

Air Quality Action Plan 2025-2030

Public Consultation



This document was written in simple, easy-to-read English to help people with learning difficulties or those who are not fluent in English understand it.

Help shape a cleaner, healthier Newham

Newham Council is developing its Air Quality Action Plan for 2025–2030, and we want to hear from you.

Air pollution affects everyone, especially children, older adults, and people with health conditions. This new plan sets out how we will reduce harmful emissions, improve air quality, and create safer, greener streets across the borough.

We invite residents, businesses, schools, and community groups to share their views. Your feedback will help ensure that the plan reflects the needs and priorities of our diverse communities.

This consultation is your chance to:

- Tell us what matters most to you
- Share your ideas and concerns
- Help shape local actions to improve the air we all breathe

Together, we can build a cleaner, fairer, and more sustainable Newham for everyone.



1. Communities, Businesses, and Education

The Air Quality Action Plan aims to reduce air pollution and protect people, especially children, older adults, and those with health problems. It will do this by:

- Sharing clear information
- Working with local people and groups
- Teaching about air pollution
- Taking practical steps to reduce pollution

The plan will work with schools, health services, and community groups to give support that fits different cultures and needs.

People will get better access to air quality information and can join in activities like clean-up days and campaigns to walk, cycle, and live in a more eco-friendly way. Schools will play a big role by teaching students about the environment and encouraging walking or cycling to school.

Indoor air quality will be improved by teaching people about good ventilation and using low-pollution materials in schools, workplaces, and homes. Near schools and hospitals, the plan includes air quality checks, planting trees, and better transport options like the “Healthy School Streets” programme.

Events will be asked to use eco-friendly practices. Pollution from canal boats will be reduced using cleaner technology and education. The plan also looks at other pollution sources like ice cream vans and fireworks, using special rules to control them.



2. Air Quality Monitoring

Newham will improve how it checks air pollution by:

- Keeping current air sensors working
- Adding new sensors in areas with more pollution when required

People will be able to see real-time air quality data using apps like Air Aware and airText, which helps those with health issues make safer choices.

The plan also encourages people to set up their own air sensors when possible. This helps raise awareness and adds more useful data. All this information will help the council make better decisions and share air quality updates with the public.

3. Construction and Demolition

Newham wants to reduce pollution from building works and machinery. It will do this by:

- Requiring builders to use dust control methods like spraying water and putting up barriers
- Asking for detailed plans that show how they will reduce pollution
- Advising on limiting machinery work hours during busy traffic times or when air quality is poor
- Advising developers to use low-pollution vehicles and follow anti-idling rules (no running engines when not moving).
- Encourage delivery consolidation or planning better, using electric vehicles or bikes for the final part of the journey.

For machinery such as cranes and diggers, Newham will require the latest low-emission models and follow London's rules. Electric or hybrid machines will be encouraged. Builders must report emissions and follow strict rules in their planning documents.

Newham will work with other councils and the building industry to share good ideas and improve practices.

4. Buildings and Infrastructure

Newham Council wants to cut pollution and improve health by:

- Making sure new buildings follow strict Air Quality Positive and Air Quality Neutral rules
- Adding green features like rooftop gardens and better air ventilation systems

Since only 13% of Newham is green space, the council has a long-term plan (50 years) to create more parks, gardens, and green paths, especially in busy areas. This includes planting trees and using systems to manage rainwater.

To improve indoor air, the council will promote better ventilation, fix damp problems, and upgrade older homes, especially for people who are more at risk. Education and monitoring will help people keep their homes healthier.

Newham is a Smoke Control Area, so burning certain fuels is not allowed. The council will promote cleaner ways to heat homes.

Energy-saving programmes will help people improve insulation, ventilation, and use renewable energy. There will be support and training to help with this.

All these actions aim to make Newham a cleaner, healthier place to live by combining thoughtful planning, community support, and innovative ideas.



5. Transport Emissions

Newham wants to make the air cleaner and streets healthier by improving transport and working with the community. Here's how:

New buildings must include features that help reduce pollution, like:

- Trees along streets
- Places to sit and rest
- Safe bike lanes
- Low-traffic areas to encourage walking and cycling

Healthy School Streets make areas around schools safer and cleaner by:

- Closing roads at certain times
- Adding bike lanes and parking
- Checking air quality
- Teaching students about travel and pollution

Low Emission and Zero Emission Neighbourhoods (LENs and ZENs):

- Make it easier to walk and cycle
- Slow down traffic
- Raise awareness about pollution
- In ZENs, petrol and diesel cars are not allowed
- More electric vehicle (EV) charging points are added
- Rules and rewards help people and businesses follow the changes

Better walking and cycling routes are being built, with:

- Safe crossings
- Secure bike parking
- Rewards for walking or cycling
- Easy connections to buses and trains
- Car Free Days close streets to cars so people can walk and cycle more.

Parking rules will:

- Charge more for high-pollution cars
- Reduce the number of parking spaces
- Give priority to low-emission vehicles

Deliveries will be cleaner by using:

- Low-emission vans
- Cargo bikes
- Special delivery zones
- Central hubs to reduce traffic

All these actions are part of a bigger plan to reduce pollution, improve health, and make transport in Newham cleaner and more sustainable.

6. Indirect Emissions, Collaboration, and Lobbying

Newham also wants to reduce pollution in other ways by:

- Training council staff and leaders so they understand how important clean air is for health.
- Working together across departments like Public Health, Housing, Climate Action, and Transport to include air quality in all projects.

Buying from eco-friendly suppliers by:

- Including air quality rules in contracts
- Asking suppliers to use cleaner methods

Partnering with others, including:

- Other councils
- Local groups
- National government

These partnerships will help share ideas, create stronger plans, and improve air quality not only in Newham, but also in nearby areas.



Newham Air Quality Action Plan Public Consultation Survey

We want to hear your views on how we can improve air quality in Newham. Your feedback will help shape our Air Quality Action Plan 2025-2030 and make our borough a cleaner, healthier place for everyone.

This survey takes around 5-7 minutes.

Your Views on Air Quality

1. How concerned are you about air pollution in Newham?

- ☐ Very concerned
- ☐ Somewhat concerned
- ☐ Somewhat unconcerned
- ☐ Very unconcerned

2. Have you or someone in your household been affected by poor air quality? (e.g. asthma, breathing issues)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

3. How would you rate the current air quality in your area?

- ☐ Very good
- ☐ Good
- ☐ Fair
- ☐ Poor
- ☐ Very poor

4. Have you read the draft Air Quality Action Plan?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Other

5. If you selected other in the previous question, please tell us which priorities you've read and why?

Feedback on the Air Quality Action Plan 2025-2030

6. Which parts of the Air Quality Action Plan do you support? (Tick all that apply)

- ☐ Cleaner transport (e.g. electric vehicles, cycling, walking)
- ☐ Healthy School Streets
- ☐ Better air quality monitoring
- ☐ Reducing pollution from construction
- ☐ Improving indoor air quality
- ☐ More green spaces and trees
- ☐ Cleaner waterways and events
- ☐ Working with businesses and suppliers
- ☐ Other

7. If you selected other in the previous question, please specify

8. What do you think are the most important actions we should take to improve air quality?

9. Do you have any concerns or suggestions about the plan?

10. Getting Involved

Would you like to be involved in future air quality projects or consultations?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Maybe

11. If yes, please leave your email address (optional)

About You (Equalities Monitoring)

(This helps with EqIA reporting – this section is optional)

12. What is your connection to Newham?

(Tick all that apply)

- ☐ I live in Newham
- ☐ I work in Newham
- ☐ I study in Newham
- ☐ I run a business in Newham
- ☐ I visit Newham regularly
- ☐ Other

13. If you answered other in the previous question, please specify

14. What is the first half of your postcode?:

15. Your age

- ☐ Under 18
- ☐ 18–24
- ☐ 25–44
- ☐ 45–64
- ☐ 65+

16. Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to say

17. Your gender

- ☐ Woman
- ☐ Man
- ☐ Non-binary

18. What is your ethnic background? (Please select one option that best describes your background)

- ☐ English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British
- ☐ Irish
- ☐ Gypsy or Irish Traveller
- ☐ Roma
- ☐ Any other White background (please specify):

Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Groups

- ☐ White and Black Caribbean
- ☐ White and Black African
- ☐ White and Asian
- ☐ Any other Mixed or Multiple ethnic background (please specify):

Asian or Asian British

- ☐ Indian
- ☐ Pakistani
- ☐ Bangladeshi
- ☐ Chinese
- ☐ Any other Asian background (please specify):

Black, Black British, Caribbean or African

- ☐ Caribbean
- ☐ African
- ☐ Any other Black, Black British or Caribbean background (please specify):

Other Ethnic Group

- ☐ Arab
- ☐ Any other ethnic group, please specify

20. What is your religion or belief?

(Please select one option)

- ☐ No religion
- ☐ Christian (including Church of England, Catholic, Protestant, and all other Christian denominations)
- ☐ Buddhist
- ☐ Hindu
- ☐ Jewish
- ☐ Muslim
- ☐ Sikh
- ☐ Any other religion or belief (please specify):

21. How did you hear about this consultation?

- ☐ Social media
- ☐ Council website
- ☐ Community event
- ☐ Faith group
- ☐ School
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Thank You.

Your feedback is valuable and will help us build a cleaner, healthier Newham for all.

Please return the questionnaire to:
Environmental Control Team
Newham Dockside,
1000 Dockside Road,
London E16 2QU

or otherwise, you can take photos of your responses and email them to
pollution.enquiry@newham.gov.uk

