

Cleaner air for the capital



LONDON is to have the world's first ultra low-emission zone, the Mayor announced yesterday.

The aim is to create the zone in central London – which would deliver dramatic benefits to air quality and increase take-up of low-emission vehicles.

Mayor Boris Johnson said: 'Creating the world's first big city ultra low-emission zone has the potential to be a game-changing moment in the quality of life of our great capital.'

'My vision is a central zone where almost all the vehicles running during working hours are either zero or low-emission. This would deliver incredible benefits in air quality and stimulate the delivery and mass-use of low-emission technology.'

Transport for London will prepare plans for the new zone and look at the feasibility of introducing it from 2020.

By that time it is expected that all buses in central London will be hybrid and all taxis zero-emission. There will also be more low-emission options for freight vehicles and electric cars will be more widely used.

A further £20million will be spent over the next 10 years on schemes to help London's boroughs to tackle local pollution.

■ Find out about other schemes in place to improve London's air quality, and tips on how to reduce emissions, at tfl.gov.uk/roadusers

Hybrid buses (pictured above left) are quieter, cleaner and more fuel-efficient than standard vehicles. They reduce emissions of local pollutants and carbon dioxide by at least 30 per cent compared to conventional diesel buses. Currently there are 368 diesel-electric hybrid buses operating in the capital.

Transport at a glance

Whose line is it anyway?

HEAD to London Transport Museum tomorrow evening for a 'Friday late' event which celebrates the opening of the new exhibition Poster Art 150 – London Underground's Greatest Designs.

Guests will be able to explore the exhibition with the curators, join artist-led 'make and take' workshops and show off their Tube knowledge with a quiz. The Siemens Poster Vote also means guests can vote for their favourite

piece of the evening and throughout the exhibition.

The evening is presented in collaboration with Penguin Books, publishers of the new Line series coming out next month as part of the anniversary celebrations of the Tube.

■ The evening runs from 6.45pm to 10pm. Tickets cost £8 for adults and £6 for concessions. Book your ticket online at www.ltmuseum.co.uk

Stay well ahead of the jams



EVERYBODY'S aware of how frustrating getting stuck in traffic is.

One of the best ways to avoid jams is to sign up to Transport for London's (TfL's) Twitter feed @TfLTrafficNews to help you plan your journey.

It features real-time updates on disruptions, including roadworks, accidents and public events, and will let you know when roads are reopened.

The information comes from the London Streets Traffic Control Centre which monitors more than 1,300 traffic cameras across the capital. As soon as anything happens which could impact traffic flow, the team will tweet about it. Watch the 'from street to tweet' video to find out more at tinyurl.com/d9g8kqv.

■ Simply log on to Twitter and follow @TfLTrafficNews

Going to the bike show?

If you're going to ExCeL this weekend for the London Motorcycle Show, make sure you check out the BikeSafe-London stand.

Run by Transport for London and the Metropolitan Police Service, BikeSafe-London aims to reduce the number of bikers injured on the roads and improve skills, knowledge and hazard awareness.

At the show you can put your questions to the experts and sign

up for a skills day led by traffic police officers. Combining observed rides with interactive presentations, discussions and advice on safety, the day will help you make riding safer and more enjoyable.

■ The show runs from Friday to Sunday. Look out for stand MR150. To find out more, visit www.bikesafe-london.co.uk. Plan your route before setting off at tfl.gov.uk/journeyplanner

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London Travelwatch London's transport watchdog call 020 3176 2999, or visit www.londontravelwatch.org.uk

*You pay no more than 5p per minute if calling from a BT landline. There may be a connection charge. Charges from mobiles or other landline providers may vary.



Newspapers left on the Tube can jam doors and cause delays to your journey. Take your newspaper with you or put it in a recycling bin.