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Islington Air Quality Annual Status Summary

Islington Environmental Pollution, Policy and Project
Team



2016 Report

For: GLA

Completed by: Jo Shaw, Environmental Projects Officer

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Introduction

This report provides a brief overview of air quality in the London Borough of Islington during 2016.

The EU sets limits for a number of known air pollutants, that member states must meet. The London Borough of Islington is exceeding EU limits for the gas Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) in parts of the borough. The main areas of concern are the A1 Holloway Road from Highbury to Archway, Angel Town Centre, Seven Sisters Road at Finsbury Park, Old Street and the Kings Cross/Caledonian Road area. The London Borough of Islington is required by the Government and the Mayor of London to monitor air pollution in the borough, and take action to reduce it. The Government and the Mayor of London also have a range of responsibilities for taking action to reduce pollution.

We are currently meeting the limits that are set by the EU for all other air pollutants, although we remain focused on Particulate Matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) because these pollutants have detrimental impacts on health at any level.

The main source of pollution in the borough is road transport. Other pollution sources in the borough include domestic and commercial gas use and industry. More detailed information on the sources of pollution in Islington can be found in the Islington Source Apportionment Study at www.islington.gov.uk/environment/sus_pollute/air_quality/improving-air-quality-in-islington.

NO₂

We monitor NO₂ across the borough through a combination of highly accurate continuous (or automatic) monitoring stations and indicative low-cost diffusion tubes. In 2016, overall, levels of NO₂ showed no significant change

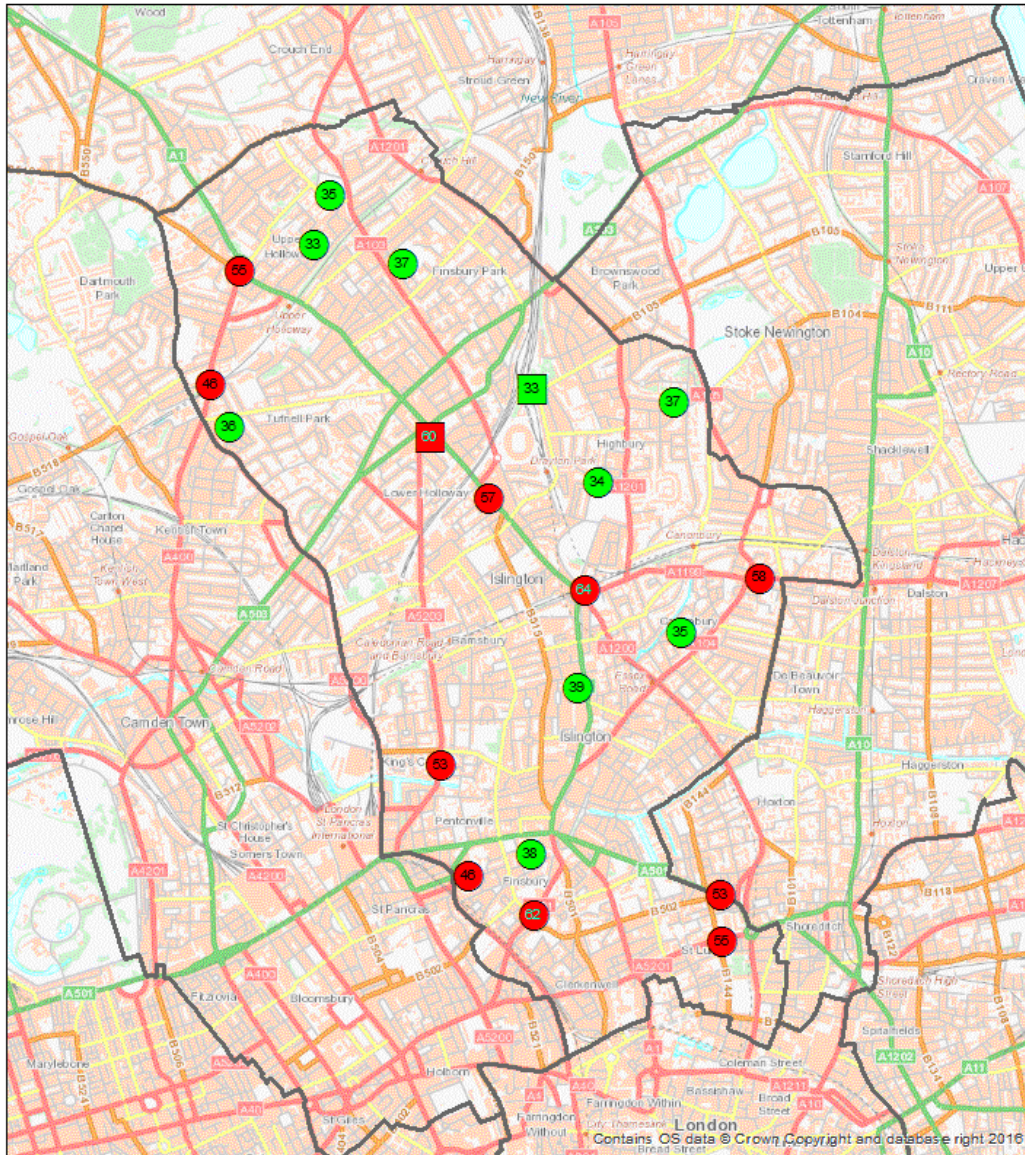
PM₁₀

We monitor PM₁₀ at two continuous (or automatic) monitoring stations. In 2016, overall, levels of PM₁₀ showed no significant change.

NO₂ Monitoring

Figure 1 Map of NO₂ monitoring sites in the London Borough of Islington, showing annual mean results from 2016

2016 Annual Mean Nitrogen Dioxide Concentrations in the London Borough of Islington



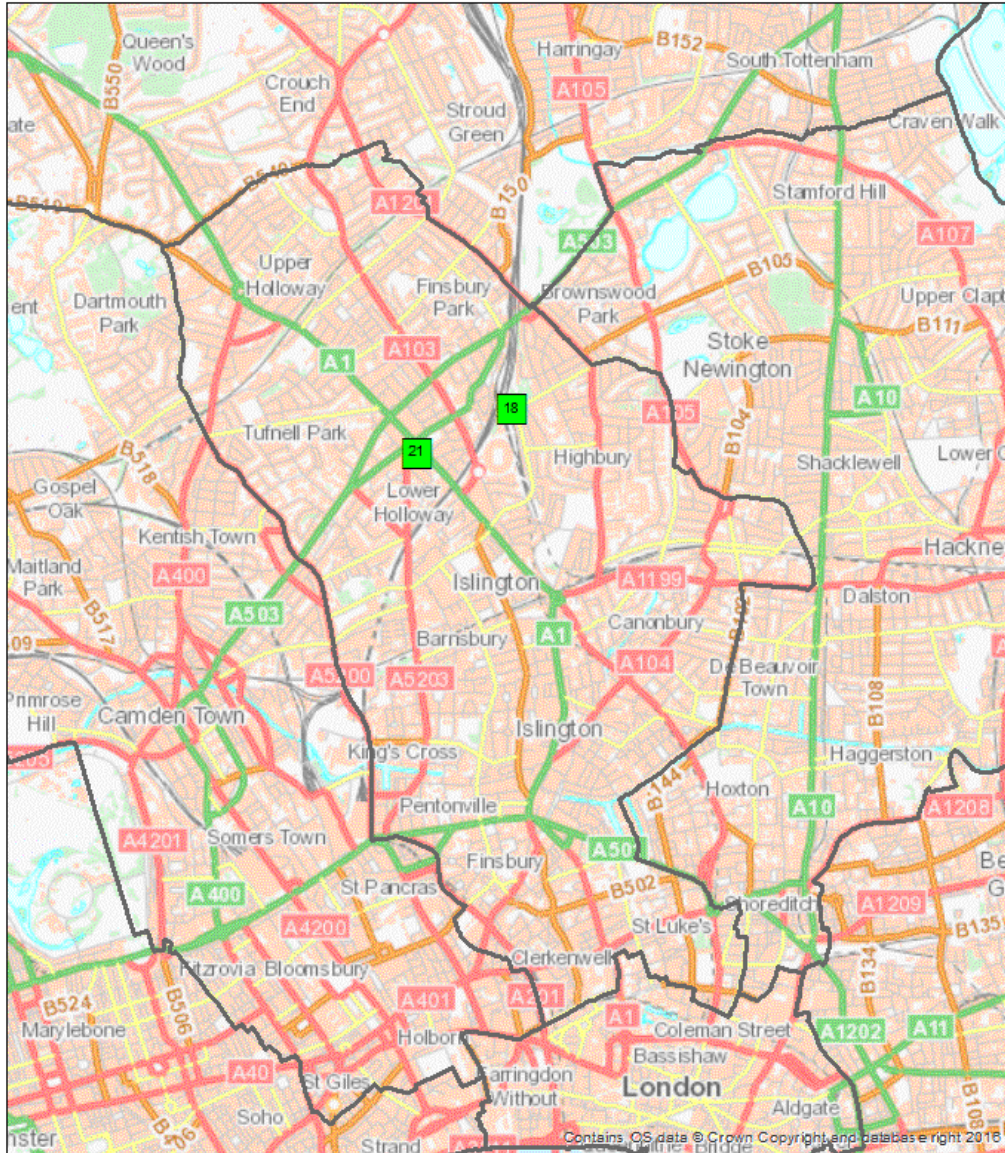
Legend

- Automatic monitoring >60 µg/m³
- Automatic monitoring <40 µg/m³
- Diffusion tubes >60 µg/m³
- Diffusion tubes 40-60 µg/m³
- Diffusion tubes <40 µg/m³
- Borough Boundary

PM₁₀ Monitoring

Figure 2 Map of PM₁₀ monitoring sites in the London Borough of Islington, showing annual mean results from 2016

2016 Annual Mean PM₁₀ Concentrations
in the London Borough of Islington



Legend

- Automatic monitoring <math><40 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math>
- Borough Boundary

Actions to Improve Air Quality

The London Borough of Islington's two main air quality achievements in 2016 were:

- Zero Emissions Network (ZEN) - Continued development of the award winning City Fringe ZEN. This is a joint initiative with Hackney and Tower Hamlets with almost 1000 local businesses working together to improve local air quality; supporting active travel while reducing energy and transport costs.
- School engagement - Islington conducted a number of projects raising awareness on the impacts of air quality, especially on the vulnerable, such as children or those with health conditions. These included a number of anti-idling events outside schools, a car free day event with three schools and practical science sessions and route planning with pupils.



Pedal powered film at car free day and snakes and ladders anti-idling game

The London Borough of Islington's main priorities to reduce exposure to poor air quality for the year ahead are:

- Build on the success of City Fringe ZEN - Firstly, by building on the City Fringe ZEN to create a Low Emissions Neighbourhood (LEN), a superb urban environment that supports sustainable travel and innovatively addresses key local air quality issues. Secondly, by expanding and adapting the City Fringe ZEN with the businesses and community in the pollution hotspot area of Archway.
- Work with the Canal and River Trust and DEFRA to improve air quality and health for canal users and other local stakeholders by increasing electric only power in the place of solid fuel and diesel.
- Further school engagement - raising awareness of air quality, encouraging sustainable transport and reducing pollution levels where possible around schools. This could include for example further idling events and a new scheme using air quality monitors and information screens to provide information relevant to each school and local area.



Archway ZEN area: Whittington Hospital, gyrotory system, local businesses

Further information

For more detailed information on air pollution in the borough see www.islington.gov.uk/environment/sus_pollute/air_quality/air-quality-strategy.

Contact details

Jo Shaw
London Borough of Islington
Environmental Pollution, Policy and Project Team
3rd Floor
222 Upper Street
N1 1XR
T: 020 7527 7571
E: jo.shaw@islington.gov.uk