

Press release: £260 million of clean air funding launched by government

Updated: List of AQ grant recipients added.

A package of funding worth more than £260 million has today been launched by the government to help improve air quality in some of the most polluted areas.

The [UK Plan for Tackling Roadside Nitrogen Dioxide Concentrations](#) was produced by the government in July 2017, and outlined that councils with the worst levels of air pollution at busy road junctions and hotspots must take robust action in the shortest time possible.

Fulfilling a commitment to support local authorities to deliver these plans, the government has today [launched a £220 million Clean Air Fund](#) to minimise the impact of local plans on individuals and businesses. A range of options local authorities could consider to utilise this money such as new park and ride services, freight consolidation centres, concessionary travel schemes and improvements to bus fleets have been set out.

At the same time, more than £40 million from the £255 million Implementation Fund has been awarded to support local authorities take action as soon as possible to improve air quality.

This includes:

- £11.7 million to the 28 local authorities with the biggest air quality challenges to help carry out the work needed to develop air quality plans, including securing resource and expertise
- £24.5 million to the same 28 local areas to support a range of measures to take action locally. Examples include installing electric charge point hubs in car parks; junction improvements; bus priority measures; building cycle routes; incentivising ultra-low emission taxis through licensing schemes and leasing electric vehicles; and traffic management and monitoring systems
- £2.4 million from the 2017/18 Air Quality Grant for local community projects to tackle air quality at a grass roots level. This comes in addition to £3.7 million already awarded in last year's Air Quality Grant, which included an award winning project taken forward by Westminster City Council to provide advice and toolkits for small and medium businesses to reduce transport emissions from deliveries associated with their operations
- £1.65 million to support the 33 local authorities that have been asked to conduct targeted feasibility studies to identify measures that could bring forward compliance dates within the shortest possible time

Environment Minister Thérèse Coffey said:

We have been clear that local leaders are best placed to develop innovative plans that rapidly meet the needs of their communities. Today's funding demonstrates the government's commitment to support the local momentum needed and continue to improve our air now and for future generations.

Improving air quality is about more than just tackling emissions from transport, so later this year we will publish a comprehensive Clean Air Strategy. This will set out how we will address all forms of air pollution, delivering cleaner air for the whole country.

Today's announcement is part of a £3.5 billion plan to improve air quality and reduce harmful emissions.

Air Quality Grant

We've published [more details on the Air Quality Grant](#). Successful projects for 2017/18 are listed below:

Local authority	Project	Amount
Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (with Doncaster)	ECO-STARS bus and taxi fleet	£125,000
Blaby District Council	Schools and SMEs behavioural change and action plan	£59,000
Bradford Metropolitan District Council	Air quality feasibility study	£195,000
Canterbury City Council	Awareness campaign in schools and community on transport and domestic burning stoves	£33,354
Cheshire West and Chester	Local research on domestic burning stoves and health impacts	£44,000
City of York Council (with Lancaster, Mid Devon)	Local authority officer knowledge sharing online platform	£216,008
East Sussex County Council (with West Sussex, Brighton, Chichester, Horsham, Adur, Crawley, Mid Sussex, Worthing, Lewes)	Action plan for schools and businesses in AQMAs	£105,900
Kirklees (Bradford, Calderdale, Wakefield)	Domestic and commercial awareness campaign and action plan	£106,292
London Borough of Tower Hamlets	Community action plan and business engagement on emissions from industry and transport	£107,864
Oxford City Council	Electric vehicle charging points, electric fleet, technical study	£192,500

Local authority	Project	Amount
Portsmouth City Council	Communications package and cycling infrastructure	£450,000
Reading Borough Council	Electric vehicle charging points in residential areas	£100,000
Spelthorne Borough Council (Surrey Air Alliance)	Awareness campaign in schools across the county.	£145,188
St Helens Council (with Liverpool City Region, Liverpool, Halton, Knowsley, Sefton, Wirral)	Air quality website for Liverpool residents	£74,000
Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent (with Tamworth, Lichfield, South Staffordshire, Stafford, Cannock Chase, Newcastle-under-Lyme and The Moorlands)	Council partnership action plan, public and business engagement, business and school travel plans with annual monitoring, electric vehicle charging point and a clean air campaign.	£208,000
Westminster City Council ((Cross River Partnership) with Lambeth, Islington, Kensington & Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham, Lewisham)	Working with businesses across 5 boroughs to help reduce their emissions	£232,850
Total		£2,394,956

National Statistics: Monthly sea fisheries statistics January 2018

The monthly landings statistics will be released at 9.30am on the 4th Friday of each month, or the next working day if this is a bank holiday.

Official Statistics: Point of first release for statistics on abundance of UK butterflies (2018 publication; includes data up to 2017)

Trends of UK butterfly species are based on results of the UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme (UKBMS), presented at UK level, and at country level where there are sufficient data. The UKBMS helps the UK to meet its obligations under the European Habitats Directive (for Marsh Fritillary and Large Blue),

and to report on, implement or deliver country biodiversity strategies and biodiversity indicators.

The UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme is organized and funded by Butterfly Conservation, the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, British Trust for Ornithology, and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee. The UKBMS is indebted to all volunteers who contribute data to the scheme.

Policy paper: Dstl Environmental Sustainability Policy Statement

Dstl recognises that our activities can have both negative and positive impact on the environment, people and wider communities. In the delivery of our Vision we need to ensure that environmental, social and economic impacts are fully considered when taking decisions so that the Laboratory remains 'fit for purpose' both now and in the future.

To deliver our Vision of the future and in line with MoD Environmental Sustainability priorities we will embed 'environmental and sustainability thinking' into our everyday activities and require our partners and suppliers to do the same. This will ensure that this mind-set is fully incorporated into all aspects of our Science & Technology Business. Our success will be measured by the degree to which 'environment and sustainability management' is fully embedded into the way every one of us works.

Policy Statement

- As a minimum, this policy requires that Dstl will fulfil its compliance obligations associated with its environmental aspects (hazards) and associated environmental and sustainability risks and opportunities. However, Dstl is committed to going beyond simple compliance by:
- Continually improving the environmental management systems that mitigate our direct environmental impact, reduce our use of natural resources including our use of water, reduce our waste production and prevent pollution on our estate.
- Understanding the impacts we have on the environment around us through our activities and our use of resources and commit to minimising negative impacts for the benefit of all within the financial constraints of the business and without compromising critical work that supports the security of the nation.

- Establishing environmental and sustainability objectives that take account of our significant environmental aspects, compliance objectives and other identified risks and opportunities. These will be periodically reviewed, documented within our Environment and Sustainability Objectives and be communicated to staff and to others on request.
- Reducing carbon emissions from our operations by investing in energy efficient buildings and technology, improving our energy management, managing our business travel and influencing colleague's behaviour.
- Ensuring opportunities for conservation and enhancement of biodiversity are taken wherever possible.
- Embedding environmental and sustainability considerations into business decisions, which will include the application of, as a minimum, DREAM in the design and major refurbishment of our building stock.
- Raising our workforces' awareness of Dstl's environmental and sustainability risks and opportunities, influencing and encouraging environmental and sustainable behaviours and identifying and providing appropriate training to enable them to play a full role in implementing this policy.
- Seek opportunities to work with our supply chain to reduce the environmental impact of our operations, addressing as a minimum, UK Government procurement policy, but exploiting other opportunities identified by us and our suppliers where practical.
- Work with national and local government and the communities around us to achieve these objectives.

This policy supports the wider environment and sustainability aspirations of the UK Government and that of the Ministry of Defence.

[National Statistics: Historical statistics notices on UK milk prices and composition of milk, 2018](#)

Updated: Added historical statistical notice for July 2018.

This publication gives previously published copies of the monthly National Statistics publication on UK milk prices and composition of milk that showed figures for 2018. Each publication gives the figures available at that time. The figures are subject to revision each month as new information becomes available.

The latest publication and accompanying data sets can be found [here](#).

Most milk produced in the UK is bought by dairies (registered 'milk purchasers') for processing. Defra runs a monthly survey in England and Wales to collect information on the volume, value and protein content of milk purchased from farms. Similar surveys are run in Scotland and Northern Ireland. Additional information is collected by the Rural Payments Agency (RPA) on the protein and butterfat content of the milk. The UK average farm-gate milk price, protein content and butterfat content is then calculated.

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