



## **London Borough of Lewisham**

### **Air Quality Annual Status Summary Report for 2016**

#### **Introduction**

This report provides a brief overview of air quality in London Borough (LB) of Lewisham during 2016.

The EU sets limits for a number of known air pollutants, that member states must meet. LB Lewisham is exceeding EU limits for the gas nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) in parts of the Borough. LB Lewisham 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. We are undertaking monitoring for PM<sub>10</sub> at two locations across the Borough, and PM<sub>2.5</sub> at one location, as a precautionary measure against pollution from particulate matter.

The main source of pollution in the borough is from road transport, with construction works and energy centres / biomass burning making minor contributions.

#### **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, levels of NO<sub>2</sub> showed no significant change on previous years' levels, although levels were, on average, slightly higher than in 2015. However, there is evidence of a slight reduction in NO<sub>2</sub> levels at both roadside and urban background diffusion tube and continuous monitoring sites over the seven year period since 2010.

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

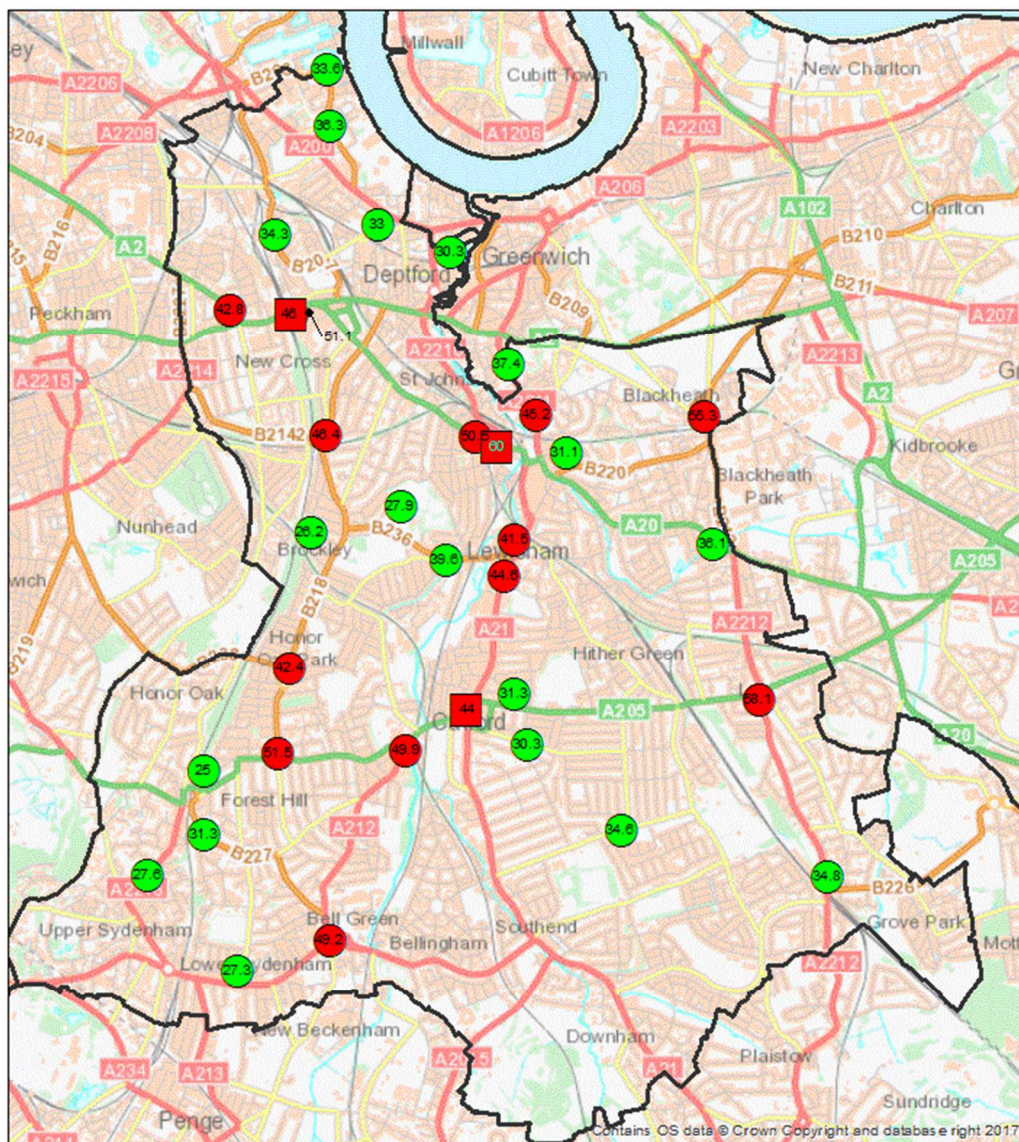
We monitor PM<sub>10</sub> at two continuous (or automatic) monitoring stations. In 2016, levels of PM<sub>10</sub> in New Cross increased slightly relative to those in 2015, and there was a sharper increase at Loampit Vale relative to 2015. Overall, levels of PM<sub>10</sub> at continuous monitoring sites have shown no significant change over the seven year period since 2010.

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

We monitor PM<sub>2.5</sub> at one continuous (or automatic) monitoring station at New Cross. Monitoring of PM<sub>2.5</sub> commenced at this location in 2013 and so long-term trends cannot yet be determined. In 2016, levels of PM<sub>2.5</sub> increased relative to those in 2015. PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels had decreased between 2013 and 2015 so it is currently unclear what effect on the longer term trend the increased PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels in 2016 will have.

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

Figure 1 Map of Annual Mean NO<sub>2</sub> results in 2016 at monitoring sites in LB of Lewisham



### Legend

- Automatic monitoring >60 µg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Automatic Monitoring 40-60 µg/m<sup>3</sup>

- Diffusion tubes 40-60 µg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Diffusion tubes <40 µg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Borough Boundary

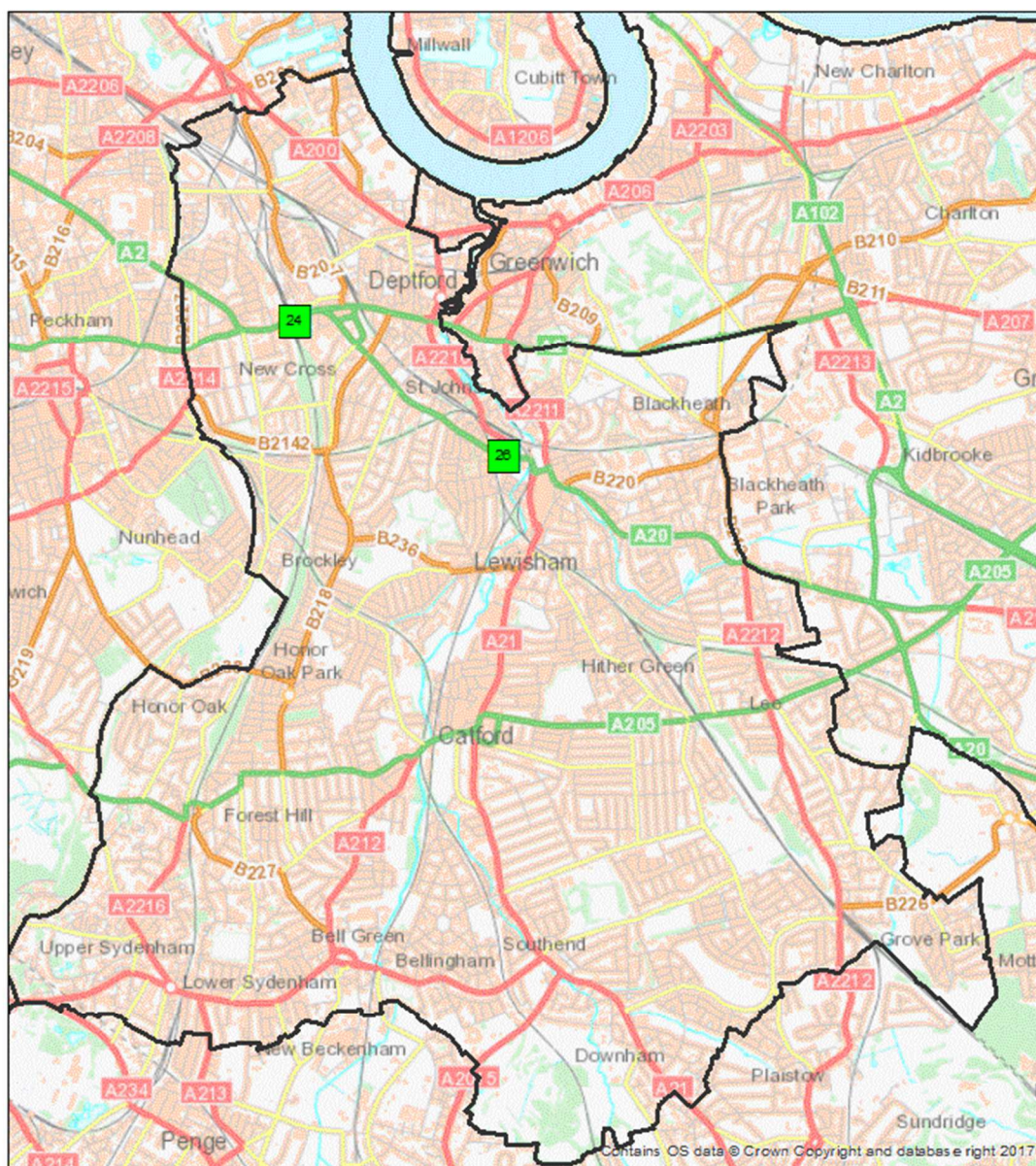
On this map, the circles represent NO<sub>2</sub> diffusion tubes, and the squares represent continuous NO<sub>2</sub> monitors. The numbers in each square or circle are the annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> concentration for 2016. The EU limit value for annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> is 40µg/m<sup>3</sup>. All monitoring sites that recorded NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations above this level are coloured in red, and all that are below are coloured in green.

The evidence for any overall trend in annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations is slight, with no significant change in the last three years. However, there is some evidence to suggest a longer-term trend with slightly decreasing concentrations since 2010.




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

Figure 2 Map of Annual Mean PM<sub>10</sub> results in 2016 at monitoring sites in LB of Lewisham



### Legend

-  Automatic monitoring <math>< 40 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math>
-  Borough Boundary

The green squares represent continuous PM<sub>10</sub> monitors. The numbers in each square are the recorded annual mean PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations for 2016. The EU limit value for annual mean PM<sub>10</sub> is 40µg/m<sup>3</sup>. All monitoring sites recorded levels beneath this threshold, and so are coloured in green.

Over the last 7 years, annual mean PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations at New Cross automatic monitoring station have been quite stable with only small changes from one year to the next. At Loampit Vale, where monitoring commenced in 2012, there have been larger variations in concentrations from year to year, with no overall trend.

## Actions to Improve Air Quality

LB Lewisham's two main air quality achievements in 2016 were:

- Approval of the new Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) for LB Lewisham between 2016 and 2021 by the Mayor of London and Cabinet, setting out the next steps for improving air quality in the Borough. The main emphasis of air quality actions in this updated AQAP are controlling emissions from new developments, working to increase the network of electric vehicle charging points with partners Blue Point and TfL, and working in particular with the Department of Public Health to further raise awareness in schools and establish links with local businesses.
- Good progress has been made with the development and production of the Zonal Construction Logistics Plan for the Evelyn Street Corridor – where four out of the five strategic developments for Lewisham are planned for construction within the current AQAP period – funded through Round 2 of the Mayor's Air Quality Fund (MAQF).

LB Lewisham's main priorities to reduce exposure to poor air quality for the year ahead are:

- Working to provide a successful Forum of Contractors within the Evelyn Street Corridor construction area, bringing about improvements to construction logistics in order to better manage air quality impacts in the area.
- Placing a greater emphasis on working with other teams within the Borough to establish air quality actions within defined Air Quality Focus Areas, particularly with Planning, Transport and Public Health.

## Further information

For more detailed information on air pollution in the borough, including progress reports see: <https://www.lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/environment/air-pollution/Pages/Air-quality-reviews.aspx>

## Contact details

|                                |                                                                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Local Authority Officer</b> | Christopher Howard                                               |
| <b>Department</b>              | Environmental Health                                             |
| <b>Address</b>                 | Wearside Service Centre<br>Wearside Road<br>Lewisham<br>SE13 7EZ |
| <b>Telephone</b>               | 020 8314 2170                                                    |
| <b>e-mail</b>                  | environmentalprotection@lewisham.gov.uk                          |