

Why is this important?

Motor traffic is responsible for nitrogen dioxide (**NO₂**), sulphur dioxide (**SO₂**), ground-level ozone (**O₃**) and very small particles of dust which are harmful to health. Children, the elderly and those with pre-existing lung or heart disease are more vulnerable to the effects of air pollution. This JSNA aimed to provide a picture of air quality in Lewisham and to inform how we should best develop our services in the future.

Key Facts and Figures

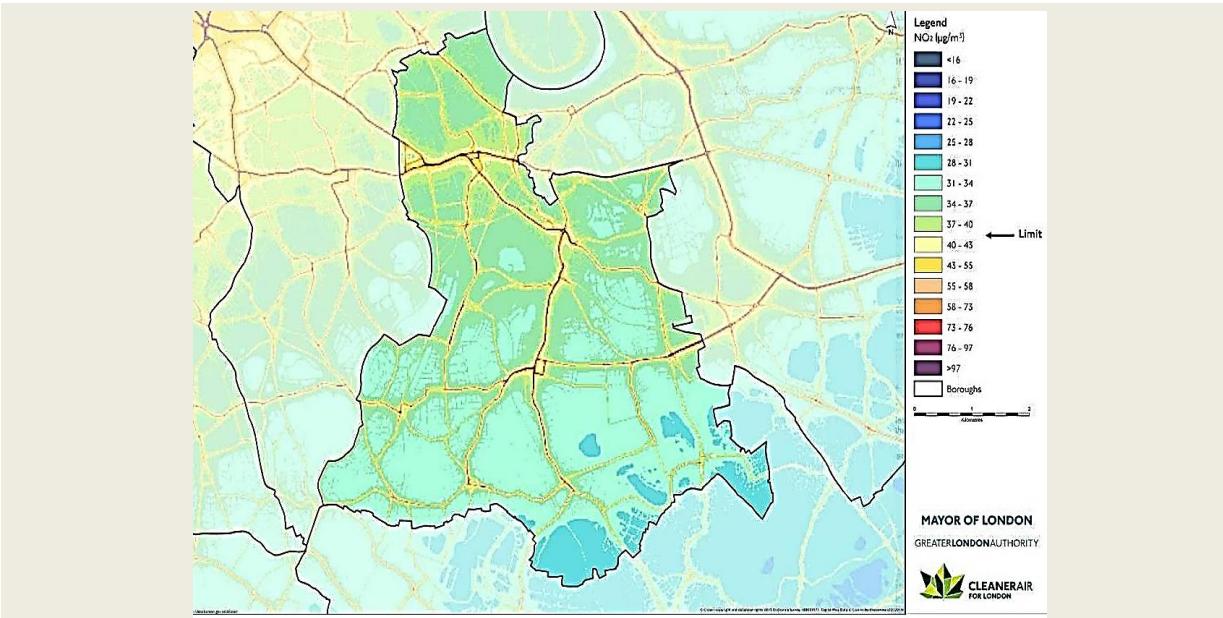
<p>116 deaths in Lewisham in 2010 were attributable to long-term exposure to small particles of dust.</p>	<p>Breathing in polluted air is linked to respiratory illnesses including Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (CPD), asthma, cardiovascular disease and neurological damage</p>	<p>Lewisham NO₂ levels are below the London average</p>	<p>The annual cost of health care associated with air pollution is estimated to be £15 billion</p>	<p>Air pollution is estimated to reduce life expectancy in the UK by 7-8 months</p>	<p>Children living near roads with heavy-duty traffic have 2 x the risk of respiratory problems as those living near less congested streets.</p> 
--	---	--	---	--	--

What is happening nationally?

- The Air Quality Standards Regulations are delivered through the **National Air Quality Strategy**
- The objectives set **UK limits** for a variety of pollutants that are considered harmful to health and the environment
- How Lewisham meets these targets can be found on p12 of the JSNA

What is happening locally?

- Automatic monitoring of air pollutants
- Passive NO₂ monitors at 34 sites borough wide
- **Lewisham Air Quality Action Plan** - 43 measures to reduce levels of NO₂ and small particles of dust within the 6 Air Quality Management Areas
- The Mayor of London's Air Quality Strategy - '**Cleaner Air for London**' - includes stricter traffic controls to improve air quality across Greater London



London Borough of Lewisham Annual Mean NO₂ concentrations 2013

What needs to be done?

- To improve Lewisham's air quality we will review and update the Air Quality Management Areas. We will also:
- Continue to monitor and reduce emissions from transport, industry and heating.
 - Ensure that new developments do not result in increased air pollution and increase the amount of trees and vegetation.
 - Continue to improve public awareness around air pollution and promote cycling and walking.

For more advise about ways to reduce air pollution see pages 22-23 of the JSNA