

Bristol's Clean Air Zone

Community toolkit

Use this toolkit to share information about how the Clean Air Zone works and help make the air we breathe cleaner.



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“We have a moral, environmental and legal responsibility to make Bristol’s air cleaner. Our city is already benefitting from positive changes, including improvements to bus infrastructure, walking routes and cycle paths. Now, the Clean Air Zone will reduce air pollution, support people and businesses to upgrade their vehicles and help us become a healthier, more sustainable and inclusive city.”

Marvin Rees, Mayor of Bristol

What is the Clean Air Zone?

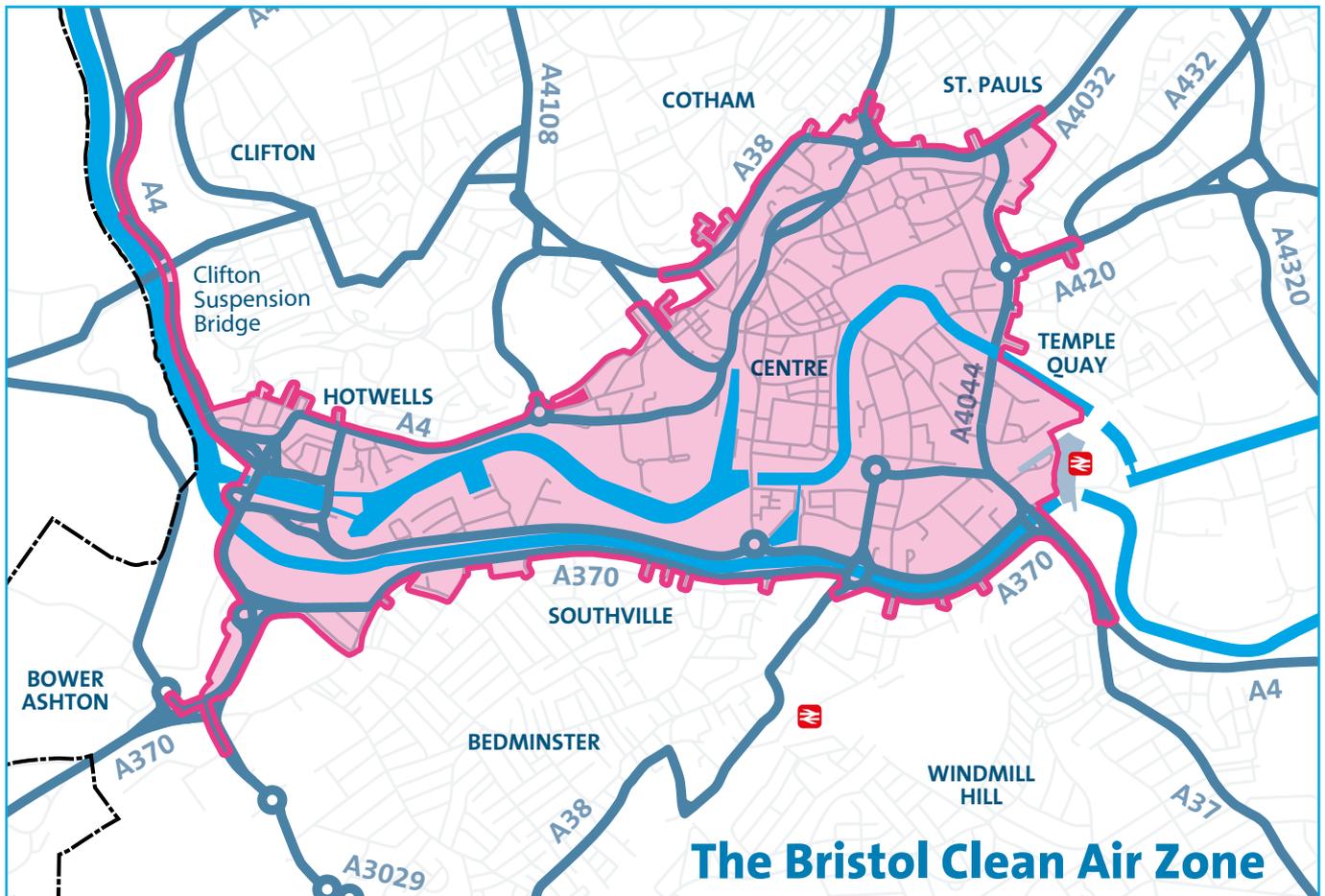
Road traffic, particularly diesel engines, is a major source of air pollution in cities. Air pollution affects everyone in Bristol, especially in the most polluted areas of the city.

The council has a legal and moral duty to reduce pollution in the shortest possible time. The government has directed Bristol and other cities to do this by introducing a Clean Air Zone.

No vehicle is banned from driving in the Clean Air Zone, but the most polluting vehicles will have to pay a daily charge to travel within the area.

The zone will also encourage more people to switch to alternative ways of travelling, such as public transport, walking and cycling.

The majority of vehicles that travel in Bristol already meet the zone’s emission standards and will not be charged.



Where is the zone?

The zone is designed to improve air quality in the central area where it's worst.

As more people switch to cleaner vehicles or change the way they travel, air quality will improve throughout the city and not just in the zone.

We also estimate the zone will reduce the traffic travelling into the city by approximately 1,500 vehicles per day helping to ease congestion as well as reducing air pollution.

Visit our website to [view an interactive map of the zone](#).

How to know if you've driven in the zone

Look out for road signs that will tell you if you are approaching or entering the Clean Air Zone. These are placed at regular intervals as you approach the zone boundary.

Signs have a clearly marked green cloud with the letter 'D' inside.



How the zone works

Only vehicles which do not meet the zone's emission standards will be charged.

- Charges do not apply to Euro 4, 5 and 6 petrol vehicles (roughly 2006 onwards)
- Charges do not apply to Euro 6 diesel vehicles (roughly end of 2015 onwards)

The zone uses automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) cameras to register vehicles driving into and through the zone. If a vehicle does not meet the zone's emission standards it will automatically register a charge.

Daily charges apply 24 hours a day (midnight to midnight), seven days a week, all year round when entering or driving in the zone.

Because charges apply daily, you can enter or leave the zone on multiple occasions each day you pay a charge and only be charged once for that day.

If you drive in the zone across two days, for example before midnight and after midnight, you will need to pay two daily charges.

Charges for vehicles that do not meet the zone's emission standards		
	Private car	£9 per day
	Taxis	£9 per day
	Vans	£9 per day
	Heavy goods vehicle	£100 per day
	Buses	£100 per day
	Coach	£100 per day

Charges do not apply if a vehicle is parked in the zone but does not move.

If you live within the zone and drive a vehicle that is subject to the charge, you will only be charged if you make a journey.

How to pay

Charges must be paid via the [government's online payment system](#) or by calling their Clean Air Zone Support Centre on 0300 029 8888 (Monday to Friday: 8am to 7pm, Saturday: 8am to 2pm).

Please note you will **not** receive written notification or an alert when you have entered the zone and a payment is due. You are fully responsible for managing all payments.

You can pay the charge to enter Bristol's Clean Air Zone from **up to six days before until six days after you enter the zone**. If you do not pay the charge before the end of this window you may be issued with a Penalty Charge Notice of £120 (which is reduced to £60 if you pay it within 14 days).

What should I do now?

We estimate that 71% of vehicles already meet the zone's emission standards so won't need to pay the charge.

The best thing you can do is to check if your vehicle will be charged and encourage your friends, family and colleagues to do the same.

Use the government's online Clean Air Zone Checker to [see if your vehicle will be charged](#) to drive in Bristol's Clean Air Zone.

If your vehicle meets the zone's emission standards you will not be charged and don't need to do anything. We still encourage you to think about how you travel and whether there are any changes, big or small, you're able to make which will help us on our journey to cleaner air.

Financial support

Support is available for eligible residents and businesses most impacted by the zone to help them upgrade their vehicles or switch to a cleaner way of travelling.

Go to our website to [find out how we can help you](#) and register your interest in financial support.

Temporary exemptions

Several exemptions are available to give eligible businesses and individuals time to prepare for the zone.

All residents in the zone with a vehicle that doesn't meet its emission standards can apply for an exemption from the charge.

Go to our website to [find out more about exemptions.](#)

How can I make a difference?

We can help you and your community to change your travel habits.

Get free travel vouchers

If you live or work in Bristol, we can provide free travel offers to help you save money and find new ways of getting about.

Our free offers include bus, train and e-scooter vouchers and car club credit.

[Apply for vouchers on our website.](#)

Free loan bikes

The Travelwest [loan bike scheme](#) is perfect for people that want to try cycling but don't know where to start. It offers electric, folding or hybrid bikes for up to a month without charge.

Cycle training for all levels

Whether you want to try cycling for the first time or you're looking to build your confidence on the roads, we can help. Visit the [Better by Bike website](#) to find out more.

Travel to school

If you're thinking of refreshing your school run, visit Travelwest's [Back to School pages](#) for tips and support.

Journey planning

Our experienced travel advisors can help you discover the best route options to travel by walking, cycling or public transport. [Find out more and access our free support](#) on the Travelwest website.

Avoid excessive idling of your car

Switch your engine off when you're stationary for a minute or more. The easiest place to do this is at traffic lights. It's especially important to be mindful of turning off your engine if you're outside a school or if you're pulled up and waiting on the street. [Find out more about idling](#) on the Clean Air for Bristol website.

Spread the word

Spreading the word about the changes explained in this toolkit will make sure everyone knows how the Clean Air Zone works.

Below are several resources to help you share information about the zone.

Make a video

When it comes to spreading the word there is nothing more powerful than hearing from real people. Let us know how you are raising awareness of the Clean Air Zone.

Simply record a one-minute video of how you are helping to keep our air clean. You don't need fancy equipment – your smartphone will work just fine!

Share your video with us on Twitter via [@BCC Clean Air](https://twitter.com/BCC_Clean_Air) or email it to CAZSupport@bristol.gov.uk

Share in an email or newsletter

Bristol's Clean Air Zone is here – do you know what to do?

Bristol City Council has introduced a Clean Air Zone to reduce harmful pollution from vehicles.

The zone is in the central area where air quality is poorest. No vehicles are banned from driving in the zone, but older and more polluting vehicles will have to pay a daily charge to drive in the zone.

71 per cent of vehicles already meet the zone's emission standards. The council is offering financial support and advice to help people upgrade their vehicles or switch to a cleaner way of travelling.

What you need to do now

Get ready for Bristol's Clean Air Zone by following our three easy steps:

- go to the government's clean air zone pages to [check if your vehicle will be charged](#)
- check our [interactive map](#) to see how the zone affects you
- if you do need to [pay a charge](#), make sure you pay within six days
- find out if you are eligible for [financial support or an exemption](#)

Reducing air pollution is everyone's responsibility so please consider how you travel. Most people can travel into and around the city centre without using a car at all. Visit the active travel pages on Travelwest to see how we can support you to [take more journeys by public transport, cycling and walking](#).

If you want to [find out more about the Clean Air Zone](#) visit our website or email CAZSupport@bristol.gov.uk

Share on social media

Post	Post content
Post one	Bristol's Clean Air Zone is here, do you know what to do? Find out more about the zone and how it could affect you at bristol.gov.uk/cleanairzone #CleanAirForBristol #CleanAirMatters
Post two	Cleaner air is coming to Bristol. We're making changes to help all of us breathe cleaner air and you can too. Visit bristol.gov.uk/cleanairzone #CleanAirForBristol #CleanAirMatters
Post three	Bristol's Clean Air Zone is here. If you drive an older vehicle, you may need to pay a charge. Check your vehicle at bristol.gov.uk/cleanairzone #CleanAirForBristol #CleanAirMatters
Post four	Bristol Clean Air Zone – find out more about the zone and what @BristolCouncil support is available at bristol.gov.uk/cleanairzone #CleanAirForBristol #CleanAirMatters
Post five	Bristol's Clean Air Zone is here. We're asking all #Bristolians to visit www.bristol.gov.uk/cleanairzone to make sure know what to do #CleanAirForBristol #CleanAirMatters
Post six	Bristol's Clean Air Zone is here. Have you thought about trying a different way to travel? There's lots of free support to help you walk, bike and bus your way across #Bristol travelwest.info/active-travel #LeaveTheCarAtHome #CleanAirForBristol #CleanAirMatters

For further information and support

- visit [our website](#) and [the Clean Air for Bristol website](#)
- email CAZSupport@bristol.gov.uk
- follow [@BCC Clean Air](#) on Twitter
- search for the hashtag #CleanAirForBristol

Spread the word – download social media content



A4 downloadable poster



Facebook/LinkedIn image



Twitter image



Email signature



Instagram image



Nextdoor image



Instagram stories image

If you would like help with any further materials to help you share information on Bristol's Clean Air Zone please get in touch with us by emailing CAZsupport@bristol.gov.uk