



London has 'dangerous' levels of air pollution: study

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Nearly 100 sensors fixed around London since January have revealed the city's air pollution is dangerously high, according to a charity and the city mayor's office.

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That's the conclusion of an air quality analysis in the capital, conducted by an environmental charity.



In January, the Environmental Defense Fund Europe installed around a hundred of these sensors across the city.

It's all part of a project called **Breathe London**.

The results?

More than 40% of tested areas are in danger of exceeding the levels of pollution mandated by law.

ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND EUROPE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BARONESS BRYONY WORTHINGTON, SAYING:

"Air pollution is a silent killer, it is really responsible for both shortening people's lives but also in extreme cases it can actually cause death.

So our solution is to bring these sensors, make the invisible visible and put more pressure on the politicians that they can't keep fobbing us off and they have to act to clean up our air, make it healthy, particularly for the vulnerable amongst us."

This map shows the worst hit areas for nitrogen dioxide, which is emitted from car exhausts.

The charity is also using data from Google cars to monitor the spread of pollution, and has teamed up with King's College **London** to fit air quality monitors in children's backpacks.

A 2015 study by researchers at the university showed nearly 9,500 **London** residents die prematurely every year as a result of long-term exposure to pollution.

Earlier this year **London** Mayor Sadiq Khan introduced an Ultra Low Emission Zone in the city center.

The mayor's office says it's had an immediate impact: a 20% reduction in emissions and a drop of 9,400 cars entering the zone each day.