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An Ultra Low Emission Zone for London?

YOUR views are being sought on having the world's first Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) in the capital.

The scheme, which would be introduced on September 7, 2020, could significantly improve air quality in London and with it, people's health.

The groundbreaking proposals would halve nitrogen oxide and particulate matter emissions from vehicle exhausts in central London.

All vehicles travelling within the capital's Congestion Charge zone would need to meet new emission standards, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Drivers who do not fulfil the criteria would have to pay a daily charge.

The proposals would cover cars, motorcycles, vans, minibuses, heavy goods vehicles and coaches. Taxis, private hire vehicles and buses would also be affected.

Many vehicles would already meet these standards in 2020. However, by announcing this requirement next year, the Mayor and TfL aim to accelerate the take-up of low-emission vehicles and stimulate the low-emission vehicle market.

Mayor Boris Johnson said: 'Safeguarding Londoners' health and wellbeing is a top priority for



my administration.

'I understand that people need adequate time to switch to greener vehicles and help is at hand for those who will be hardest hit, but let's be clear, we need to make these important changes as soon as possible to continue to improve Londoners' quality of life and give everyone who lives in or visits the city the cleanest possible air to breathe.'

TfL is already working to reduce emissions on buses, taxis and private hire vehicles.

The ULEZ will ensure London's air quality improves more quickly, making the capital a more pleasant place to live and work. It will also encourage the use of more sustainable forms of transport.

The benefits would be widespread. The number of people living in areas of poor air quality

would be reduced significantly and the number of care homes, hospitals and schools in London exposed to high levels of NO₂ would be halved.

■ The Mayor and TfL launched the ULEZ consultation this week and it is available online until Friday 9 January 2015 at tfl.gov.uk/ultra-low-emission-zone

What is NO₂ gas?

NO₂ is a gas which, in high concentrations, can cause breathing problems and increase asthma symptoms.

Research suggests that children and young people are most adversely affected as high concentrations of the gas restricts lung growth.

Tube improvements – post weekend update



Circle and District line

A closure on the line enabled 134m of new track to be installed between Westminster and Embankment and more than 300m of drainage equipment replaced in the Monument area. TfL also used the opportunity to carry out station improvement work at Victoria and further work on the Richmond branch of the District line in preparation for the new, longer air-conditioned trains.

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