

## 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** 

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#### Message from the Mayor



**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, with over half of these people living in outer London. 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 already 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. Because of the higher proportion of elderly Londoners in outer London, 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 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.

9 out of 10 cars seen driving in outer London on an average day already meet the ULEZ standards, so their drivers will not need to pay the charge. For those whose vehicles do not meet the standards, I know that the rising cost of living is a concern. That's why I'm determined to support as many Londoners as possible with the biggest scrappage scheme yet.

The scheme has already been supporting Londoners receiving Child Benefit, those on low incomes and with disabilities, small businesses, sole traders and charities.

I have listened to the concerns of Londoners and have announced a huge expansion to the scheme to provide even more financial support. Certain higher grant payments are now available and from 2I August, all London residents can apply, whether or not they claim benefits, and small businesses can scrap up to three vehicles.

A new short term grace period is now also available for eligible businesses and charities if they have ordered a new vehicle or awaiting retrofit that won't be ready before the ULEZ expands.

I have supported disabled Londoners by extending grace periods for eligible vehicles, which will be exempt until 2027, and have widened the criteria for those who qualify, meaning over a quarter of a million disabled people could benefit.

Any money received from the scheme is reinvested into running and improving London's transport network, such as contributing to the proposed Superloop, made up of express bus routes to help connect more people in outer London.

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### 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.

The ULEZ has already made a significant difference, helping to reduce harmful nitrogen dioxide pollution by nearly half in central London.

From 29 August 2023, the ULEZ will expand to create one single zone across all London boroughs. 9 out of 10 cars seen driving in outer London on an average day meet the ULEZ standards, so their drivers will not need to pay the charge. To check if your vehicle meets the emissions standards, visit 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.

#### 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. The LEZ covers lorries, vans or specialist heavy vehicles (all over 3.5 tonnes) and buses, minibuses and coaches (all over 5 tonnes).

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.



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

For more information visit <u>tfl.gov.uk/ulez-compliance</u>

Compliance estimates are based on monthly average levels.

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### Who is affected?

The easiest way to check is to use our simple vehicle checker, visit tfl.gov.uk/ check-yourvehicle 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 a daily charge will need to be paid.

9 out of 10 cars seen driving in outer London already meet the standards, but if you're one of the few who drive a petrol vehicle over 16 years old, or a diesel vehicle over 6 years old, you may be affected. To check your vehicle, visit tfl.gov.uk/check-your-vehicle

Drivers of 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 their vehicles do not meet the LEZ emissions standards.

#### Discounts and exemptions Disabled Londoners

Grace periods (temporary exemptions) from the ULEZ charge have been put in place until 24 October 2027 to support disabled Londoners. These are available for vehicles registered with a 'disabled' or 'disabled passenger vehicle' tax class and eligible wheelchair accessible vehicles, as well as people receiving certain disability benefits. For more information, visit <u>tfl.gov.uk/ulezdiscounts-and-exemptions</u>

#### Other vehicle types

There are other drivers and vehicle types that are exempt from the ULEZ or entitled to discounts, such as historic tax class vehicles.

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

#### NHS patient reimbursement

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. Find out more at <u>tfl.gov.uk/nhsreimbursement</u>

## Business and charities short-term grace period

A new grace period is now available for eligible businesses and charities that have a new van or minibus ordered, or a non-compliant van or minibus being retrofitted, that will not be ready until after the ULEZ expansion 29 August 2023. Eligible organisations have until 29 November 2023 to apply. The grace period will apply from the date the application is accepted for a maximum of 6 months, until 29 May 2024. For more information including full details of eligibility criteria, visit tfl.gov.uk/ulezdiscounts-andexemptions

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#### What is the charge?

9 out of 10 cars seen driving in outer London on an average day meet the ULEZ standards, so their drivers will not need to pay the charge. Any money received from the scheme is reinvested into running and improving London's transport network, such as contributing to the proposed Superloop, made up of express bus routes to help connect more people in outer London.

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. Sign up for Auto Pay, the easiest way to pay, at tfl.gov.uk/ auto-pay



#### How do I pay the charge?

The simplest way to pay the ULEZ daily charge is by signing up for Auto Pay, at <u>tfl.gov.uk/auto-pay</u>

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.



You can also pay by phone on 0343 222 2222. Service and network charges may apply (See <u>tfl.gov.uk/</u> <u>terms</u> for details).

Visit <u>tfl.gov.uk/ulez-payments</u> for more information and other payment options.

If paying online, only use TfL's official website to avoid paying more than you need to.

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.

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#### What are my options?

We would prefer people to use a vehicle that meets the emissions standards if they need to drive 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 retrofit options

If you're one of the few whose vehicle does not meet the emissions standards, support is available through the Mayor of London and TfL's scrappage scheme.

Certain higher grant payments are now available and from 2I August, every London resident with a vehicle that doesn't meet the emissions standards can apply to the scheme.

Prior to 2I August, those receiving Child Benefit or certain low income or disability benefits can apply now.

You could get:

- £2,000 to scrap a car
- £1,000 to scrap a motorcycle

- Alternatively, you could choose up to £1,600 plus one or two TfL Annual Bus and Tram passes, with a higher total value than the grant payment alone
- £10,000 to scrap a wheelchair accessible vehicle (previously £5,000)
- £6,000 to retrofit (alter the vehicle's engine to reduce emissions) a wheelchair accessible vehicle (previously £5,000)

London-based small businesses with under 50 employees can apply to the scheme, as well as micro businesses, sole traders and registered charities. Grant payments have been increased. Registered charities can scrap up to three vehicles and from 2I August 2023, small businesses can also apply to scrap up to three vehicles rather than one.

Eligible businesses and charities could get:

- £6,000 to retrofit a van or minibus (previously £5,000)
- £7,000 to scrap a van (previously £5,000)
- £9,000 to scrap a minibus (previously £7,000)
- £9,500 £11,500 to scrap a van or minibus and replace with an electric vehicle (previously £7,500-£9,500)

The scheme has limited funds and operates on a first come, first served basis, so we encourage you to apply now, visit <u>tfl.gov.uk/scrappage-scheme</u>

See the TfL website for full details and eligibility.

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The Mayor

of London.

Sadig Khan,

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#### To find out more about ULEZ support offers, visit tfl.gov.uk/ulezsupport-offers

#### **ULEZ support offers**

Several organisations are providing a range of great deals that can help you to save money and use greener, cleaner forms of transport. Even if you're not eligible for the Mayor of London's scrappage scheme and retrofit options, London residents can get offers on car clubs, car and van rentals and vehicle leasing, as well as discounts on bike and e-bike hire, subscription, or purchase.

Successful scrappage scheme applicants can also unlock additional exclusive offers

To find out more, visit <u>tfl.gov.uk/ulez-</u> <u>support-offers</u>

#### 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 <u>tfl.gov.uk/fares</u> to check the cost of your journey before you travel.

We are giving Londoners better access to their local area through our bus network. Our proposal for a new Superloop, made up of express bus routes, will help connect more people in outer London to town centres, hospitals, schools and transport hubs. All TfL buses are low or zero emission (at the tailpipe).

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 <u>tfl.gov.uk/cycling</u>

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 Emission instructor in your LEZ borough (subject ULEZ to funding and ZONES availability). To book your free cycle training course visit tfl.gov.uk/ cvcle-skills



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

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24 hour travel information 0343 222 1234\*



Sign up for email updates tfl.gov.uk/emailupdates



\*Service and network charges may apply. See <u>tfl.gov.uk/terms</u> for details.

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