

# **AIR QUALITY ASSESSMENT**

Harrington Square, Camden

Produced by XCO<sub>2</sub> for WSP

January 2024



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	01	02	03	04		
Remarks	Draft	Update to comments	Update to comments	Update to comments		
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Authorised by	ZS	ZS	ZS	ZS		
Date	28/08/2023	07/09/2023	04/01/2024	11/01/2024		
Project reference	9.846	9.846	9.846	9.846		

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An assessment has been undertaken to quantify the potential impacts on local air quality associated with the construction and operation of the proposed development at Harrington Square, in the London Borough of Camden. Based on the results of the assessment, it is considered that redevelopment of the site would not cause a significant impact on local air quality.

During the construction phase, the site has the potential to generate dust nuisance beyond the application boundary. However, through the implementation of a Dust Management Plan, the impacts will be effectively minimised and are unlikely to be significant.

Dispersion modelling of emissions from traffic on the local road network has been undertaken to ascertain the likely level of exposure of future users of the proposed development to elevated nitrogen dioxide and particulate concentrations. The predicted concentrations at the façade of the new building fall within exposure category APEC-A and therefore the proposed development will not introduce new exposure to poor air quality.

The proposed development is air quality neutral with respect to both transport and building-related emissions.

## INTRODUCTION

This report presents an assessment of the potential impact on local air quality of the construction and operation of a proposed development at Harrington Square in the London Borough of Camden (LBC). The site location is presented in

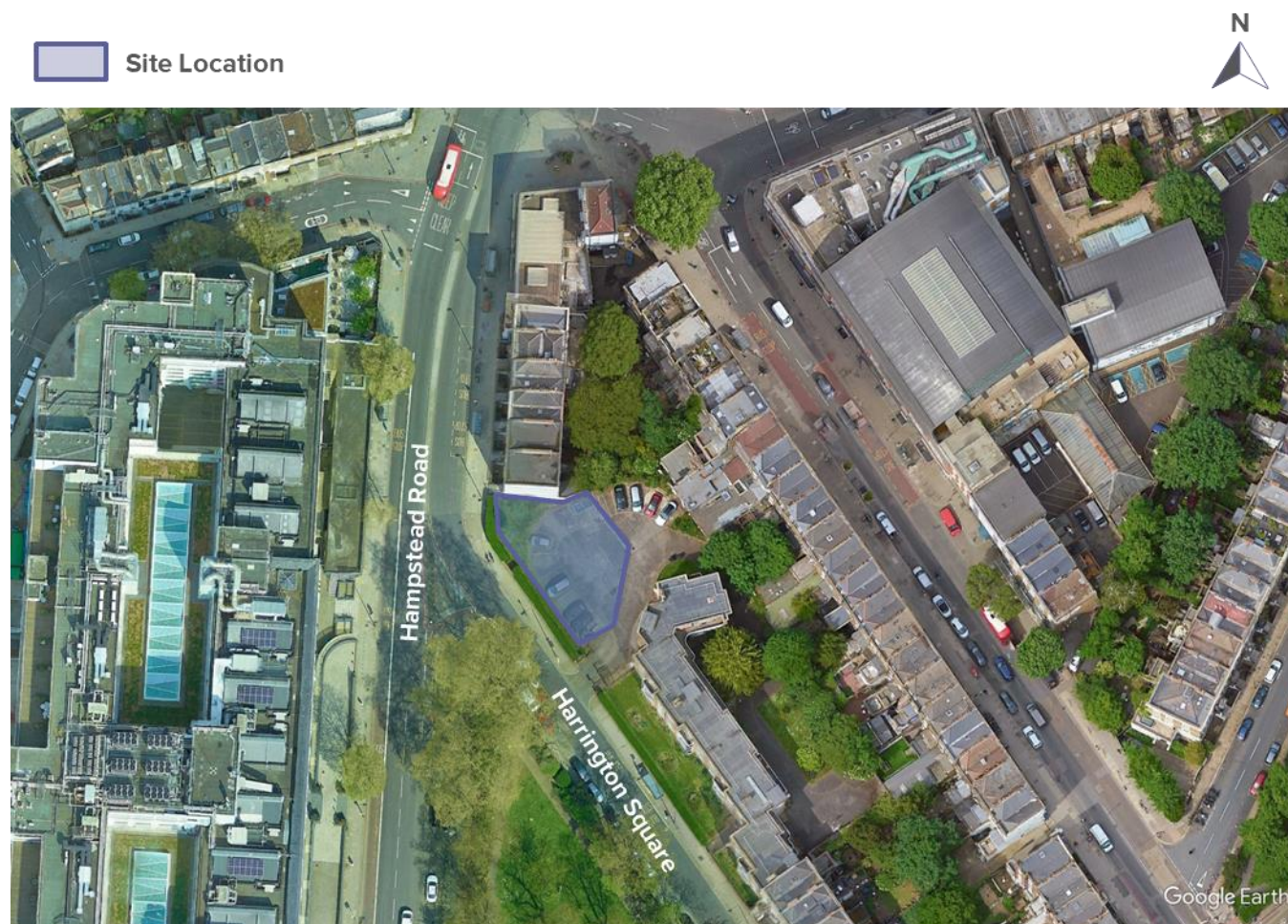


Figure 1.

The scheme comprises a six-storey residential development, which includes a basement level and a set-back penthouse forming the top level. Eleven units will be provided in total. The proposed site plan is presented in Figure 2.

The site falls within the LBC Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) which is borough-wide designation due to measured and modelled exceedances of the air quality objectives for nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and particulate matter (as PM<sub>10</sub>). The primary source of emissions of these pollutants in the Borough is road traffic.

An assessment has been undertaken to determine the potential impact on local air quality during both the construction and operational phases of the development, with recommendations made for mitigation where appropriate.



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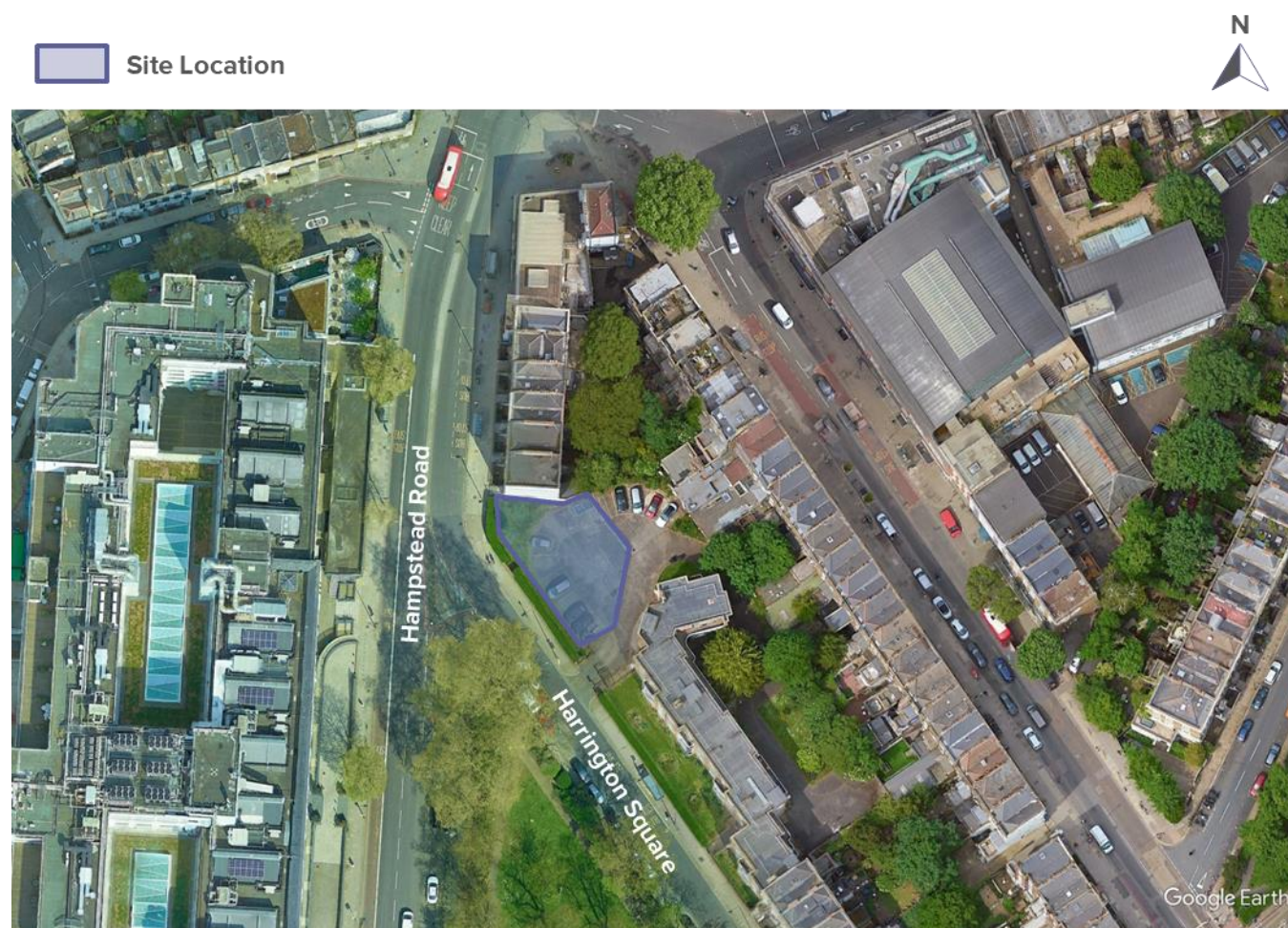


Figure 1: Site Location



Figure 2: Proposed Site Plan



## POLICY CONTEXT

An overview of the relevant policy drivers for the assessment is provided in the following section.

## NATIONAL LEGISLATION

### ***THE NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK***

The National Planning Policy Framework NPPF<sup>1</sup> sets out the Government's policies for planning and how these should be applied. With regard to air quality, paragraph 186 states "*planning policies and decisions should sustain and contribute towards compliance with relevant limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and Clean Air Zones, and the cumulative impacts from individual sites in local areas. Opportunities to improve air quality or mitigate impacts should be identified, such as through traffic and travel management, and green infrastructure provision and enhancement. So far as possible these opportunities should be considered at the plan-making stage, to ensure a strategic approach and limit the need for issues to be reconsidered when determining individual applications. Planning decisions should ensure that any new development in Air Quality Management Areas and Clean Air Zones is consistent with the local air quality action plan*".

### ***NATIONAL AIR QUALITY STANDARDS AND OBJECTIVES***

The assessment of potential air quality impacts associated with the proposed development has been evaluated with respect to the current air quality standards and objectives for the protection of human health, as set out in the Air Quality Regulations 2010<sup>2</sup> and The Environment (Miscellaneous Amendments) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020<sup>3</sup>.

In the context of the proposed development, the key pollutants of concern are nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>), which, in the LBL, are primarily associated with road traffic emissions and construction works.

It is widely accepted that there is no safe level for PM<sub>2.5</sub> and on 31st January 2023, the Government published an Environmental Improvement Plan<sup>4</sup>, which includes an Annual Mean Concentration Target (AMCT) of 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, to be achieved by the end of 2040. The Plan also includes an interim target of 12 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, to be achieved by the end of January 2028. The 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup> target for PM<sub>2.5</sub> has been adopted into UK law via the Environmental Targets (Fine Particulate Matter) (England) Regulations 2023<sup>5</sup>.

The Air Quality Standards and Objectives for NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> that are applicable in England, are presented in Table 1.

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<sup>1</sup> Department for Communities and Local Government, National Planning Policy Framework, August 2023

<sup>2</sup> The Air Quality Standards Regulations 2010, Statutory Instrument 2010 No. 1001

<sup>3</sup> The Environment (Miscellaneous Amendments) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020, Statutory Instrument 2020 No. 000

<sup>4</sup> Environmental Improvement Plan 2023, Defra, January 2023

<sup>5</sup> Environmental Targets (Fine Particulate Matter) (England) Regulations 2023, Statutory Instrument 2023 No. 96

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Table 1: National Air Quality Standards and Objectives

Pollutant	Averaging Period	Objective	To be achieved by and maintained thereafter
NO <sub>2</sub>	1-hour	200 µg/m <sup>3</sup> , not to be exceeded more than 18 times per calendar year (a)	31 December 2005
	Annual	40 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	
PM <sub>10</sub>	24-hour	50 µg/m <sup>3</sup> , not to be exceeded more than 35 times per calendar year (b)	31 December 2004
	Annual	40 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Annual	20 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	2020
	Annual	12 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (interim target)	31 January 2028
	Annual	10 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (target)	31 December 2040
(a) Equivalent to the 99.8 <sup>th</sup> percentile of 1-hour means. (b) Equivalent to the 90.4 <sup>th</sup> percentile of 24-hour means.			

## LOCAL AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT

The framework for Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) in the UK was introduced by the Environment Act 1995<sup>6</sup>. Local Authorities are required to regularly review and assess air quality to establish whether there are any locations where pollutant concentrations exceed the relevant air quality objectives or EU limit values. Where an exceedance is identified, the local authority is obliged to declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and prepare an Action Plan setting out measures to improve air quality and achieve compliance with the objective(s). The LAQM delivery framework for local authorities in England is set out in Defra's 2023 Air Quality Strategy<sup>7</sup>.

## REGIONAL POLICY

### THE LONDON PLAN

Policy SI1 (Improving Air Quality) of the London Plan<sup>8</sup> sets out the Greater London Authority's (GLA) commitment to improving air quality and public health and states:

*A. Development plans, through relevant strategic, site specific and area-based policies should seek opportunities to identify and deliver further improvements to air quality and should not reduce air quality benefits that result from the Mayor's or boroughs' activities to improve air quality.*

<sup>6</sup> Part IV of the Environment Act 1995

<sup>7</sup> Air Quality Strategy Framework for local authority delivery, Defra, April 2023

<sup>8</sup> The London Plan 2021, The Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London, Greater London Authority, March 2021.

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*B. To tackle poor air quality, protect health and meet legal obligations the following criteria should be addressed:*

*1. Development proposals should not:*

- a) lead to further deterioration of existing poor air quality.*
- b) create any new areas that exceed air quality limits, or delay the date at which compliance will be achieved in areas that are currently in exceedance of legal limits.*
- c) create unacceptable risk of high levels of exposure to poor air quality.*

*2. In order to meet the requirements in Part 1, as a minimum:*

- a) Development proposals must be at least air quality neutral.*
- b) Development proposals should use design solutions to prevent or minimise increased exposure to existing air pollution and make provision to address local problems of air quality in preference to post-design or retro-fitted mitigation measures.*
- c) Major development proposals must be submitted with an Air Quality Assessment. Air quality assessments should show how the development will meet the requirements of B1.*
- d) Development proposals in Air Quality Focus Areas or that are likely to be used by large numbers of people particularly vulnerable to poor air quality, such as children or older people, which do not demonstrate that design measures have been used to minimise exposure should be refused.*

*C. Masterplans and development briefs for large-scale development proposals subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment should consider how local air quality can be improved across the area of the proposal as part of an air quality positive approach. To achieve this a statement should be submitted demonstrating:*

*a) How proposals have considered ways to maximise benefits to local air quality, and What measures or design features will be put in place to reduce exposure to pollution, and how they will achieve this.*

*D. In order to reduce the impact on air quality during the construction and demolition phase development proposals must demonstrate how they plan to comply with the Non-Road Mobile Machinery Low Emission Zone and reduce emissions from the demolition and construction of buildings following best practice guidance.*

*E. development proposals should ensure that where emissions need to be reduced to meet the requirements of Air Quality Neutral or to make the impact of development on local air quality acceptable, this is done on-site. Where it can be demonstrated that emissions cannot be further reduced by on-site measures, off-site measures to improve local air quality may be acceptable, provided that equivalent air quality benefits can be demonstrated within the area affected by the development.*

### **LONDON ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY (2018)**

Chapter 4 of the London Environment Strategy<sup>9</sup> outlines the Mayor's commitment to improving air quality in London. The strategy aims plan to significantly reduce NO<sub>2</sub> and particulate (PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub> and black carbon) concentrations through a number of key objectives and policies:

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<sup>9</sup> London Environment Strategy, The Mayor of London, May 2018

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*Objective 4.1 support and empower London and its communities, particularly the most disadvantaged and those in priority locations, to reduce their exposure to poor air quality.*

- Policy 4.1.1 Make sure that London and its communities, particularly the most disadvantaged and those in priority locations, are empowered to reduce their exposure to poor air quality.
- Policy 4.1.2 Improve the understanding of air quality health impacts to better target policies and action.

*Objective 4.2 achieve legal compliance with UK and EU limits as soon as possible, including by mobilising action from London boroughs, government and other partners.*

- Policy 4.2.1 Reduce emissions from London's road transport network by phasing out fossil fuelled vehicles, prioritising action on diesel, and enabling Londoners to switch to more sustainable forms of transport.
- Policy 4.2.2 Reduce emissions from non-road transport sources, including by phasing out fossil fuels.
- Policy 4.2.3 Reduce emissions from non-transport sources, including by phasing out fossil fuels.
- Policy 4.2.4 The Mayor will work with the government, the London boroughs and other partners to accelerate the achievement of legal limits in Greater London and improve air quality.
- Policy 4.2.5 The Mayor will work with other cities (here and internationally), global city and industry networks to share best practice, lead action and support evidence based steps to improve air quality.

*Objective 4.3 establish and achieve new, tighter air quality targets for a cleaner London by transitioning to a zero emission London by 2050, meeting World Health Organization health-based guidelines for air quality.*

- Policy 4.3.1 The Mayor will establish new targets for PM<sub>2.5</sub> and other pollutants where needed. The Mayor will seek to meet these targets as soon as possible, working with government and other partners.
- Policy 4.3.2 The Mayor will encourage the take up of ultra-low and zero emission technologies to make sure London's entire transport system is zero emission by 2050 to further reduce levels of pollution and achieve WHO air quality guidelines.
- Policy 4.3.3 Phase out the use of fossil fuels to heat, cool and maintain London's buildings, homes and urban spaces, and reduce the impact of building emissions on air quality.
- Policy 4.3.4 Work to reduce exposure to indoor air pollutants in the home, schools, workplace and other enclosed spaces.

With regard to Policy 4.3.1, the Mayor of London has set a target for compliance with the now superseded WHO guideline value<sup>10</sup> for PM<sub>2.5</sub> of 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup> by 2030. However, recent modelling<sup>11</sup> suggests that due to the transboundary nature of PM<sub>2.5</sub>, compliance in London is unlikely to be achieved without additional measures at national, European and international level.

### **GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY AIR QUALITY FOCUS AREAS**

Air Quality Focus Areas have been identified by the Greater London Authority (GLA) where there is high human exposure in locations where the annual mean air quality objective for NO<sub>2</sub> is exceeded. The purpose of the Focus

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<sup>10</sup> Air Quality Guidelines Global Update 2005, World Health Organisation

<sup>11</sup> PM<sub>2.5</sub> in London: Roadmap to meeting World Health Organization guidelines by 2030, GLA, October 2019

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Areas is to allow local authorities to target actions to improve air quality where it is most needed and to inform the planning process with regard to the air quality impact of new developments.

The proposed development is located within AQFA 28 'Camden High Street from Mornington Crescent to Chalk Farm and Camden Road'.

## LOCAL POLICY

### ***THE LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN LOCAL AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT***

The London Borough of Camden carries out frequent assessments of air quality within the area and produces annual reports in accordance with the requirements of Defra.

Historically, routine monitoring has identified widespread exceedances of the air quality objectives for NO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>. As a consequence, in 2002, the Council declared a Borough-wide AQMA for these pollutants. More recent monitoring indicates that the NO<sub>2</sub> objectives are still widely exceeded at roadside locations within the Borough, but PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations are now generally within the objective.

### ***CAMDEN LOCAL PLAN***

Policy CC4 'Air Quality' of Camden's Local Plan<sup>12</sup> states that:

*'The Council will ensure that the impact of development on air quality is mitigated and ensure that exposure to poor air quality is reduced in the borough.'*

*The Council will take into account the impact of air quality when assessing development proposals, through the consideration of both the exposure of occupants to air pollution and the effect of the development on air quality. Consideration must be taken to the actions identified in the Council's Air Quality Action Plan.*

*Air Quality Assessments (AQAs) are required where development is likely to expose residents to high levels of air pollution. Where the AQA shows that a development would cause harm to air quality, the Council will not grant planning permission unless measures are adopted to mitigate the impact. Similarly, developments that introduce sensitive receptors (i.e., housing, schools) in locations of poor air quality will not be acceptable unless designed to mitigate the impact.*

*Development that involves significant demolition, construction or earthworks will also be required to assess the risk of dust and emissions impacts in an AQA and include appropriate mitigation measures to be secured in a Construction Management Plan.'*

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<sup>12</sup> Camden Local Plan (Adopted July 2017)



### ***CAMDEN CLEAN AIR STRATEGY (2019 – 2034) AND CLEAN AIR ACTION PLAN (2023 – 2026)***

The Camden Clean Air Strategy and Clean Air Action Plan<sup>13</sup> set out the Camden's commitment to improving air quality in the borough. The strategic objectives are set out in the Strategy and the Action Plan contains the actions that will be taken to achieve the objectives between 2023 and 2026.

The Strategy has set a 2034 deadline for achieving the World Health Organisation (WHO) limits<sup>14</sup> for annual mean NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> of 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, 15 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and 5 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, respectively. These self-imposed targets are considerably more stringent than the current UK air quality standards, including the new concentration targets published by Defra in January 2023.

Interim annual mean targets have also been set to measure ongoing progress as follows:

- NO<sub>2</sub>: 30 µg/m<sup>3</sup> by 2026 and 20 µg/m<sup>3</sup> by 2030
- PM<sub>10</sub>: 20 µg/m<sup>3</sup> by 2026 and 15 µg/m<sup>3</sup> by 2030
- PM<sub>2.5</sub>: 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup> by 2030

The key objectives of the Action Plan are to reduce concentrations of these pollutants by:

- Reducing construction emissions
- Reducing building emissions (encouraging the use of clean fuels and technologies)
- Reducing transport emissions
- Supporting communities and schools
- Lobbying and advocating for greater action on air quality and health
- Continuing public health and awareness raising
- Raising awareness of poor indoor air quality and workplace exposure

The Action Plan is supported by a number of other plans and strategies including the Camden Transport Strategy<sup>15</sup> and the Climate Action Plan<sup>16</sup>.

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<sup>13</sup> London Borough of Camden, Camden Clean Air Strategy 2019 – 2024 and Camden Clean Air Action Plan 2023-2026, December 2022

<sup>14</sup> WHO global air quality guidelines: particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>), ozone, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide and carbon monoxide, September 2021

<sup>15</sup> Camden Transport Strategy 2019-2041, April 2019

<sup>16</sup> Camden Climate Action Plan 2020 – 2025

## METHODOLOGY

This section outlines the assessment methodology, taking into account all relevant national and local policies and technical guidance relating to air quality.

## CONSTRUCTION DUST

The potential impact of dust generated during site enabling, earthworks and construction works at the proposed development has been assessed in accordance with the Mayor of London's Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) for the control of dust and emissions during construction and demolition<sup>17</sup>, which is closely aligned with the Institute of Air Quality Management (IAQM) construction dust guidance<sup>18</sup>. A full description of the construction dust methodology is provided in Appendix A.

A detailed assessment of dust impacts is required where there are human receptors within:

- 350m of the site boundary; or
- 50m of the route(s) used by construction vehicles on public roads, up to 500m from the site entrance(s).

For ecological impacts, a detailed assessment is required if there are dust sensitive habitat sites within

- 50m of the site boundary; or
- 50m of the route(s) used by construction vehicles on public roads, up to 500m from the site entrance(s).

The IAQM/ SPG methodology allows the potential risk of dust soiling and human health effects to be determined, based primarily on the sensitivity of nearby receptors (human and ecological) and the anticipated magnitude of the dust emission due to:

- Demolition;
- Earthworks;
- Construction; and
- Track-out (re-suspended dust from vehicle movements).

The assessment of dust risk is also based on professional judgement taking into account factors such as the prevailing wind direction, the proposed construction phasing, the likely duration of dust raising activities, local topography and existing air quality.

A range of best practice mitigation measures are provided within the guidance, which are dependent on the level of dust risk attributed to the site. It is recommended that these measures are incorporated into a Dust Management Plan (DMP) of the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) for the proposed development.

The significance of the residual impacts following appropriate mitigation is determined by professional judgement.

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<sup>17</sup> The Control of Dust and Emissions during Construction and Demolition Supplementary Planning Guidance, Greater London Authority, July 2014

<sup>18</sup> Guidance on the assessment of dust from demolition and construction, IAQM, v1.1, June 2016

### CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC

Construction traffic will contribute to existing traffic levels on the surrounding road network. However, based on the scale of the proposed development, the temporary increase in traffic is considered unlikely to be significant in terms of total flow or construction duration.

All non-road mobile machinery (NRMM) will comply with the emission standards specified in the Mayor of London's Control of Dust and Emissions during Construction and Demolition SPG.

The impact of vehicular emissions of NO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> from construction traffic and on-site machinery on local air quality is anticipated to be negligible.

### OPERATIONAL TRAFFIC

With the exception of disabled provision, the proposed development has no allocated parking and therefore meets the definition of 'car-free'. The impact of operational traffic has therefore been scoped out of the assessment and is expected to be negligible.

### EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT

Detailed dispersion modelling of emissions from traffic on the local road network has been undertaken using the ADMS-Roads dispersion model, to predict pollutant concentrations at the proposed development and determine whether on-site mitigation will be required to protect future occupants from poor air quality.

A summary of the model input parameters is presented in Appendix A. The traffic flows used in the assessment have been projected to 2025 (the proposed opening year) using TEMPro v7.2<sup>19</sup>.

### EMISSION FACTORS

Concentrations of NO<sub>x</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> have been predicted using vehicle emission factors from the latest version of the Emissions Factor Toolkit (EFTv12.01)<sup>20</sup>. The predicted NO<sub>x</sub> concentrations have been converted to NO<sub>2</sub> using version 8.1 of the NO<sub>x</sub> to NO<sub>2</sub> calculator, available from the Defra air quality website<sup>21</sup>.

Emission factors and background data used in the prediction of future air quality concentrations predict a gradual decline in pollution levels over time due to improved emissions from new vehicles and the gradual renewal of the vehicle fleet. Prior to version 9, the Emissions Factors Toolkit (EFT) was shown to slightly underpredict future year concentrations and therefore the best practice approach was to use baseline year emission factors to predict future year concentrations. However, a study undertaken by Air Quality Consultants Ltd<sup>22</sup> has shown that more recent versions (EFTv9 onwards) do not underpredict future year concentrations and may in fact slightly overpredict concentrations. The report concludes that '*the EFT is now unlikely to over-state the rate at which NO<sub>x</sub> emissions*

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<sup>19</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tempo-downloads>

<sup>20</sup> <http://laqm.defra.gov.uk/review-and-assessment/tools/emissions-factors-toolkit.html>

<sup>21</sup> <http://laqm.defra.gov.uk/review-and-assessment/tools/background-maps.html#NOxNO2calc>

<sup>22</sup> Performance of Defra's Emission Factor Toolkit 2013 – 2019, Air Quality Consultants Ltd, February 2020

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*decline into the future at an 'average' site in the UK. Indeed, the balance of evidence suggests that, on average, NO<sub>x</sub> concentrations are likely to decline more quickly in the future than predicted by the EFT.* Following this study, the use of baseline year emission factors to predict future year concentrations is no longer best practice and is considered an excessively conservative approach.

Current year (2024) emission factors and baseline year (2019) background concentrations have been used to predict concentrations at the proposed development in the opening year (2025). This is considered to provide a conservative estimate of potential exposure at the proposed development.

### **METEOROLOGICAL DATA**

Hourly sequential meteorological data from London City Airport (approximately 13 km east-southeast of the proposed development) for 2019 has been used in the dispersion modelling.

### **SENSITIVE RECEPTORS**

Concentrations of NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> have been predicted using a Cartesian grid of 5 m resolution over the full extent of the development site at an elevation of 1.5m above road-level (representing ground-floor level exposure).

### **VERIFICATION**

There is an inherent level of uncertainty associated with any assessment process; however, the methodology presented has been developed to minimise errors where possible. Potential errors in predicted concentrations due to uncertainties in the assessment source activity data (e.g., traffic flows and emission factors) and the estimated background concentration are minimised by the verification of modelled concentrations using local monitoring data.

The 2022 Local Air Quality Management Technical Guidance (TG22)<sup>23</sup> recommends that modelled concentrations should be within 25% of monitored concentrations, ideally within 10%. Where there is a large discrepancy between modelled and measured concentrations, it is considered necessary to adjust the model results to reflect local air quality more accurately.

Recent (2022) data from monitoring sites that are in close proximity to the proposed development indicate that NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in the area are considerably lower than pre-pandemic levels, however uncertainty remains as to whether changes in behaviour due to the pandemic has continued to affect the measured concentrations, and if so, whether this will be an ongoing trend. Following consultation with the Camden Air Quality Officer, Ben Spode, it was agreed that the model verification should be undertaken using pre-pandemic data to provide a conservative approach.

The modelled concentrations have therefore been verified using 2019 data from a roadside diffusion tube on Camden High Street. Other monitoring locations in the area have not been used because they are either at a kerbside location (which is not recommended for verification), there are no traffic data available, or the tube is located in a street canyon (and is therefore not representative of the proposed development). Full details of the model verification process are presented in Appendix B.

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<sup>23</sup> Local Air Quality Management Technical Guidance (TG22), Defra, August 2022

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## EXPOSURE CRITERIA

The London Councils Air Quality Planning Guidance<sup>24</sup> provides criteria for determining the significance of exposure to air pollution and level of mitigation required. The Air Pollution Exposure Criteria (APEC) are presented in Table 2. The applicable ranges assume a downward trend in pollutant concentrations has been established, which is anticipated due to the uptake of electric vehicles and the implementation of the Ultra-Low Emission Zone.

Table 2: Air Pollution Exposure Criteria

	Applicable Range NO <sub>2</sub> Annual Mean	Applicable Range PM <sub>10</sub>	Recommendation
<b>APEC - A</b>	> 5% below national objective	<b>Annual Mean:</b> > 5% below national objective <b>24 hr Mean:</b> > 1-day less than national objective	No air quality grounds for refusal; however, mitigation of any emissions should be considered.
<b>APEC - B</b>	Between 5% below or above national objective	<b>Annual Mean:</b> Between 5% above or below national objective <b>24 hr Mean:</b> Between 1-day above or below national objective.	May not be sufficient air quality grounds for refusal, however appropriate mitigation must be considered e.g., Maximise distance from pollutant source, proven ventilation systems, parking considerations, winter gardens, internal layout considered, and internal pollutant emissions minimised.
<b>APEC - C</b>	> 5% above national objective	<b>Annual Mean:</b> > 5% above national objective <b>24 hr Mean:</b> > 1-day more than national objective.	Refusal on air quality grounds should be anticipated, unless the Local Authority has a specific policy enabling such land use and ensure best endeavours to reduce exposure are incorporated. Worker exposure in commercial/industrial land uses should be considered further. Mitigation measures must be presented with air quality assessment, detailing anticipated outcomes of mitigation measures.

## BUILDING EMISSIONS

The energy strategy for the proposed development is 100% electric.

A lifesaving diesel generator will be installed to provide electricity in the event of a simultaneous fire scenario and loss of mains power. Emissions to air will be via a vertical flue terminating at least 1m above roof level. The location of the flue is shown in Figure 3.

Testing and maintenance of the generator will be limited to:

- weekly start up procedure (start up and switch off);

<sup>24</sup> London Councils Air Quality and Planning Guidance, January 2007



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- monthly 30min on-load test; and
- annual full load test for 2-3 hours.

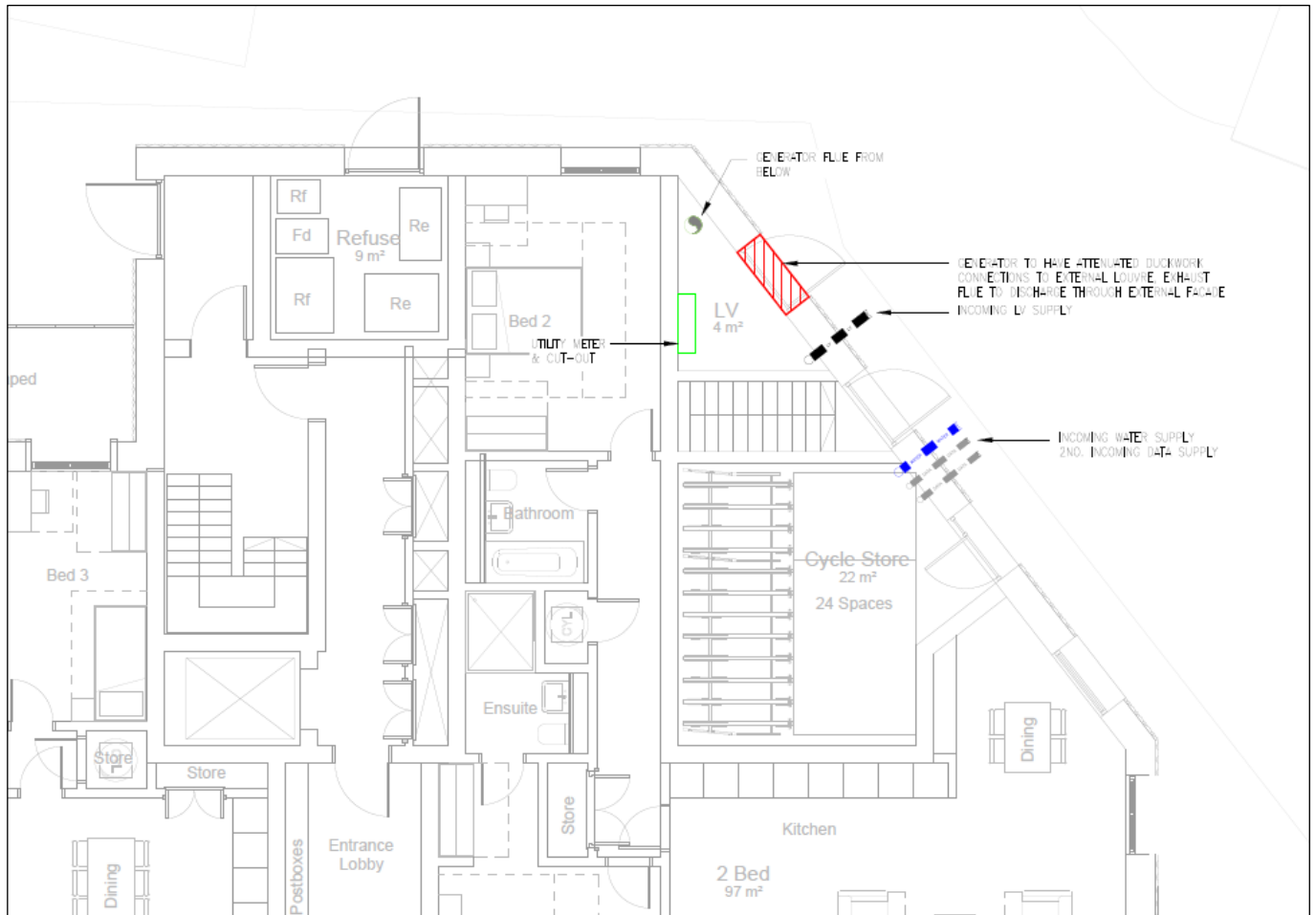


Figure 3: Proposed Flue Location

## BASELINE AIR QUALITY

### LOCAL AIR QUALITY MONITORING

#### ***AUTOMATIC MONITORING DATA***

The nearest automatic air quality monitoring sites (AQMS) to the proposed development are London Bloomsbury (BL0) and Camden High Street (CD010). Details of these monitoring sites are presented in Table 3.

Table 3: Automatic Monitoring Sites

Site Name	Type	Easting	Northing	Pollutants Monitored	Approximate Location Relative to Proposed Development
Bloomsbury (BL0)	Urban background	530123	182014	NO <sub>2</sub> , PM <sub>10</sub> , PM <sub>2.5</sub>	1.6 km southeast
Camden High Street (CD010)	Roadside	528832	183995	NO <sub>2</sub>	760m north-northwest

Annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> and particulate (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>) concentrations measured at these locations between 2017 and 2022 are summarised in Table 4, together with the number of measured exceedances of the short-term AQOs. The data have been obtained from LBC's latest Air Quality Annual Status Report<sup>25</sup>.

Table 4: Automatically Measured Pollutant Concentrations

Site Name	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>Bloomsbury</b>						
Annual Mean NO <sub>2</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	38	36	32	28	27	26
Number of Predicted Exceedances of the 1-Hour Mean AQO of 200 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0
Annual Mean PM <sub>10</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	19	17	18	16	16	17
Number of Predicted Exceedances of the 24-Hour Mean PM <sub>10</sub> AQO of 50 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	6	1	9	4	0	5
Annual Mean PM <sub>2.5</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	13	10	11	9	9	9
<b>Camden High Street</b>						
Annual Mean NO <sub>2</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	-	-	-	-	30	29
Number of Predicted Exceedances of the 1-Hour Mean AQO of 200 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	-	-	-	-	0	0

<sup>25</sup> London Borough of Camden Air Quality Status Report for 2022, London Borough of Camden, August 2023

## AIR QUALITY ASSESSMENT

The data show compliance with the annual mean AQO for NO<sub>2</sub> of 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup> at both locations. The annual mean concentration at Bloomsbury have fallen steadily since 2017 and whilst a larger reduction was expected in 2020 and 2021, due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown measures on road traffic, a significant reduction is likely attributable to the expansion of the ULEZ in April 2019. Concentrations measured at Bloomsbury in 2022 were lower than the 2020 and 2021 'Covid-Years', indicating that the move to low emission vehicles and possibly changes in behaviour following the pandemic are continuing to positively affect local air quality. No exceedances of the short-term objective for NO<sub>2</sub> have been measured at either Bloomsbury or Camden High Street in recent years.

Both PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations have declined since 2017 and are well within the current air quality standards. The data also indicate that PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations at background locations are below the Government's 2040 target of 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.

### NON-AUTOMATIC MONITORING DATA

Monitoring of ambient NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations is also undertaken by LBC via an extensive network of passive diffusion tubes. A summary of the diffusion tube monitoring sites closest to the proposed development is presented in Table 5. The locations of the diffusion tubes are presented in Figure 4.

Table 5: Diffusion Tube Monitoring Locations

Site ID	Location	Type	Easting	Northing
CAM17	HSS Phase 4&5 5 - St Mary & St Pancras - Polygon Road	Roadside	529583	183051
CAM19	HSS Phase 4&5 7 - St Mary & St Pancras - Aldenham Road	Roadside	529522	183089
CAM90	Pratt-Delancey 1 - Pratt Street (between College Place and Royal College Street)	Kerbside	529334	183868
CAM91	Pratt-Delancey 2 - Pratt Street (between Bayham Street and Camden Street)	Kerbside	529142	183738
CAM92	Pratt-Delancey 3 - Bayham Street	Kerbside	529054	183772
CAM93	Pratt-Delancey 4 - Greenland Street	Kerbside	529010	183795
CAM94	Pratt-Delancey 5 - Delancey Street/Delancey Passage	Roadside	528971	183636
CAM95	Pratt-Delancey 6 - Arlington Road (south of Delancey Street)	Roadside	528968	183551
CAM96	Pratt-Delancey 7 - Arlington Road (north of Delancey Street))	Kerbside	528881	183697
CAM97	Pratt-Delancey 8 - Albert Street (south of Delancey Street)	Kerbside	528867	183547
CAM98	Pratt-Delancey 9 - Delancey Street/Albert Street	Roadside	528866	183590
CAM99	Pratt-Delancey 10 - Albert Street (north of Delancey Street)	Kerbside	528836	183625
CAM129	Camden High Street (Camden News)	Roadside	528845	183970
CAM130	Camden High Street (American Candy)	Roadside	528884	183901
CAM131	Britannia Junction	Kerbside	528915	183870
CAM142	St. Pancras Way 1 - St. Pancras Way south	Kerbside	529606	183589
CAM143	St. Pancras Way 2 - Junction of St. Pancras Way and Pratt Street	Kerbside	529443	183941

## AIR QUALITY ASSESSMENT

CAM146	St. Pancras Way 5 - Camden Street	Kerbside	529289	183697
CAM166	Crowndale Road (opposite junction with Bayham Street)	Kerbside	529279	183390
CAM253	Canal Location 1 - Rossendale Way	Urban Background	529497	183948
CAM254	Canal Location 2 - Belsize primary School	Urban Background	529660	183797
CAM290	Somers Town 5 - Charrington Street	Kerbside	529641	183282
CAM291	Somers Town 6 - Goldington Crescent	Kerbside	529611	183444
CAM292	Somers Town 7 - Oakley Square North	Kerbside	529424	183445
CAM293	Somers Town 8 - Crowndale Centre, Eversholt Street	Roadside	529224	183362
CAM294	Somers Town 9 - Harrington Square Gardens	Kerbside	529229	183231
CAM295	Somers Town 10 - Oakley Square South	Kerbside	529321	183239
CAM296	Somers Town 11 - Regent High School, Chalton Street	Roadside	529527	183264
CAM297	Somers Town 12 - Somers Town Sports Centre, Chalton Street	Kerbside	529601	183148

A summary of the bias adjusted annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations measured between 2019 and 2022 is presented in Table 6. Exceedances of the air quality objective are highlighted in bold.

Table 6: Annual Mean NO<sub>2</sub> Concentrations Measured by Diffusion Tube (µg/m<sup>3</sup>)

Tube ID	Type	2019	2020	2021	2022
CAM17	Roadside	-	-	22.3	22.8 (a)
CAM19	Roadside	-	-	22.9	21.9
CAM90	Kerbside	32.3	24.6	23.8	22.6
CAM91	Kerbside	33.4	28.2	24.1	23.1
CAM92	Kerbside	<b>57.9</b>	<b>47.6</b>	39.9	36.1
CAM93	Kerbside	39.8	32.3	27.9	28.5
CAM94	Roadside	34.5	27.2	31.8	28.3
CAM95	Roadside	31.9	26.0	23.4	22.7 (a)
CAM96	Kerbside	34.0	27.3	25.0	23.4
CAM97	Kerbside	33.1	25.6	24.0	23.4
CAM98	Roadside	<b>43.0</b>	34.7	31.3	31.9
CAM99	Kerbside	29.7	23.1	21.7	20.3
CAM129	Roadside	38.8	30.5	29.7	27.8
CAM130	Roadside	<b>47.7</b>	37.8	31.4	30.2
CAM131	Kerbside	<b>53.9</b>	40.7	37.0	36.9
CAM142	Kerbside	-		28.3	25.4
CAM143	Kerbside	-	27.6	25.1	24.8

## AIR QUALITY ASSESSMENT

CAM146	Kerbside	-	23.4	23.2	21.5
CAM166	Kerbside	-	-	<b>42.6</b>	<b>40.7</b> (a)
CAM253	Urban Background	-	-	21.8	21.0 (a)
CAM254	Urban Background	-	-	19.9	21.5
CAM290	Kerbside	-	-	-	20.3
CAM291	Kerbside	-	-	-	20.8
CAM292	Kerbside	-	-	-	25.3
CAM293	Roadside	-	-	-	28.4
CAM294	Kerbside	-	-	-	27.4
CAM295	Kerbside	-	-	-	28.0
CAM296	Roadside	-	-	-	20.8
CAM297	Kerbside	-	-	-	21.1
(a) Data capture < 90%					

Again, data from 2020 and 2021 is likely to have been significantly affected by the influence of the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown measured, however the majority of the diffusion tube locations show a continued decline in 2022. The nearest diffusion tube location to the proposed development is on Harrington Square, approximately 50m from the site. The annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> concentration measured in 2022 was 27.4 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, 69% of the air quality objective.



This map illustrates the proposed development area, highlighted in red, located in the Mornington district of London. The map shows a network of streets including Camden High Street, Mornington Crescent, and various residential roads. Key landmarks such as the Education Facility, Sports/Leisure Centre, and several bus stops (e.g., CAM129n, CAM130, CAM131) are marked. The map also includes a scale bar at the bottom, ranging from 0m to 800m.

Figure 4: Location of Diffusion Tubes

### ASSESSMENT BACKGROUND CONCENTRATIONS

Concentrations at the proposed development in 2025 have been predicted by adding the modelled contribution from road traffic emissions to the background concentration measured at the Bloomsbury automatic monitoring site in 2019.

Since background air quality is expected to continue to improve due to the proposed expansion of the ULEZ and the increased uptake of low emission vehicles, this approach is considered to provide a conservative assessment of potential exposure at the proposed development.

# CONSTRUCTION DUST RISK ASSESSMENT

## SENSITIVITY OF THE AREA TO DUST IMPACTS

The assessment of dust impacts is dependent on the proximity of the most sensitive receptors to the construction area and existing PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations (i.e., the potential for additional dust to result in an exceedance of the short or long-term air quality objectives). Automatic monitoring of background particulate concentrations at London Bloomsbury indicates that PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations in the area are unlikely to exceed 24 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, the lowest threshold for the assessment of dust impacts on human health.

A summary of the receptor and area sensitivity to health and dust soiling impacts is presented in Table 7.

There are no dust sensitive habitat sites within 50m of the Site; therefore, impacts on ecology have not been considered in the assessment.

Table 7: Sensitivity of Receptors and the Local Area to Dust Impacts

Receptor	Distance from Site Boundary	Number of Receptors	Sensitivity to Health Impacts		Sensitivity to Dust Soiling Impacts	
			Receptor	Area	Receptor	Area
Residential Properties	<20m	10 - 100	High	Low	High	High
	<50m	10 - 100		Low		Medium
	<100m	>100		Low		Low
Offices	<50m	>100	Medium	Low	Medium	Low
Overall Sensitivity of the Area			Low		High	

The precise behaviour of the dust, its residence time in the atmosphere and the distance it may travel before being deposited, will depend upon a number of factors. These include wind direction and strength, local topography and the presence of intervening structures (buildings, etc.) that may intercept dust before it reaches sensitive locations. Furthermore, dust would be naturally suppressed by rainfall.

A wind rose for London City Airport is presented in Figure 5, which shows that the prevailing wind is from the southwest. Receptors to the northeast of the site are, therefore, most likely to experience dust impacts during the construction phase.

## AIR QUALITY ASSESSMENT

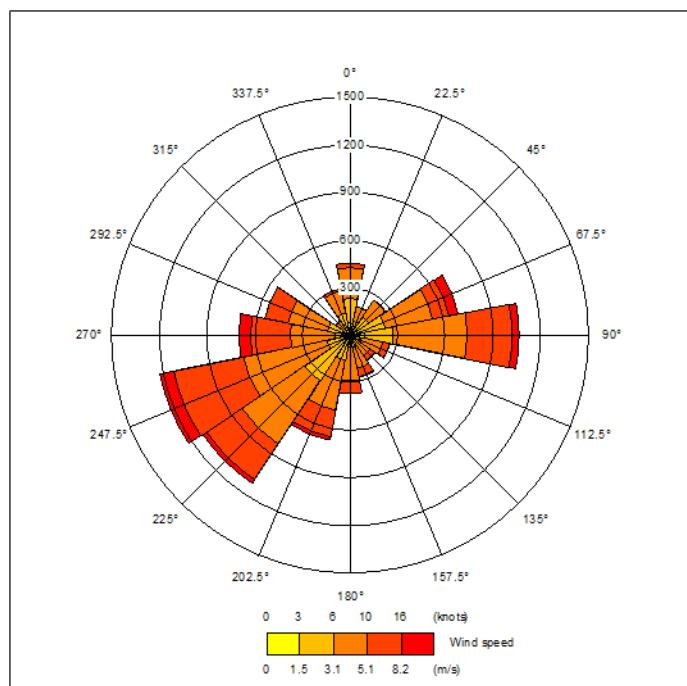


Figure 5: Wind Rose London City Airport

### **DUST EMISSION MAGNITUDE**

The magnitude of the potential dust emission from earthworks, construction and trackout, has been evaluated using the criteria in Table A5 of Appendix A and is presented in Table 8. No demolition works are required on site.

Table 8: Evaluation of Dust Emission Magnitude

Dust Source	IAQM Criteria	Proposed Development	Dust Emission Magnitude
<b>Earthworks</b>	Site area (m <sup>2</sup> )	504	Small
	Soil type?	Made ground over London Clay	Large
	Number of heavy earth moving vehicles active at any one time	<5	Small
	Maximum bund height (m)	<4	Small
	Total material moved (tonnes)	Approx. 2000	Small
	Earthworks during wetter months?	Cannot be guaranteed.	Medium
<b>Overall Dust Emission Magnitude From Earthworks</b>			<b>Small</b>
Whilst the soil type is potentially dusty, the scale of the works is very minor (excavation of basement 950 m <sup>3</sup> ) and therefore the dust emission magnitude is expected to be 'small'.			
<b>Construction</b>	Total building volume (m <sup>3</sup> )	5,200	Small
	Potentially dusty construction materials?	Brick, concrete	Medium



## AIR QUALITY ASSESSMENT

Dust Source	IAQM Criteria	Proposed Development	Dust Emission Magnitude
	On-site concrete batching?	No	-
	Sandblasting?	No	-
<b>Overall Dust Emission Magnitude From Construction</b>			<b>Small</b>
Whilst the construction materials are potentially dusty, the scale of the works is minor and therefore the dust emission magnitude is expected to be 'small'.			
<b>Trackout</b>	Number of outward HGV movements in any one day	Unknown, expected < 5 based on proposed works.	Small
	Dusty surface material?	n/a	-
	Unpaved road length (m)	0	-
<b>Overall Dust Emission Magnitude From Trackout</b>			<b>Small</b>
There will be no road vehicle access over unmade ground.			

### ASSESSMENT OF DUST RISK PRIOR TO MITIGATION

A summary of the potential risk of dust impacts prior to mitigation, based on the low sensitivity of the area to human health impacts and high sensitivity to dust soiling impacts, is presented in Table 9. Overall, **the risk of dust impacts during the construction phase, prior to mitigation, is assessed as low.**

Table 9: Risk of Dust Impacts Prior to Mitigation

Dust Source	Emission Magnitude	Human Health Risk	Dust Soiling Risk	Overall Risk
Earthworks	Small	Negligible	Low	<b>Low</b>
Construction	Small	Negligible	Low	<b>Low</b>
Trackout	Small	Negligible	Low	<b>Negligible</b>



### EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT

The potential impact of local air quality on future occupants of the development are identified in this section.

#### NITROGEN DIOXIDE

Predicted ground-floor and first-floor level annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations due to emissions from traffic on the local road network are presented as contour plots in Figure 6 and Figure 7, respectively. The maximum concentration at the façade of the proposed development is less than 5% of the air quality objective of 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, therefore **the development therefore falls within exposure category APEC-A, with respect to NO<sub>2</sub>**. The predicted concentrations are also above Camden's 2026 target of 30 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, however it should be noted that the assessment does not consider the most recent monitoring data which shows that 2022 NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in the area are significantly lower than those measured in 2019. It has also been assumed that there will be no improvement in background air quality between 2019 (the baseline year) and 2025 (the opening year). It should be noted that the predicted concentrations are in excellent agreement with the 2025 projections in the LAEI (see Figure 8), which show that the annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> concentration at the proposed development is expected to be well below the objective.

At first-floor level the predicted concentrations are considerably lower and are also well below the objective.

The predicted concentrations at all locations on site are less than 70% of the 60 µg/m<sup>3</sup> threshold for a potential exceedance of the 1-hour mean air quality objective and therefore the risk of non-compliance at the development is negligible.

## AIR QUALITY ASSESSMENT



Figure 6: Predicted 2025 Ground-Floor Level Annual Mean NO<sub>2</sub> Concentrations (µg/m<sup>3</sup>)

## AIR QUALITY ASSESSMENT

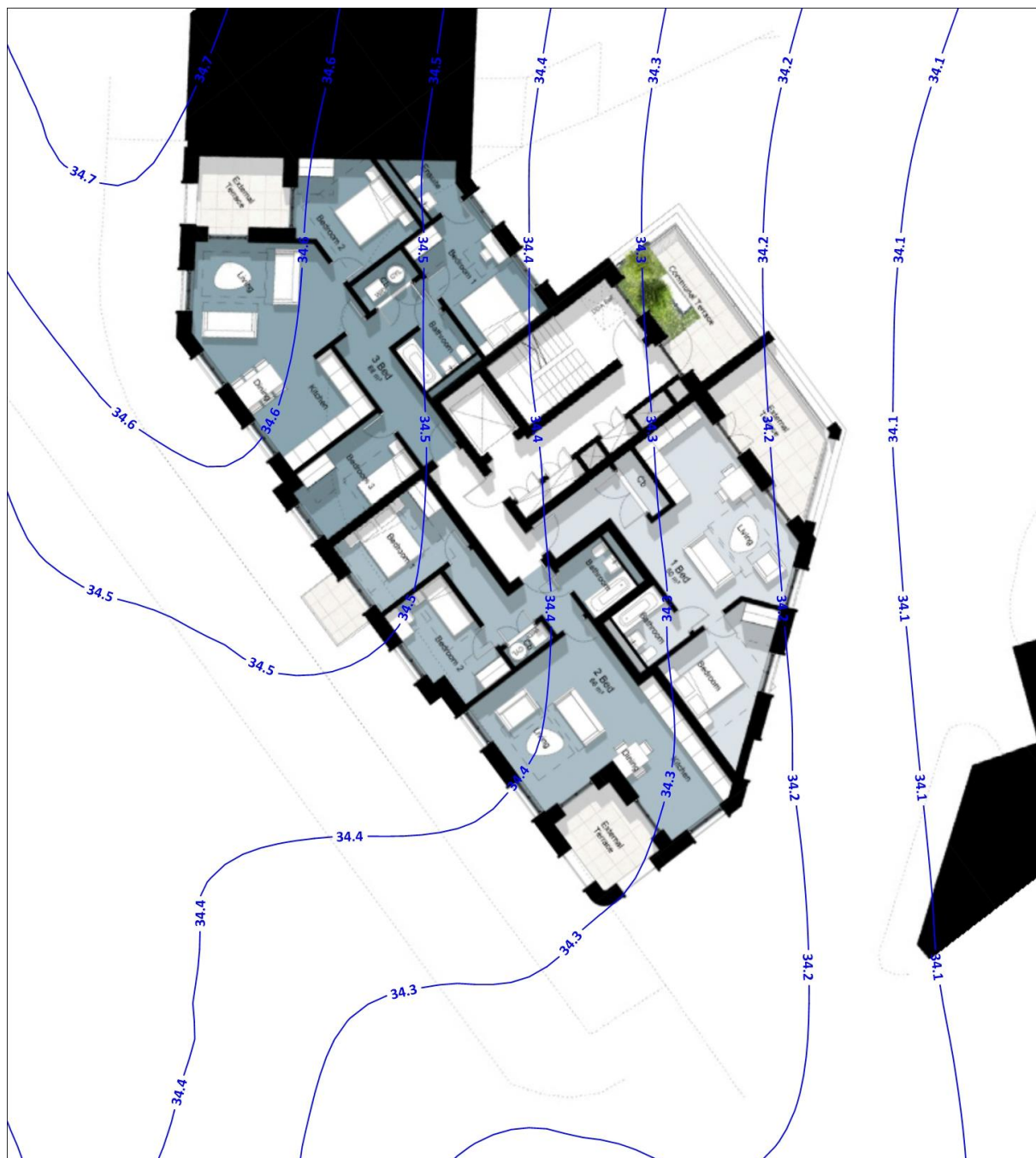


Figure 7: Predicted 2025 First-Floor Level Annual Mean NO<sub>2</sub> Concentrations (µg/m<sup>3</sup>)

## AIR QUALITY ASSESSMENT

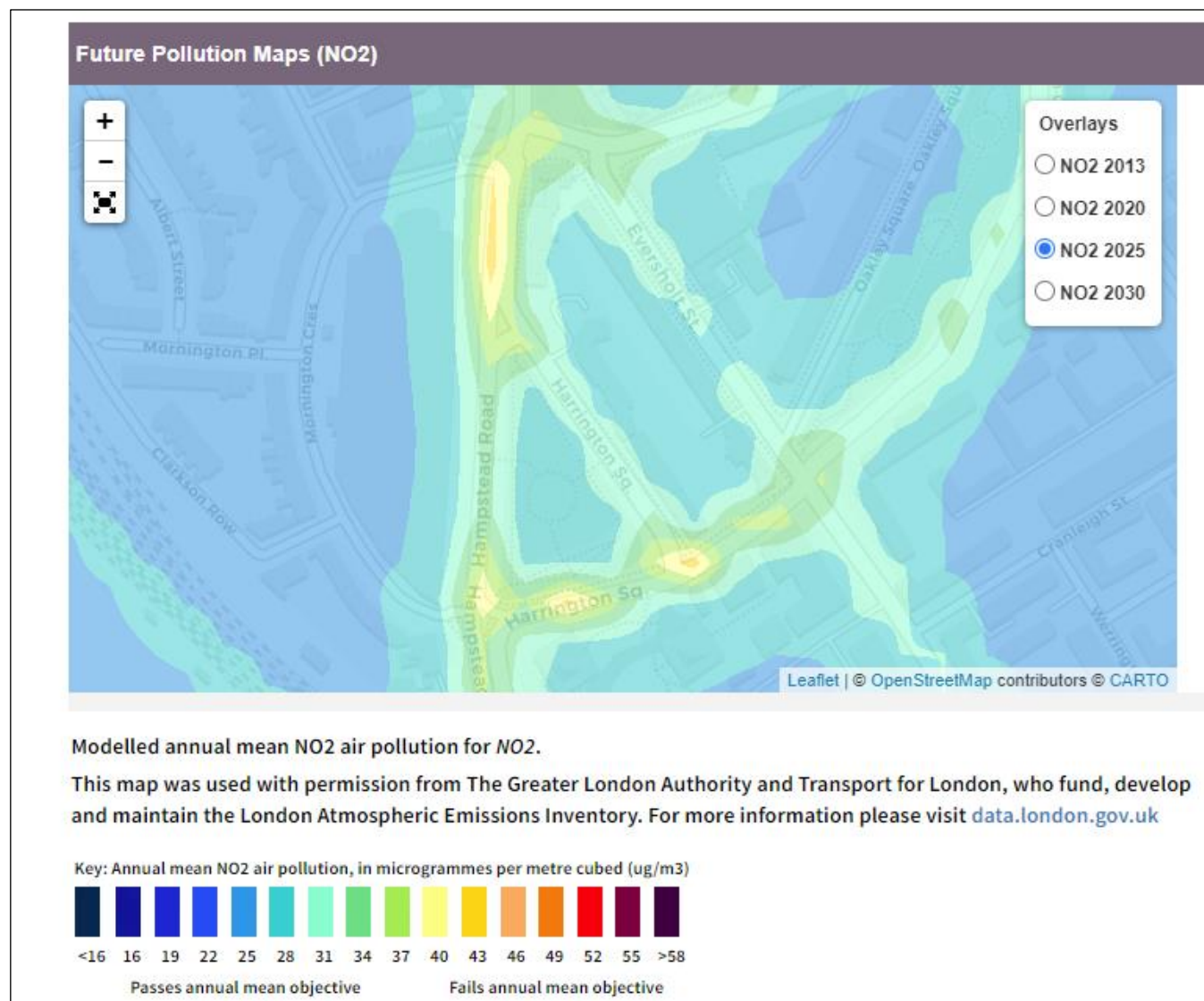


Figure 8: LAEI 2025 Predicted Annual Mean NO<sub>2</sub> Concentrations (µg/m<sup>3</sup>)

## PARTICULATE MATTER

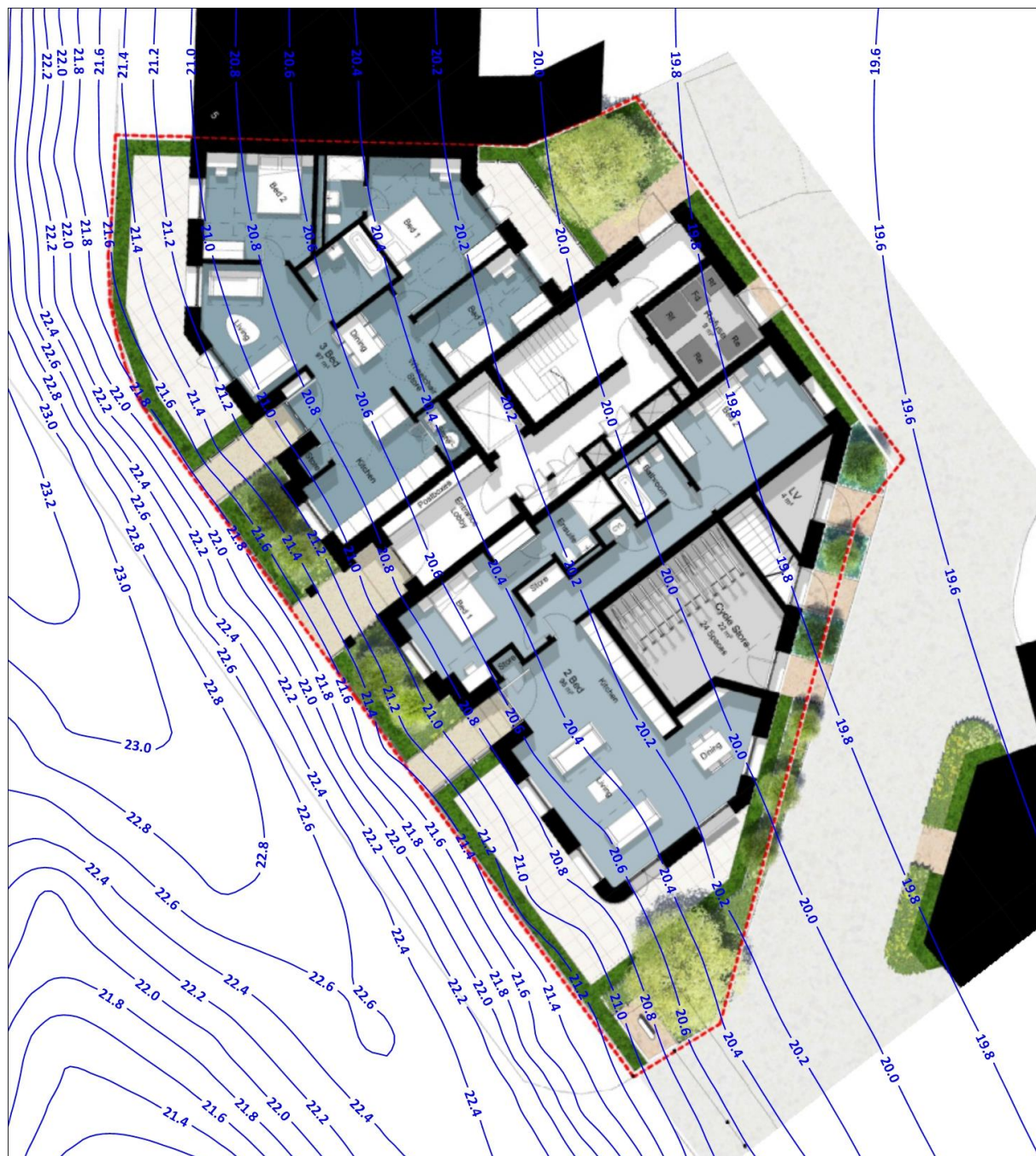
Predicted annual mean PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations at ground-floor level across the proposed development site are presented as contour plots in Figure 9 and Figure 10, respectively. The predicted concentrations are well within the current long-term air quality objectives for the protection of human health.

TG22 provides a relationship between predicted annual mean PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations and the likely number of exceedances of the short-term (24-hour mean) PM<sub>10</sub> objective of 50 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The objective allows 35 exceedances per year, which is equivalent to an annual mean of 32 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. On this basis, the dispersion modelling indicates that compliance with the short-term PM<sub>10</sub> objective will be achieved at all locations on site. **The proposed development therefore falls within exposure category APEC-A for particulate matter.**



## AIR QUALITY ASSESSMENT

The predicted  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentration at the facade of the proposed development is approximately  $12.7 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , which exceeds the Government's 2028 and 2040 concentration targets and Camden's 2026 target of  $10 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . However, following the implementation of increasingly stringent legislative measures aimed at reducing  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  emissions, concentrations at the proposed development in the future are anticipated to be lower than predicted. Furthermore, the 2022 background concentration at London Bloomsbury was  $9 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , considerably lower than the 2019 background concentration used in the assessment.



## AIR QUALITY ASSESSMENT

Figure 9: Predicted 2025 Ground-Floor Level Annual Mean PM<sub>10</sub> Concentration ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )



Figure 10: Predicted 2025 Ground-Floor Level Annual Mean PM<sub>2.5</sub> Concentration ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )

### AIR QUALITY NEUTRAL ASSESSMENT

To assess whether a development is air quality neutral, annual building and transport-related emissions are compared with 'air quality neutral' benchmarks provided within the London Plan Air Quality Neutral Guidance<sup>26</sup>. Where these benchmarks are exceeded, following appropriate mitigation measures, the developer is required to off-set the impacts off-site or make a financial contribution (e.g., through a section 106 agreement).

#### TRAFFIC EMISSIONS

The proposed development is 'car-free' and, in accordance with the guidance, is therefore **Air Quality Neutral with respect to transport-related emissions**.

#### BUILDING EMISSIONS

The energy strategy for the proposed development is 100% electric. There will be no combustion emissions associated with the site and therefore **the proposed development is Air Quality Neutral with respect to building-related emissions**.

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<sup>26</sup> London Plan Guidance Air Quality Neutral, GLA, February 2023



### MITIGATION

The following mitigation measures will be required during the construction and operational phases to minimise the air quality impacts arising from the development.

#### CONSTRUCTION PHASE

London Best Practice Guidance for dust control will be implemented, as appropriate, during the construction phase through the CEMP for the proposed development.

The risk of dust impacts from the site has been assessed as 'low' during earthworks and construction. The risk of impacts from trackout have been assessed as 'negligible'.

In accordance with the GLA guidance, to minimise the risk of dust impacts at sensitive receptors close to the site, the 'highly recommended' measures detailed in Table 10 should be incorporated into the CEMP. The 'desirable' measures detailed in Table 11 should also be considered for inclusion.

**The significance of dust impacts on nearby receptors following the implementation of appropriate and best practice mitigation is expected to be negligible.**

Table 10: Highly Recommended Mitigation Measures

Description	Mitigation Measure
Site Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Display the name and contact details of person(s) accountable for air quality and dust issues on the site boundary. This may be the environment manager/engineer or the site Manager.</li><li>- Display the head or regional office contact information.</li><li>- Record and respond to all dust and air quality pollutant emissions complaints.</li><li>- Make the complaints log available to the local authority when asked.</li><li>- Carry out regular site inspections to monitor compliance with the DMP, record inspection results, and make an inspection log available to the local authority when asked.</li><li>- Increase the frequency of site inspections by the person accountable for air quality and dust issues on site when activities with a high potential to produce dust are being carried out and during prolonged dry or windy conditions.</li><li>- Record any exceptional incidents that cause dust and/or air emissions, either on- or offsite, and the action taken to resolve the situation in the logbook.</li></ul>
Preparing and maintaining the site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Plan site layout so that machinery and dust causing activities are located away from receptors, as far as is possible.</li><li>- Erect solid screens or barriers around dusty activities or at the site boundary that are at least as high as any stockpiles on site.</li><li>- Avoid site runoff of water or mud.</li></ul>

## AIR QUALITY ASSESSMENT

Description	Mitigation Measure
Operating vehicle/machinery and sustainable travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure all on-road vehicles comply with the requirements of the London Low Emission Zone and the London NRMM standards, where applicable.</li> <li>- Ensure all vehicles switch off engines when stationary - no idling vehicles.</li> <li>- Avoid the use of diesel or petrol powered generators and use mains electricity or battery powered equipment where practicable.</li> <li>- Implement a Travel Plan that supports and encourages sustainable travel (public transport, cycling, walking, and car-sharing).</li> </ul>
Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Only use cutting, grinding or sawing equipment fitted or in conjunction with suitable dust suppression techniques such as water sprays or local extraction, e.g., suitable local exhaust ventilation systems.</li> <li>- Ensure an adequate water supply on the site for effective dust/particulate matter suppression/mitigation, using non-potable water where possible and appropriate.</li> <li>- Use enclosed chutes and conveyors and covered skips.</li> <li>- Minimise drop heights from conveyors, loading shovels, hoppers and other loading or handling equipment and use fine water sprays on such equipment wherever appropriate.</li> </ul>
Waste management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reuse and recycle waste to reduce dust from waste materials.</li> <li>- Avoid bonfires and burning of waste materials.</li> </ul>

Table 11: Desirable Mitigation Measures

Description	Mitigation Measure
Preparing and maintaining the site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fully enclose site or specific operations where there is a high potential for dust production and the site is active for an extensive period.</li> <li>- Keep site fencing, barriers and scaffolding clean using wet methods.</li> <li>- Remove materials from site as soon as possible.</li> </ul>
Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Avoid scabbling (roughening of concrete surfaces) if possible.</li> <li>- Ensure sand and other aggregates are stored in bunded areas and are not allowed to dry out, unless this is required for a particular process, in which case ensure that appropriate additional control measures are in place.</li> </ul>
Trackout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure vehicles entering and leaving sites are securely covered to prevent escape of materials during transport.</li> </ul>

## OPERATIONAL PHASE

Detailed dispersion modelling of traffic on the local road network indicates that the proposed development falls within Exposure Category APEC-A with respect to NO<sub>2</sub>. On this basis, on-site mitigation is not required to protect future occupants from poor air quality.

### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

An assessment has been undertaken to assess the potential impacts on local air quality associated with the construction and operation of the proposed development.

Releases of dust and PM<sub>10</sub> are likely to occur during site activities. However, through good site practice and the implementation of highest levels of dust control, as outlined in the CEMP for the proposed development, the impact of dust and PM<sub>10</sub> releases will be effectively mitigated, and the resultant impacts are expected to be negligible.

Detailed dispersion modelling has been undertaken to predict concentrations of NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> at the proposed development site to determine whether mitigation will be required to protect future occupants from poor air quality. A conservative approach was adopted using current year (2024) emission factors and baseline (2019) background concentrations. The predicted concentrations at the façade of the development are more than 5% below the current air quality standards and objectives for the protection of human health (APEC-A). The concentrations exceed the WHO guideline values, adopted by LBC, however this is primarily a consequence of the pre-pandemic background concentrations used in the assessment.

The energy strategy for the proposed development is 100% electric and therefore there will be no combustion emissions associated with the site and no impact on local air quality.

Based on the results of the assessment and with the implementation of the recommended construction and operational-phase mitigation measures, it is considered that air quality would not pose a constraint to the redevelopment of the site as proposed.

## APPENDIX A – CONSTRUCTION DUST RISK ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

Factors defining the sensitivity of a receptor to dust impacts are presented in Table A1.

Table A1: Receptor Sensitivity

Receptor Sensitivity	Human Health	Dust Soiling	Ecological
High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Locations where members of the public are exposed over a time period relevant to the air quality objectives for PM<sub>10</sub> (a)</li> <li>- Examples include residential dwellings, hospitals, schools and residential care homes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regular exposure</li> <li>- High level of amenity expected.</li> <li>- Appearance, aesthetics or value of the property would be affected by dust soiling.</li> <li>- Examples include residential dwellings, museums, medium and long-term car parks and car showrooms.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nationally or Internationally designated site with dust sensitive features (b)</li> <li>- Locations with vascular species (c)</li> </ul>
Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Locations where workers are exposed over a time period relevant to the air quality objectives for PM<sub>10</sub> (a)</li> <li>- Examples include office and shop workers (d)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Short-term exposure</li> <li>- Moderate level of amenity expected.</li> <li>- Possible diminished appearance or aesthetics of property due to dust soiling</li> <li>- Examples include parks and places of work</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nationally designated site with dust sensitive features (b)</li> <li>- Nationally designated site with a particularly important plant species where dust sensitivity is unknown</li> </ul>
Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Transient human exposure</li> <li>- Examples include public footpaths, playing fields, parks and shopping streets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Transient exposure</li> <li>- Enjoyment of amenity not expected.</li> <li>- Appearance and aesthetics of property unaffected</li> <li>- Examples include playing fields, farmland (e), footpaths, short-term car parks and roads</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Locally designated site with dust sensitive features (b)</li> </ul>
<p>a) In the case of the 24-hour objective, a relevant location would be one where individuals may be exposed for eight hours or more in a day.</p> <p>b) Ecosystems that are particularly sensitive to dust deposition include lichens and acid heathland (for alkaline dust, such as concrete).</p> <p>c) Cheffing C. M. &amp; Farrell L. (Editors) (2005), The Vascular Plant. Red Data List for Great Britain, Joint Nature Conservation Committee.</p> <p>d) Does not include workers' exposure to PM<sub>10</sub> as protection is covered by Health and Safety at Work legislation.</p> <p>e) Except commercially sensitive horticulture.</p>			

## AIR QUALITY ASSESSMENT

The sensitivity of the area as a whole is dependent on the number of receptors within each sensitivity class and their distance from the source. Human health impacts are also dependent on the existing PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations in the area.

Table A2 and Table A3 summarise the criteria for determining the overall sensitivity of the area to dust soiling and health impacts, respectively. The sensitivity of the area to ecological impacts is presented in Table A4.

Table A2: Sensitivity of the Area to Dust Soiling Effects on People and Property

Receptor Sensitivity	Number of Receptors	Distance from the Source			
		<20m	<50m	<100m	<350m
High	>100	High	High	Medium	Low
	10-100	High	Medium	Low	Low
	1-10	Medium	Low	Low	Low
Medium	>1	Medium	Low	Low	Low
Low	>1	Low	Low	Low	Low

Table A3: Sensitivity of the Area to Health Impacts from Dust

Receptor Sensitivity	Annual Mean PM <sub>10</sub> Concentration (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Number of Receptors	Distance from the Source				
			<20m	<50m	<100m	<200m	<350m
High	>32	>100	High	High	High	Medium	Low
		10-100	High	High	Medium	Low	Low
		1-10	High	Medium	Low	Low	Low
	28-32	>100	High	High	Medium	Low	Low
		10-100	High	Medium	Low	Low	Low
		1-10	High	Medium	Low	Low	Low
	24-28	>100	High	Medium	Low	Low	Low
		10-100	High	Medium	Low	Low	Low
		1-10	Medium	Low	Low	Low	Low
	<24	>100	Medium	Low	Low	Low	Low
		10-100	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
		1-10	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Medium	>32	>10	High	Medium	Low	Low	Low
		1-10	Medium	Low	Low	Low	Low
	28-32	>10	Medium	Low	Low	Low	Low
		1-10	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
	24-28	>10	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
		1-10	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low

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	<24	>10	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
		1-10	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Low	-	≥1	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low

Table A4: Sensitivity of the Area to Ecological Impacts from Dust

Receptor Sensitivity	Distance from the Source	
	<20m	<50m
High	High	Medium
Medium	Medium	Low
Low	Low	Low

The magnitude of the dust impacts for demolition, earthworks, construction and trackout is classified as small, medium or large depending on the scale of the proposed works as detailed in Table A5.

Table A5: Dust Emission Magnitude

Source	Large	Medium	Small
Demolition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Total building volume &gt;50,000m<sup>3</sup></li> <li>- Potentially dusty material (e.g., concrete)</li> <li>- Onsite crushing and screening</li> <li>- Demolition activities &gt;20m above ground level.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Total building volume 20,000 - 50,000m<sup>3</sup></li> <li>- Potentially dusty material</li> <li>- Demolition activities 10 - 20m above ground level.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Total building volume &lt;20,000m<sup>3</sup></li> <li>- Construction material with low potential for dust release</li> <li>- Demolition activities &lt;10m above ground level</li> <li>- Demolition during wetter months</li> </ul>
Earthworks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Total site area &gt;10,000m<sup>2</sup></li> <li>- Potentially dusty soil type (e.g., clay)</li> <li>- &gt;10 heavy earth moving vehicles active at any one time.</li> <li>- Formation of bunds &gt;8m in height</li> <li>- Total material moved &gt;100,000 tonnes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Total site area 2,500 - 10,000m<sup>2</sup></li> <li>- Moderately dusty soil type (e.g., silt)</li> <li>- 10 heavy earth moving vehicles active at any one time.</li> <li>- Formation of bunds 4 - 8m in height</li> <li>- Total material moved 20,000 - 100,000 tonnes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Total site area &lt;2,500m<sup>2</sup></li> <li>- Soil type with large grain size (e.g., sand)</li> <li>- &lt;5 heavy earth moving vehicles active at any one time.</li> <li>- Formation of bunds &lt;4m in height</li> <li>- Total material moved &lt;20,000 tonnes.</li> <li>- Earthworks during wetter months</li> </ul>
Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Total building volume &gt;100,000m<sup>3</sup></li> <li>- On site concrete batching</li> <li>- Sandblasting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Total building volume 25,000 - 100,000m<sup>3</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Total building volume &lt;25,000m<sup>3</sup></li> <li>- Material with low potential for dust</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Potentially dusty construction material (e.g., concrete)</li> <li>- On site concrete batching</li> </ul>	release (e.g., metal cladding or timber)
Trackout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- &gt;50 HGV movements in any one day (a)</li> <li>- Potentially dusty surface material (e.g., high clay content)</li> <li>- Unpaved road length &gt;100m</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10 - 50 HGV movements in any one day (a)</li> <li>- Moderately dusty surface material (e.g., silt)</li> <li>- Unpaved road length 50 - 100m</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- &lt;10 HGV movements in any one day (a)</li> <li>- Surface material with low potential for dust release</li> <li>- Unpaved road length &lt;50m</li> </ul>
a) HGV movements refer to outward trips (leaving the site) by vehicles of over 3.5 tonnes			

For each dust emission source, the worst-case area sensitivity is used in combination with the dust emission magnitude to determine the risk of dust impacts prior to mitigation as illustrated in Tables A6, A7 and A8.

Table A6: Risk of Dust Impacts from Demolition

Area Sensitivity	Dust Emission Magnitude		
	Large	Medium	Small
High	High Risk	Medium Risk	Medium Risk
Medium	High Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Low	Medium Risk	Low Risk	Negligible Risk

Table A7: Risk of Dust Impacts from Earthworks and Construction

Area Sensitivity	Dust Emission Magnitude		
	Large	Medium	Small
High	High Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Medium	Medium Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Low	Medium Risk	Low Risk	Negligible Risk

Table A8: Risk of Dust Impacts from Trackout

Area Sensitivity	Dust Emission Magnitude		
	Large	Medium	Small
High	High Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Medium	Medium Risk	Low Risk	Negligible Risk
Low	Low Risk	Low Risk	Negligible Risk



## APPENDIX B – ADMS-ROADS INPUT PARAMETERS

Table B1: Summary of ADMS-Roads Input Parameters

Parameter	2019 Verification	2025 Exposure
ADMS-Roads Model Version	5.1	5.1
Vehicle Emission Factors	EFT v12.01 for 2019	EFT v12.01 for 2024
Meteorological Data	Hourly sequential data from London City Airport (2019)	Hourly sequential data from London City Airport (2019)
Surface Roughness	1.0m	1.0m
Monin-Obukhov Length	75m	75m

Table B2: Summary of Traffic Data for Model Verification

Road Link	2019 AADT	HGV (%)	Average Speed (kph)
Camden High Street	8,100 (a)	7.8	16
(a) DfT ATC 17170 for 2019			

Table B3: Summary of Traffic Data for the Prediction of 2025 Pollutant Concentrations at the Proposed Development

Road Link	2025 AADT	HGV (%)	Average Speed (kph)
Hampstead Road	12,346 (a)	10.3%	32
Millbrook Place	12,489 (b)	19.8%	16
Camden High Street	22,623 (c)	10.7%	24
Harrington Square	9,853 (a)	15.4%	32
Crowndale Road	9,995 (a)	22.7%	24
Eversholt Street	7,884 (d)	11.2%	32
(a) DfT 56751 for 2019 with TEMPro growth factor for Camden applied (2019 to 2025) (b) LAEI2019 with TEMPro growth factor for Camden applied (2019 to 2025) (c) DfT 37100 for 2019 with TEMPro growth factor for Camden applied (2019 to 2025) (d) DfT 38368 for 2019 with TEMPro growth factor for Camden applied (2019 to 2025)			

# APPENDIX C – MODEL VERIFICATION

## NITROGEN DIOXIDE

Most nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) is produced in the atmosphere by the reaction of nitric oxide (NO) with ozone. It is therefore most appropriate to verify the model in terms of primary pollutant emissions. Verification of concentrations predicted by the ADMS-Roads model has followed the methodology presented in LAQM.TG22.

Modelled annual mean concentrations of NO<sub>2</sub> have been compared with the concentrations measured at the following monitoring location in 2019:

- CAM129 on Camden High Street

The Defra NO<sub>x</sub>toNO<sub>2</sub> calculator has been used to determine the Road-NO<sub>x</sub> (i.e., the component of total NO<sub>x</sub> coming from road traffic) concentration using the measured 2019 background concentration at the Bloomsbury automatic monitoring site. The ratio of the measured and modelled Road-NO<sub>x</sub> concentrations provides an adjustment factor for the modelled concentrations at the proposed development. An equivalent Road-NO<sub>2</sub> concentration is then determined using the Defra NO<sub>x</sub> from NO<sub>2</sub> calculator and added to the background NO<sub>2</sub> concentration to predict the total concentrations at the site for comparison with the air quality objectives.

In the absence of a suitable particulate monitoring site, the adjustment factor has also been applied to the modelled Road-PM<sub>10</sub> and Road-PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations, in accordance with the guidance.

Table C1: Verification Calculation (NO<sub>2</sub>)

Parameter	
Measured NO <sub>2</sub> Concentration	38.8 µg/m <sup>3</sup>
Background NO <sub>2</sub> Concentration	32.0 µg/m <sup>3</sup>
Measured Road-NO <sub>x</sub> Concentration	15.2 µg/m <sup>3</sup>
Modelled Road-NO <sub>x</sub> Concentration	5.1 µg/m <sup>3</sup>
<b>Adjustment Factor</b>	<b>3.0</b>

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