



# The Ultra Low Emission Zone is expanding to help clear London's air

A guide to the ULEZ expansion across all London boroughs from 29 August 2023



MAYOR OF LONDON



**TRANSPORT  
FOR LONDON**  
EVERY JOURNEY MATTERS

## Message from the Mayor



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sadiq Khan'.

Sadiq Khan  
Mayor of London

Toxic air pollution is a matter of life and death, with thousands of Londoners dying prematurely each year, children growing up with stunted lungs and a higher risk of dementia in older people. More than 500,000 Londoners live with asthma and are more vulnerable to the impacts of toxic air, with over half of these people living in outer London boroughs. That is why I'm determined to take action to protect the health of Londoners and help tackle the climate emergency.

The Ultra Low Emission Zone has been transformational, helping to reduce harmful nitrogen dioxide pollution by nearly half in central London. But there is still far too much air pollution permanently damaging the health of Londoners. The greatest number of premature deaths due to toxic air are in outer London areas. Expanding the ULEZ across all London boroughs will help give five million more people cleaner air to breathe too.

Expanding the ULEZ has not been an easy decision, but there's no time to waste when people's lives are at risk. The ULEZ is a very targeted scheme to help take the most highly polluting vehicles off the road. More than four out of five vehicles already meet the standards. This means that most drivers in outer London will not be

impacted by the expansion across all London boroughs. For the remainder, the rising cost of living has been a key consideration for me.

That's why I'm supporting Londoners on low incomes and with disabilities, charities, sole traders and businesses with up to 10 employees through the expansion with a £110 million fund for the biggest scrappage scheme yet.

I'm also supporting disabled Londoners by extending grace periods for disabled vehicles which will be exempt until 2027 and widening the criteria for those who qualify, meaning over a quarter of a million disabled people could benefit.

Any money received from the scheme will be reinvested into running and improving London's transport network, such as expanding bus routes in outer London.

Expanding the ULEZ across all London boroughs is the right choice and something that I know will help us to continue building a better, greener, fairer and healthier London for everyone.

## About the Ultra Low Emission Zone

The Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) currently covers all areas within the North and South Circular Roads. The North Circular (A406) and South Circular (A205) roads are currently not in the zone.

From 29 August 2023, the ULEZ will expand to create one single zone across all London boroughs. To check if your vehicle meets the emissions standards, visit [tfl.gov.uk/check-your-vehicle](https://tfl.gov.uk/check-your-vehicle)

The M25 is not included and provides a route around the expanded zone for vehicles that don't meet the emissions standards, even where the M25 crosses the Greater London Area boundary.

### When does the ULEZ operate?

The current zone operates 24 hours a day, every day of the year, including weekends, public and bank holidays, except Christmas Day. The same hours of operation will apply when the zone expands.

---

The ULEZ is expanding to help clear London's air and improve health

---

### How will I know that I'm in the ULEZ?

The zone is expanding across all London boroughs, up to the existing Low Emission Zone (LEZ) boundary and will be clearly signposted.

New signs are being introduced which include both ULEZ and LEZ as these zones will cover the same area. Signs will provide advance warning that you are approaching the ULEZ, allowing you to divert away from the zone if you prefer to.

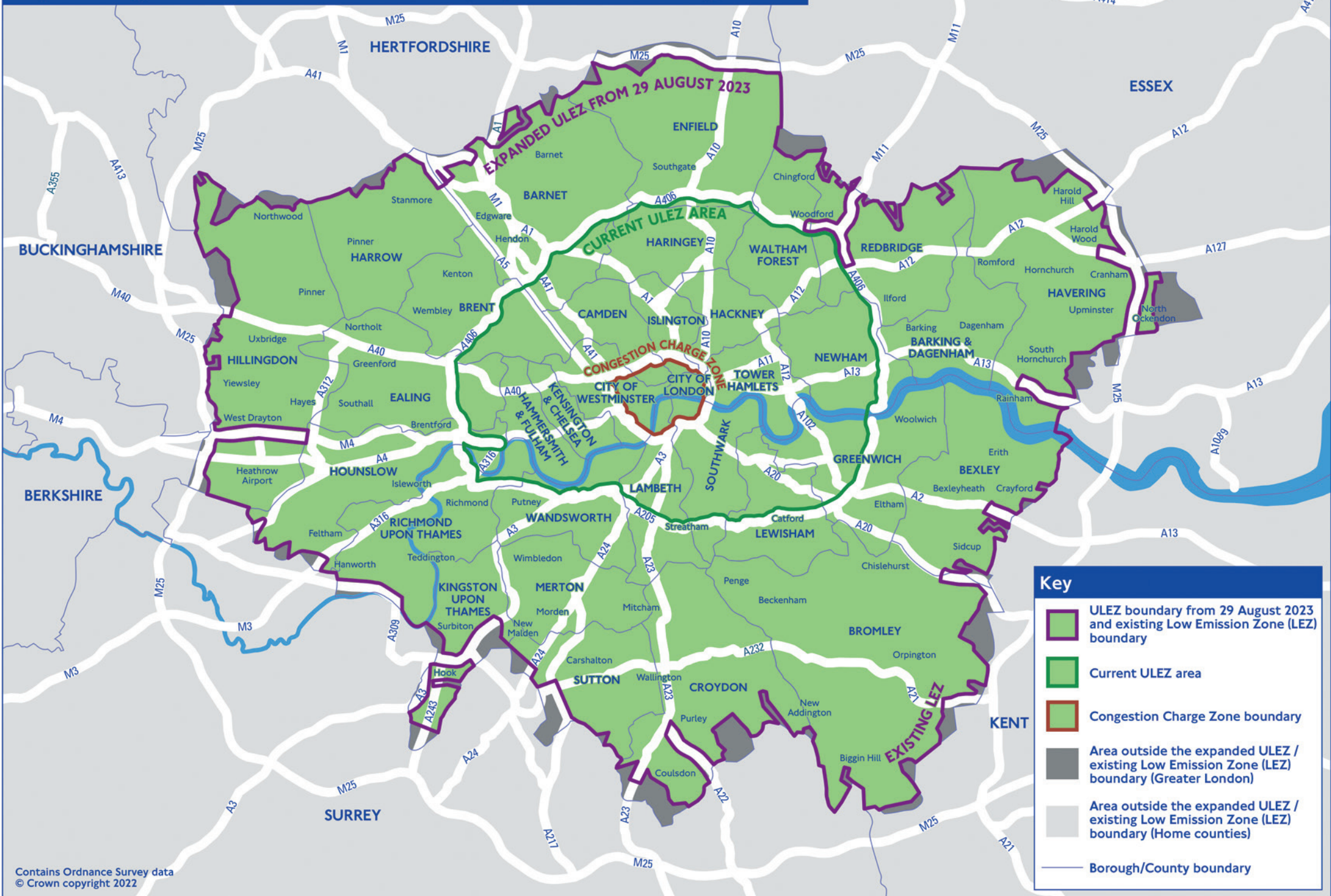
There will also be road signs in place at entry points along the boundary as well as reminder signs within the zone and advance signage for those approaching the boundary.

There are no barriers or toll booths. As with the current zone, cameras will read your number plate as you drive within the zone and check it against our database.

This will let us know whether your vehicle meets the emissions standards, and if it does not, whether you have paid the daily charge.



# Map showing Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) expansion from 29 August 2023



**Key**

- ULEZ boundary from 29 August 2023 and existing Low Emission Zone (LEZ) boundary
- Current ULEZ area
- Congestion Charge Zone boundary
- Area outside the expanded ULEZ / existing Low Emission Zone (LEZ) boundary (Greater London)
- Area outside the expanded ULEZ / existing Low Emission Zone (LEZ) boundary (Home counties)
- Borough/County boundary

## Who is affected?

---

The easiest way to check is to use our simple vehicle checker: [tfl.gov.uk/check-your-vehicle](https://tfl.gov.uk/check-your-vehicle)

---

Cars, motorcycles, vans and other specialist vehicles such as motorised horseboxes and pickups (up to and including 3.5 tonnes) and minibuses (up to and including 5 tonnes) whether petrol or diesel, will need to meet the ULEZ emissions standards or pay a daily charge.

More than four out of five vehicles already meet the emissions standards. But, if you drive a petrol vehicle over 16 years old or a diesel vehicle over 6 years old, you may be affected.

Lorries, vans or specialist heavy vehicles (all over 3.5 tonnes) and buses, minibuses and coaches (all over 5 tonnes) do not need to pay the ULEZ charge. They will need to pay the LEZ charge if they do not meet the LEZ emissions standards.

## Discounts and exemptions

To support disabled Londoners, existing exemptions for 'disabled' or 'disabled passenger vehicle' tax class registered vehicles have been extended until 24 October 2027.

There are also additional grace periods for wheelchair accessible vehicles and Londoners on certain disability benefits.

There are other drivers and vehicle types which are also exempt from the ULEZ or entitled to discounts or reimbursements such as historic tax class vehicles and certain NHS patients travelling to appointments.

NHS patients may be eligible to claim a reimbursement for journeys to and from the hospital if clinically assessed as too ill to travel on public transport. Your hospital will tell you if you are eligible.

Many not-for-profit organisations that operate minibuses used for community transport can register for a temporary 100% discount from the ULEZ daily charge until 26 October 2025.

---

For more information including full details of eligibility criteria, visit [tfl.gov.uk/ulez-discounts-and-exemptions](https://tfl.gov.uk/ulez-discounts-and-exemptions)

---



## What is the charge?

If you drive a vehicle that does not meet the ULEZ emissions standards, you could face a daily charge of £12.50 when driving within the zone. If your vehicle remains parked throughout the day, you do not need to pay the ULEZ charge. However, even if you make a short trip, you will need to pay the daily charge.

Charging days run from midnight to midnight. So, if you drive within the ULEZ area across two days, for example, before midnight and after midnight, you will need to pay two daily charges.

---

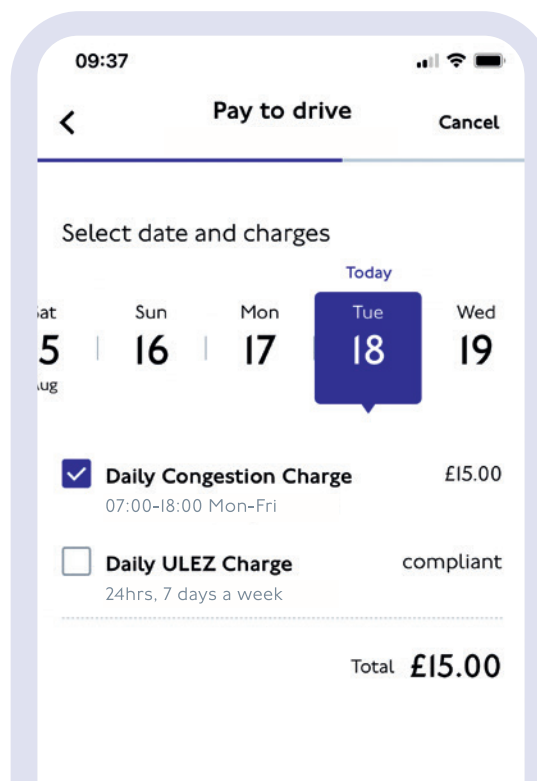
Any money received from the scheme is reinvested into running and improving London's transport network, such as expanding bus routes in outer London.

---

---

Sign up for Auto Pay, the easiest way to pay, at [tfl.gov.uk/auto-pay](https://tfl.gov.uk/auto-pay)

---



## How do I pay the charge?

The simplest way to pay a ULEZ daily charge is by signing up for Auto Pay. You can either register a debit or credit card to your account or set up a direct debit mandate. The system will automatically check whether you need to pay the ULEZ daily charge (and/or the Congestion Charge) and will automatically bill your registered payment method each month.

It is free to register, and it means you will never forget to pay the charge or risk a fine for vehicles registered on your Auto Pay service.

You can also download the official TfL Pay to Drive in London app, which is available as a free download from the Apple App Store and Google Play store.



Or visit [tfl.gov.uk/pay-to-drive](https://tfl.gov.uk/pay-to-drive) for other payment options.

If you drive within the zone, you'll have to pay by midnight on the third day following the journey, or you can pay up to 90 days in advance of your journey.

## What are my options?

---

To help clear the city's air and support Londoners through the ULEZ expansion, the Mayor of London is providing financial assistance to help take the most highly polluting vehicles off the road.

---

We would prefer people to use a vehicle that meets the emissions standards for essential journeys rather than pay the daily charge or, where possible, use public transport, walk or cycle.

If you choose to replace your vehicle for one that meets the emissions standards, you do not need to buy a brand new or electric vehicle. Most petrol vehicles under 16 years old or diesel under 6 years old already meet the emissions standards. Check the vehicle registration using our vehicle checker before you purchase.

### Scrappage scheme and support offers

Londoners on certain low income or disability benefits, such as Universal Credit, Carer's Allowance or Disability Living Allowance, could be eligible to scrap their vehicle with the Mayor of London's scrappage scheme. You can claim benefits whether you are in work or out of work, so it's worth checking you are claiming everything you can.

You could get £2,000 to scrap a car or £1,000 to scrap a motorcycle. Options are available for one or two adult-rate TfL Annual Bus & Tram Passes plus a lower payment, worth more than the payment alone.

Wheelchair accessible vehicle owners can also apply to receive £5,000 to scrap or retrofit to the ULEZ emissions standards.

London based sole traders, businesses with up to 10 employees and registered charities could also be eligible to scrap or retrofit a van and receive a payment of £5,000, or up to £7,000 to scrap or retrofit a minibus. Options are available to scrap and replace with a fully electric vehicle and receive a payment of £7,500 for a van or £9,500 for a minibus.

The £110 million scrappage scheme funds will be awarded on a first come, first served basis.

To find out more about how to apply, visit: [tfl.gov.uk/scrappage-scheme](https://tfl.gov.uk/scrappage-scheme)

Successful scrappage scheme applicants will also have access to exclusive offers to help the money go further.

If you're not eligible for scrappage, there are other ULEZ support offers which are available to all Londoners, including car club offers, van hire and discounts on bike hire, subscription or purchase.

---

To find out more about ULEZ support offers, visit: [tfl.gov.uk/ulez-support-offers](https://tfl.gov.uk/ulez-support-offers)

---



---

Download TfL Go to your iOS or Android devices to plan your journey and check live arrival times

---

## Public transport

Choosing the bus, Tube, Elizabeth line, tram, DLR and London Overground is good value for money and a more sustainable way to travel all over London. Travel off-peak for the best value fare - visit [tfl.gov.uk/fares](https://tfl.gov.uk/fares) to check the cost of your journey before you travel. The Mayor of London and TfL are also planning to expand bus routes in outer London to help make travelling by public transport even easier.

Travel confidently around London with maps and live travel updates on our official travel app, TfL Go.

TfL Go can also help you to make step-free journeys and look up station facilities and it's able to show you when lines, stations and lifts are closed or affected by disruptions.

As well as the fastest public transport routes, the app offers alternative routes to give you more travel options and provides walking and cycling routes to consider for all or part of your journey.

## Walking and cycling

People who walk or cycle 20 minutes a day as part of their regular journeys benefit from improved mental and physical wellbeing. For a map of cycleway routes and other information about cycling visit [tfl.gov.uk/cycling](https://tfl.gov.uk/cycling)

Free cycle training is available for all abilities, whether you're new to cycling or just want to brush up on your skills. You can learn online, one-to-one or in a group with an instructor in your borough (subject to funding and availability). To book your free cycle training course, visit [tfl.gov.uk/cycle-skills](https://tfl.gov.uk/cycle-skills)







[tfl.gov.uk/check-your-vehicle](https://tfl.gov.uk/check-your-vehicle)



24 hour travel information  
**0343 222 1234\***



Sign up for email updates  
[tfl.gov.uk/emailupdates](https://tfl.gov.uk/emailupdates)



[tfl.gov.uk/socialmedia](https://tfl.gov.uk/socialmedia)