



Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan

October 2020



Introduction

Greater Manchester (GM) needs to take action to improve air quality, now and for future generations. Air pollution is linked to a range of very serious health conditions. It contributes to the equivalent of around 1,200 early deaths in GM every year, harming our health.

Government has directed GM to introduce a Category C Clean Air Zone across the region, to bring nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) levels on local roads within legal limits in “the shortest time possible” and by 2024 at the latest.

As air pollution does not respect geographic boundaries, all 10 local authority areas have worked together to develop a joint Clean Air Plan to improve air quality.

GM is now consulting on the key elements of the proposals, including proposed daily Clean Air Zone charges, discounts and exemptions, and the proposals for a multi-million pound funding package to support local businesses to upgrade to cleaner vehicles.

There is now a requirement under the Transport Act 2000 to consult “such local persons as [the GM authorities] consider appropriate about the charging scheme”.

Clean Air Plan consultation

Between 8 October and 3 December 2020, GM is holding a statutory public consultation on the key elements of the charging Clean Air Zone, and the proposals for the supporting funds. At the same time, the ten GM local authorities are asking for views on the proposed vehicle standards for hackney carriages and private hire services during a consultation on the GM Minimum Licensing Standards. This will allow everyone with an interest to have a complete view of all the proposed changes to vehicles, and the potential support available for vehicle upgrades.

The consultations and supporting engagement activity will adhere to the government COVID-19 guidance around social distancing, while ensuring that residents, businesses and visitors can engage with the consultation materials and respond in a meaningful way.

The impacts of COVID-19

The Government has asked GM to continue to progress the Clean Air Plan, and to undertake the consultation, based on proposals developed before the COVID-19 pandemic that showed compliance would be achieved by 2024.

GM is assessing the possible effects of COVID-19 on the Clean Air Plan and the consultation is asking questions about the impact of COVID-19 on impacted groups. This information will inform future decisions on each aspect of the final plan.

What is a Clean Air Zone?

This is a designated area which certain higher pollution vehicles would pay a charge to drive into and within.

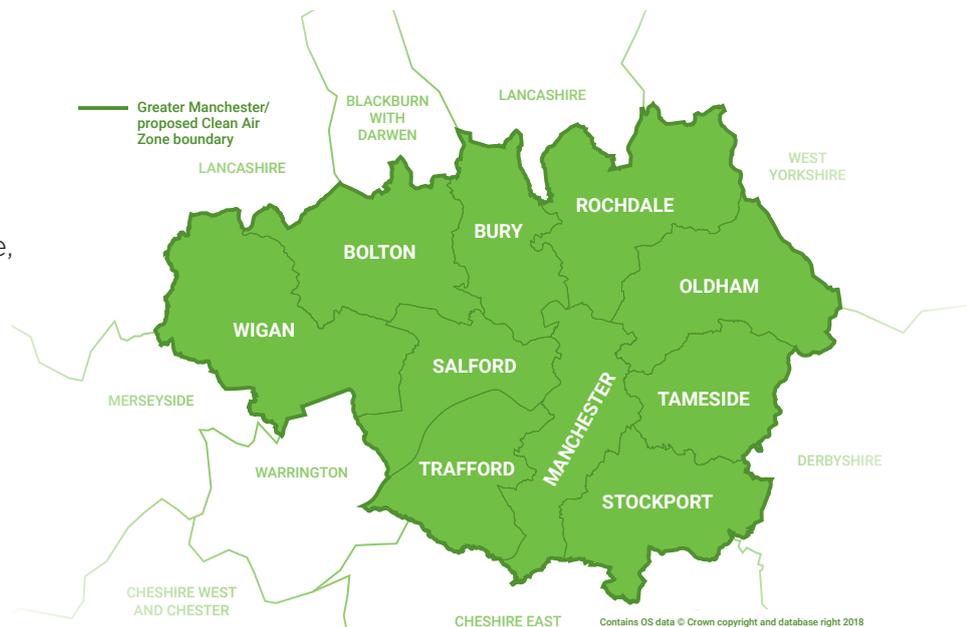
Vehicles which do not comply with the required emissions standards would pay a daily charge for each day on which they drive into, out of, within or through the Clean Air Zone. Failure to pay the daily charge would result in the issue of

a penalty charge notice (PCN) requiring an additional payment.

A Clean Air Zone is not the same as a Congestion Charge Zone. The purpose of a Clean Air Zone is to improve air quality by encouraging drivers to upgrade to a cleaner vehicle. It is not designed to tackle congestion.

Where will the Clean Air Zone cover?

All roads within GM will be included in the Clean Air Zone, with the exception of those roads managed by Highways England, such as motorways and trunk roads. You can see this in detail by visiting cleanairgm.com/clean-air-zone-map



How will it operate?

It'll run 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. Those vehicles liable to pay the charge would pay using the Government's online portal.

Discounts and exemptions will be put in place for some vehicle types. Some exemptions are temporary, some are permanent and some are for vehicles licensed with the Greater Manchester Authorities only.

Proposed daily charges for non-compliant vehicles

Vehicle type	Updated proposed charge at consultation
 Buses and coaches	£60
 Taxis/private hire vehicles	£7.50
 HGVs	£60
 Vans and minibuses	£10

Failure to pay the daily charge would result in a penalty charge notice (PCN) of £120, in addition to the daily charge.

Clean vehicle funding support

GM is requesting a package of funding from Government totalling over £150m to support owners or registered keepers of non-compliant vehicles with the cost of upgrading to compliant vehicles.

Of the total request, so far £41m has been confirmed by Government and further awards are anticipated. This funding aims to mitigate negative social and economic effects on businesses and individuals most affected by the GM Clean Air Zone.

The funding proposals are a Clean Commercial Fund, a Clean Taxi Fund a Clean Bus Fund and a Hardship Fund. There are also proposals for a 'try before you buy' electric hackney carriage trial scheme and electric vehicle charging points across the city-region, which would be for use by hackney carriages and private hire vehicles (PHV) only.



Buses

Proposed support for those eligible and have a non-compliant bus which is used on a registered bus service in GM.

Grant of up to £16,000 per vehicle for replacement or retrofit.

Bus operators will not be offered access to the vehicle finance scheme.

No proposed cap on number of vehicles per applicant.



Hackney carriages

Proposed support for those eligible with a non-compliant hackney carriage licensed with the GM authorities.

£10,000 per vehicle for a running costs grant or a contribution for vehicle finance, for a replacement zero emissions capable wheelchair accessible vehicle.

or

£5,000 grant towards an LPG retrofit.

UK government grant available of up to £7,500 for purchasing a new zero emissions capable vehicle.

Limit of eight vehicles per applicant.



Private hire vehicles

Proposed support for those eligible with a non-compliant private hire vehicle licensed with the GM authorities.

£1,000 grant or vehicle finance contribution towards replacement to a compliant petrol or diesel vehicle.

or

£2,000 grant or vehicle finance contribution towards replacement to a hybrid or plug-in hybrid.

or

£2,500 running costs grant for replacement with a zero emissions capable vehicle.

or

£5,000 grant or vehicle finance contribution towards replacement of a minibus or Wheelchair accessible vehicle.

Limit of 10 vehicles per applicant.



Vans

Proposed support for those eligible with a non-compliant van.*

A grant of £3,500 per vehicle for replacement or vehicle finance contribution.

Limit of 10 vehicles per applicant.



Heavy Goods Vehicles

Proposed support for those eligible with a non-compliant HGV.*

A grant of up to £5,500 per vehicle for replacement or vehicle finance contribution. Limit of 10 vehicles per applicant.

or

A grant of up to £16,000 per vehicle for retrofit. Limit of five vehicles per applicant.



Coaches

Proposed support for those eligible with a non-compliant coach.*

Grant of up to £16,000 per vehicle for replacement or retrofit or vehicle finance contribution.

Limit of 10 vehicles per applicant.



Minibuses

Proposed support for those eligible with a non-compliant minibus.*

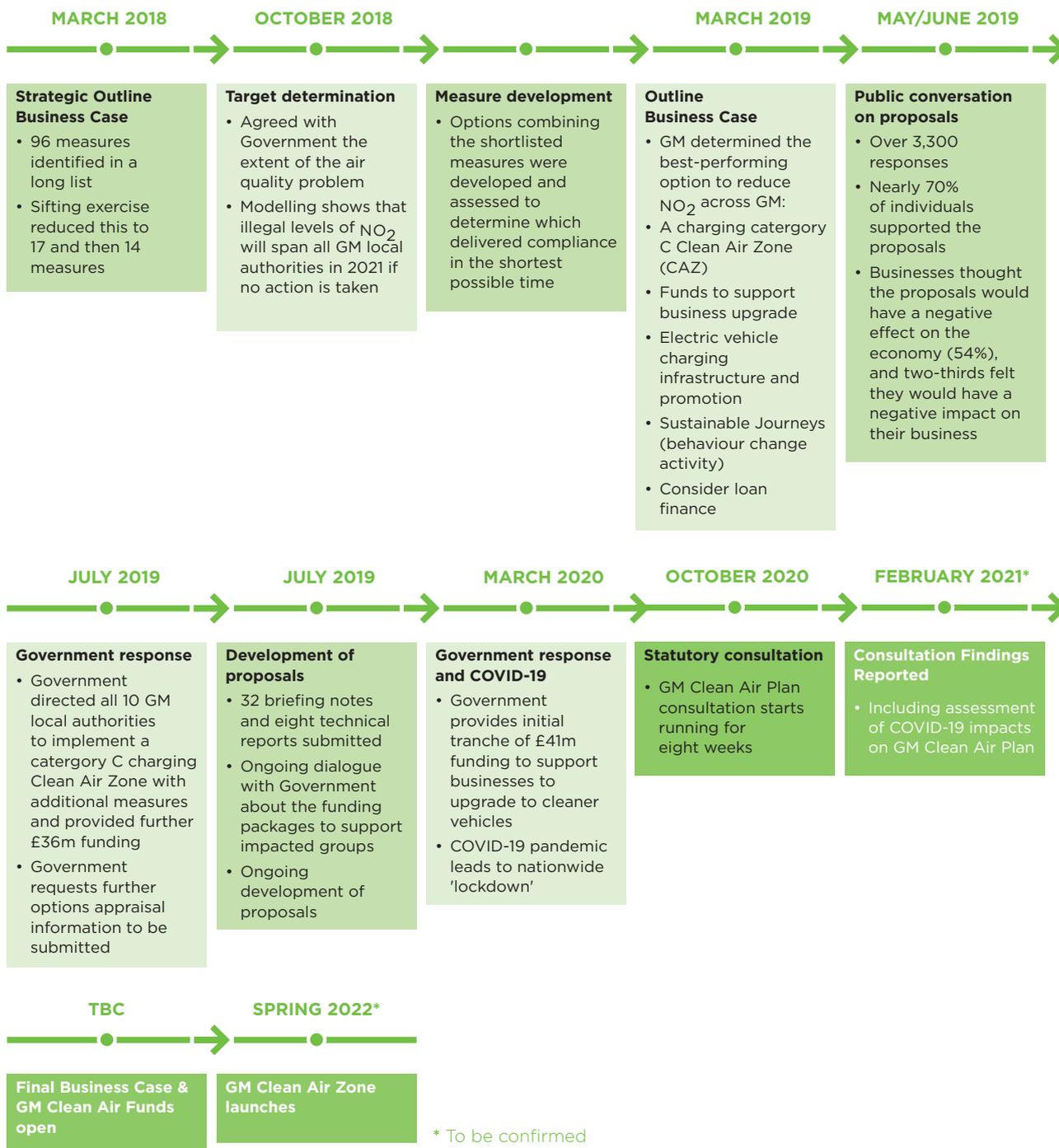
A grant of up to £5,000 for replacement or vehicle finance contribution for replacement of minibuses (which are not licensed taxis or PHVs or used on a registered bus service in GM).

Limit of 10 vehicles per applicant.

*Available for vehicles registered in GM, small and micro businesses, sole traders, charities and social enterprises, private owners, initially targeted towards individuals and the smallest businesses with the oldest vehicles.

The journey to consultation

Here is a timeline of the activity to date on the GM Clean Air Plan and the timing for delivering the final plan.



Find out more

For support to respond to this consultation or to request copies of the summary document and questionnaire please contact info@cleanairgm.com or **0161 244 1100**.

Support for non-English speakers is available on **0161 244 1100**. For further information on the GM Clean Air Plan and to sign up for future updates, visit cleanairgm.com or email info@cleanairgm.com

For media enquiries, call **0161 244 1055** or email info@cleanairgm.com