

GM is also proposing that, with the exception of buses, it will offer eligible owners of a non-compliant vehicle the option of either a lump sum grant or a monetary contribution towards vehicle finance from a GM appointed panel of finance providers to help them upgrade to a compliant vehicle.

Government has already provided more than £41m in initial funding and we are seeking more than £100m further funding, alongside a £10m 'Hardship Fund' to support those most vulnerable to the impacts of the Clean Air Zone.

Through these funds we want to support GM's smaller local businesses, sole traders and the voluntary sector to upgrade their vehicles before the Clean Air Zone is introduced.

Have your say

We want to hear your views on key elements of the GM Clean Air Zone, including the proposed daily charges, discounts and exemptions, and the funding packages to support local businesses to upgrade to cleaner vehicles.

The consultation is not seeking views on whether to introduce a Clean Air Zone, as that has been directed by government.

In addition to the consultation on the GM Clean Air Plan proposals, a consultation on proposed GM Minimum Licensing Standards (MLS) for taxis and private hire vehicles is running at the same time. This is to give as much certainty and clarity as possible for the taxi and private hire trade on any proposed changes required to their vehicles. For more information on the MLS, visit gmtaxistandards.com

Who can take part?

Anyone can take part in the consultation. Everyone who is interested in or affected by the proposals should get involved to share their views on the proposals to remove all concentrations of NO₂, to make GM's air cleaner and healthier for everyone.

Where do I get more information?

The questionnaire is available on cleanairgm.com where you can also find animations explaining the proposals, the consultation document, other background and technical information, details of the vehicles affected and the support that's available. You can also sign up for future updates, including on when funding will be available to help businesses and organisations upgrade their vehicles.

How do I take part?

You can have your say by going to cleanairgm.com to answer the questions in the online questionnaire.

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

Support for non-English speakers is available on **0161 244 1100**.

The impacts of COVID-19

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

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



Help shape Greater Manchester's final Clean Air Plan



Consultation runs from
8 October to 3 December 2020

Have your say now at
cleanairgm.com

Air quality in Greater Manchester

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 the proposed Clean Air Zone daily charges, discounts and exemptions, and the proposals for a multi-million pound funding package to support local businesses to upgrade to cleaner vehicles.

A Greater Manchester Clean Air Zone

Government has directed GM to introduce a Clean Air Zone covering all ten local authorities: Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan. This would operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week.




The purpose of a Clean Air Zone is to improve air quality by encouraging drivers to upgrade to a cleaner vehicle.



Affected vehicles

Buses, coaches, vans, HGVs, taxis, private hire vehicles and minibuses would need to comply with emissions standards or pay a daily charge to travel on local roads in the Clean Air Zone. Private cars and motorbikes are not included in the scheme.

It is proposed that non-compliant vehicles would start paying the daily charge when the Clean Air Zone launches in spring 2022, with the exception of vans and minibuses, which would start paying the daily charge in 2023.

Vehicle type	Vehicles that would pay a daily charge (Euro standard)	Proposed daily charge for non-compliant vehicles*
 Buses, coaches and HGVs	Euro V or earlier engines (typically registered before 2013)	£60 from Spring 2022
 Taxis, private hire vehicles	Euro V or earlier diesel engines (typically registered before 2016)	£7.50 from Spring 2022
 LGVs such as vans, minibuses		£10 (temporary exemption until 2023)

*Each charging day would run from midnight to midnight.

The Clean Air Zone would be enforced by a network of Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras. If the daily charge for a non-compliant vehicle wasn't paid, a Penalty Charge Notice of £120 would be issued, in addition to the unpaid daily charge.

Exemptions

Certain vehicle types may be eligible for exemptions. For details, visit cleanairm.com/clean-air-zone

If you own a vehicle that does not meet the clean air standards and is not entitled to an exemption, you would need to consider upgrading or replacing the vehicle to avoid the proposed charge. You can check whether your vehicle is compliant, or would be liable to pay the daily charge, by using the vehicle checker at cleanairm.com/vehicle-checker

Proposed financial support

We've asked government for a package of funding to support people and businesses affected by the proposals. This would help those people whose livelihoods depend on using a van, minibus, taxi or private hire vehicle licensed in GM.

Vehicle	Total ask (excl. delivery costs)	Funding position (incl. delivery costs)
Clean Bus Fund	c.£30m	£15.4 funded (retrofits)
Clean commercial vehicles fund	c.£98m	£14.7m funded
Clean Taxi Fund	c.£28m	£10.7m funded
Total	£156m	£41m funded

The indicative funding amounts would be available before the introduction of the Clean Air Zone and are subject to consultation and government approval.