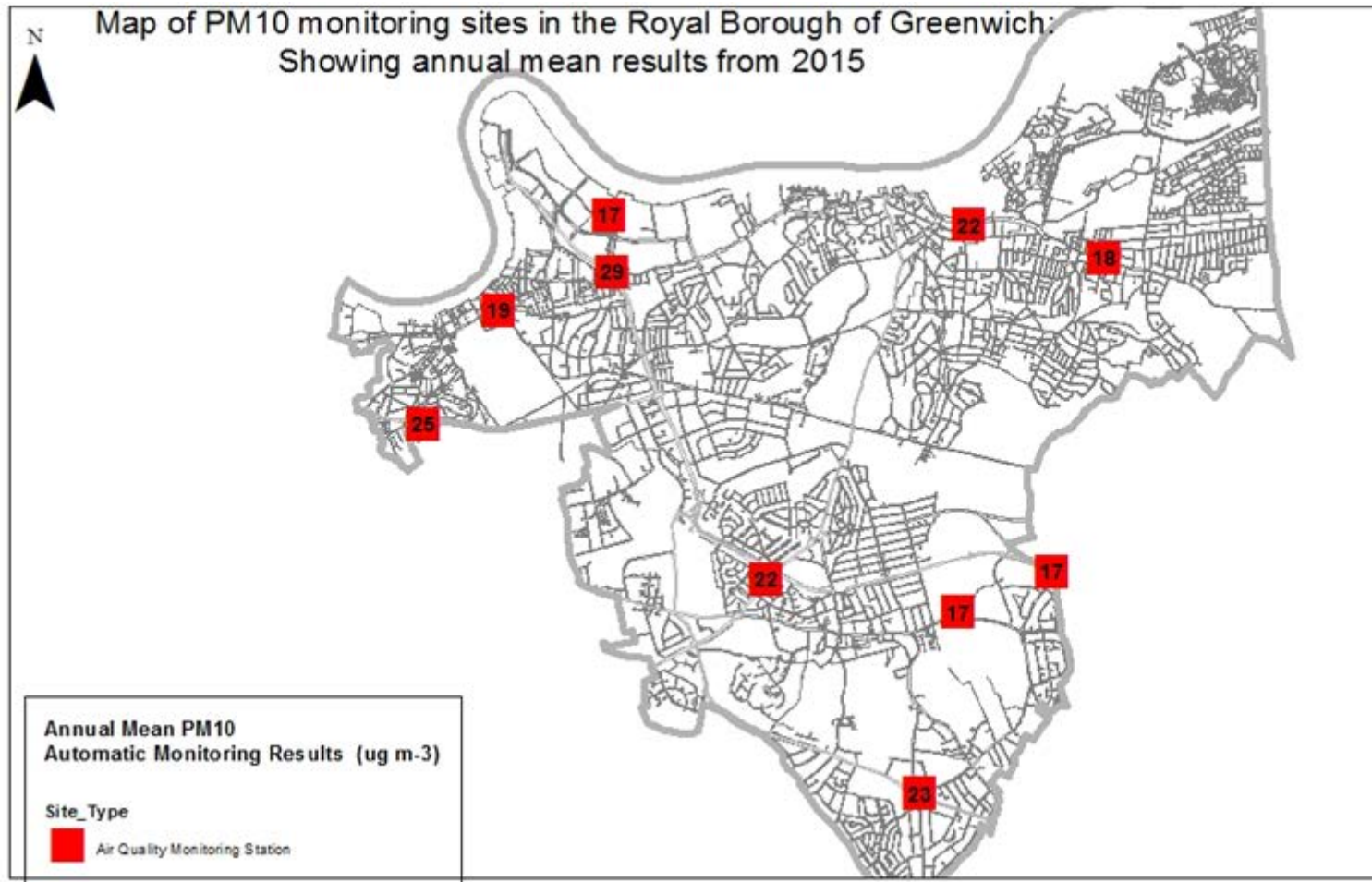


## Legend

The circles represent NO<sub>2</sub> diffusion tube sites and the squares represent continuous NO<sub>2</sub> 'real time' monitoring stations. The limit value specified in the Air Quality Standards Regulations for annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> is 40µg m<sup>-3</sup>. All monitoring sites that recorded NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations above this level have exceedance figures

# Annual Status Summary Report

highlighted. Overall levels of NO<sub>2</sub> for all sites monitored by Greenwich show a slight downward trend from previous years. However a significant number still show pollution levels above the level of 40µg m<sup>-3</sup>.



# Annual Status Summary Report

## Legend

The red squares represent continuous PM<sub>10</sub> monitors. The Air Quality Standards Regulations limit value for annual mean PM<sub>10</sub> is 40µg m<sup>-3</sup>. All monitoring sites recorded levels beneath this threshold. The numbers in each square are the recorded annual mean PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations for 2015.

## Actions to Improve Air Quality

### Royal Borough of Greenwich

The Council's Air Quality Action Plan is in the course of being updated. Therefore a selection of key achievements has been selected from the current action plan. A new list of achievements against the new action plan currently under preparation will be provided in the 2016 Annual Status Report

- LIP funding has been used to install 12 low capacity and 4 high capacity electric vehicle charging points in the Borough. Charging points have been transferred to TfL preferred provider Source London: <https://www.sourcelondon.net/>
- Changes to Council Fleet 26 of the 36 fleet of refuse vehicles are now Euro VI Vehicles will be replaced with Euro VI or low/zero emission where possible as part of a rolling vehicle replacement programme. S106 money has been used to facilitate the infrastructure to support the purchase of light duty electric vehicles at Birchmere Depot.
- The network of automatic monitors for NO<sub>2</sub> and Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) has been increased to 11, making this the most extensive local authority network in London.

**Royal Borough of Greenwich** two main priorities to reduce exposure to poor air quality for the year ahead are:

- Pledged to become a Cleaner Air for London Borough (at cabinet level) by taking significant action to improve local air quality and signing up to specific delivery targets – ('air quality action task force' set up) ; and updated AQAP being rolled out.
- Our priorities are to: Manage the impact of future growth in the borough; Support healthier lifestyles for residents; Reduce the impact of traffic on air quality and congestion; Reduce our own impact on air quality.
- Launch of the Greener Greenwich Strategy

## Further information

For more detailed information on air pollution in the Borough see:

[http://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/info/413/pollution\\_control\\_-\\_air\\_quality/580/air\\_quality/2](http://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/info/413/pollution_control_-_air_quality/580/air_quality/2)

# Annual Status Summary Report

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