

# Royal Borough of Greenwich

## Air Quality Annual Status Summary Report for 2016



### **Introduction**

This report provides a brief overview of air quality in the Royal Borough of Greenwich during 2016.

The EU sets limits for a number of known air pollutants, that member states must meet. The Royal Borough of Greenwich is exceeding EU limits for the gas Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) in parts of the borough. The main areas of concern are along major roads, principally the A2, the A20 and the Blackwall Tunnel Southern Approach. These roads are under the control of Transport for London. The Royal Borough of Greenwich is required by the Government and the Mayor of London 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.

We are currently meeting the limits that are set by the EU for all other air pollutants, although we remain focused on Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>) because these pollutants have detrimental impacts on health at any level.

The main source of pollution in the borough is road traffic along major roads.

#### **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 2016, overall, levels of NO<sub>2</sub> increased slightly. The increase was within instrumental error.

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

We monitor PM<sub>10</sub> at 9 continuous (or automatic) monitoring stations. In 2016, overall, levels of PM<sub>10</sub> increased slightly. The increase was within instrumental error.

#### **PM<sub>2.5</sub>**

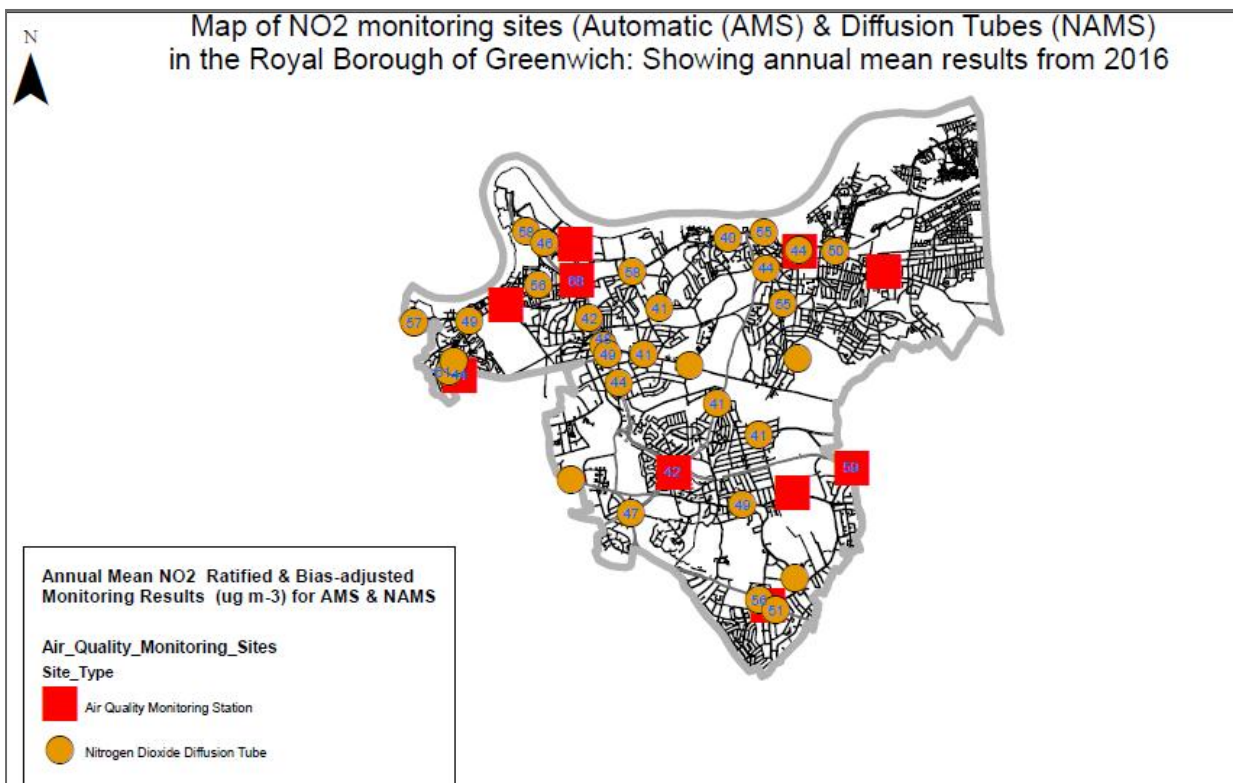
We monitor PM<sub>2.5</sub> at 7 continuous (or automatic) monitoring stations. In 2016, overall, levels of PM<sub>2.5</sub> increased slightly. The increase was within instrumental error.

### **Changes to Pollution Monitoring in 2016**

One of our pollution monitoring stations had to be closed at the end of 2015 because of redevelopment. Another was closed at the end of 2016 for the same reason. Both stations are to be relocated in 2017.

## NO<sub>2</sub> Monitoring

**Figure 1** Map of NO<sub>2</sub> monitoring sites in the Royal Borough of Greenwich, showing annual mean results from 2016



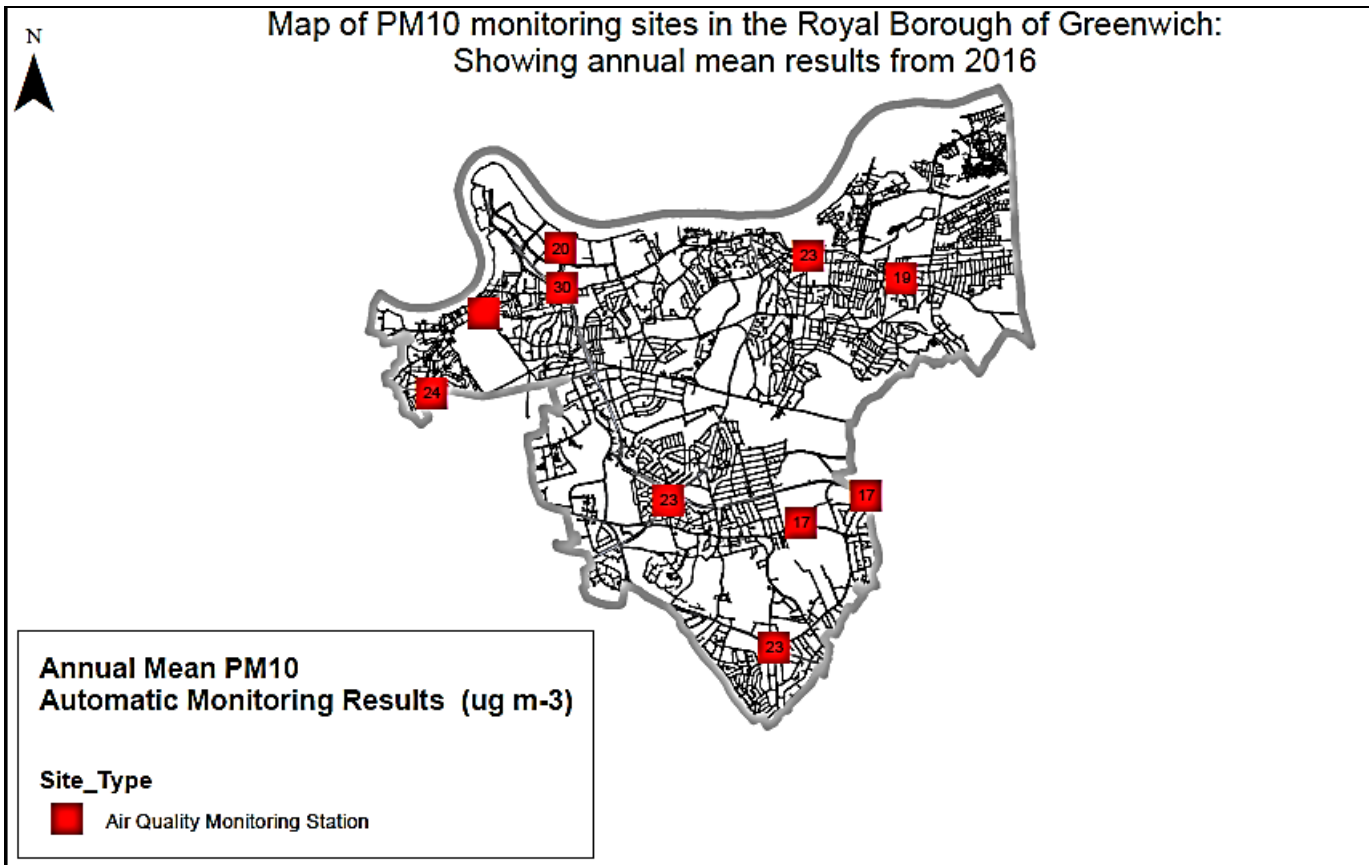
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**Legend:** The circles represent NO<sub>2</sub> diffusion tube sites and the squares represent continuous NO<sub>2</sub> 'real time' monitoring stations. The limit value specified in the National Air Quality Standards Objectives for annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> is 40ug/m<sup>3</sup>. All monitoring sites that recorded NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations above this level have exceedance figures highlighted. Results from Greenwich's diffusion tube sites show that a number of roadside sites are persistently above the levels of 40ug/m<sup>3</sup> set in the National Air Quality Objectives.

## PM<sub>10</sub> Monitoring

**Figure 2** Map of PM<sub>10</sub> monitoring sites in the Royal Borough of Greenwich, showing annual mean results from 2016

## Map of PM10 monitoring sites in the Royal Borough of Greenwich: Showing annual mean results from 2016



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**Legend:** The red squares represent continuous PM<sub>10</sub> monitors. PM<sub>10</sub> levels at all stations in Greenwich meet National Air Quality Objectives. The numbers in each square are the recorded annual mean PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations for 2016.

### Actions to Improve Air Quality

The Royal Borough of Greenwich two main air quality achievements in 2016 were:

- The Royal Borough is a partner in a successful bid under the European Commission Horizon2020 call for Smart Cities & Communities. The programme commenced in January 2016, and will last five years to December 2020. Royal Greenwich is the only London Borough in the programme, which will see East Greenwich and Peninsula wards become the demonstrator area for London, where smart city activities will be focused. This will establish Greenwich as a leading smart city 'lighthouse' demonstrator along with Milan and Lisbon
- In July 2016 the Royal Borough was successful in its bid to the Mayor of London for funding to implement a Low Emission Neighbourhood (LEN) scheme in the Greenwich Town Centre and Trafalgar road area. The LEN will bring £2m of investment to the area over the next three years, with the aim of improving local air quality along this busy corridor.

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

Agree and introduce a new Air Quality Action Plan for the Borough for 2017 - 2021  
Deliver the year 1 actions identified in the Air Quality Action Plan.

## Further information

For more detailed information on air pollution in the borough see


[http://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/downloads/413/pollution\\_control - air quality](http://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/downloads/413/pollution_control_-_air_quality)


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