

# MAYOR OF LONDON

**Andrew Dismore AM**  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
London SE1 2AA

**Our ref:** MGLA150419-0370

**Date:** 15 MAY 2019

*Dear Andrew,*

Thank you for your letter of 12 April about air quality in Barnet.

The Cleaner Air Borough (CAB) award scheme was developed under the previous Mayor. It is currently being revised to ensure that it:

- Aligns with the Mayor's Air Quality Action Matrix (which details all the key actions that boroughs should take locally);
- Reflects the new level of focus on air quality;
- Is clearer about what action is required of boroughs in order to score highly, and what level of detail is required when reporting on this action; and
- Is transparent in terms of the way that it is assessed and scored.

We have temporarily put re-evaluations of boroughs' CAB status on hold whilst we revise the criteria. The new criteria are out for consultation until 20 May as part of wider revisions to the statutory London Local Air Quality Management (LLAQM) framework. Once the revised framework is in place we will be asking boroughs for submissions to the CAB scheme. This means that all boroughs who apply for CAB status will then be awarded it on a Gold, Silver, Bronze basis towards the end of the year, replacing the previous system. You can find the draft revised CAB criteria and the LLAQM Action Matrix within the LLAQM review consultation documents, on the City Hall website at: [www.london.gov.uk/LLAQM-consultation](http://www.london.gov.uk/LLAQM-consultation).

With respect to your concerns about the regeneration in the Brent Cross area, I use my planning powers as far as possible to reduce the impacts of construction activities on local air quality. This is done in three ways:

- First, we have introduced a Non-Road Mobile Machinery Low Emission Zone scheme that uses planning conditions or local codes of practice to ensure that machinery used on construction sites has more modern low-emission engines. As with road vehicles, there has been significant progress in cleaning up construction machinery over recent years and newer machinery is much cleaner than older machines. We are also encouraging the development and deployment of low or zero emission alternatives to traditional diesel machines. This will be particularly relevant for future developments in the Brent Cross South regeneration area – particularly if they were granted planning permission after the Greater London Authority's (GLA) NRMM Low Emission Zone scheme went live.

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- Second, Transport for London works with the boroughs and developers to put in place “construction logistics plans” for major developments. These plans are designed to lower vehicle emissions, reduce the number of vehicle movements and encourage efficient working practices, all of which should work to reduce the impact of the site on local air quality. Usually compliance with the logistics plan will be enforced with a planning condition. It would be the Construction Logistics Plan – if available – for the Donoghues waste processing site that should detail how these vehicle movements should be kept to a minimum where possible.
- Third, we require that, as part of the wider air quality impact assessment, large construction sites assess the likely impact of on-site activities on local air quality and propose appropriate mitigation or prevention strategies. Again, these practices will normally be secured either by planning conditions or local codes of practice. We also promote best practice through the London Low Emissions Partnership: [www.llecp.org.uk/](http://www.llecp.org.uk/). However, it is ultimately up to the council to enforce these standards in practice.

In addition, the majority of larger vehicles – such as those used to service waste processing sites – are subject to the current Low Emission Zone standards. In 2020, these standards will tighten considerably to require that all larger vehicles meet the latest emissions standards (Euro 6) or pay a large fee (£100).

Finally, I have asked an officer in my Air Quality Team, responsible for the NRMM scheme, to get in touch with the Air Quality Officer at Barnet to see whether there is any further engagement from the GLA that would be helpful at this time.

Thank you again for writing to me.

Yours sincerely,



**Sadiq Khan**  
Mayor of London