

London's transport response to COVID

The Streetspace for London
programme
October 2020



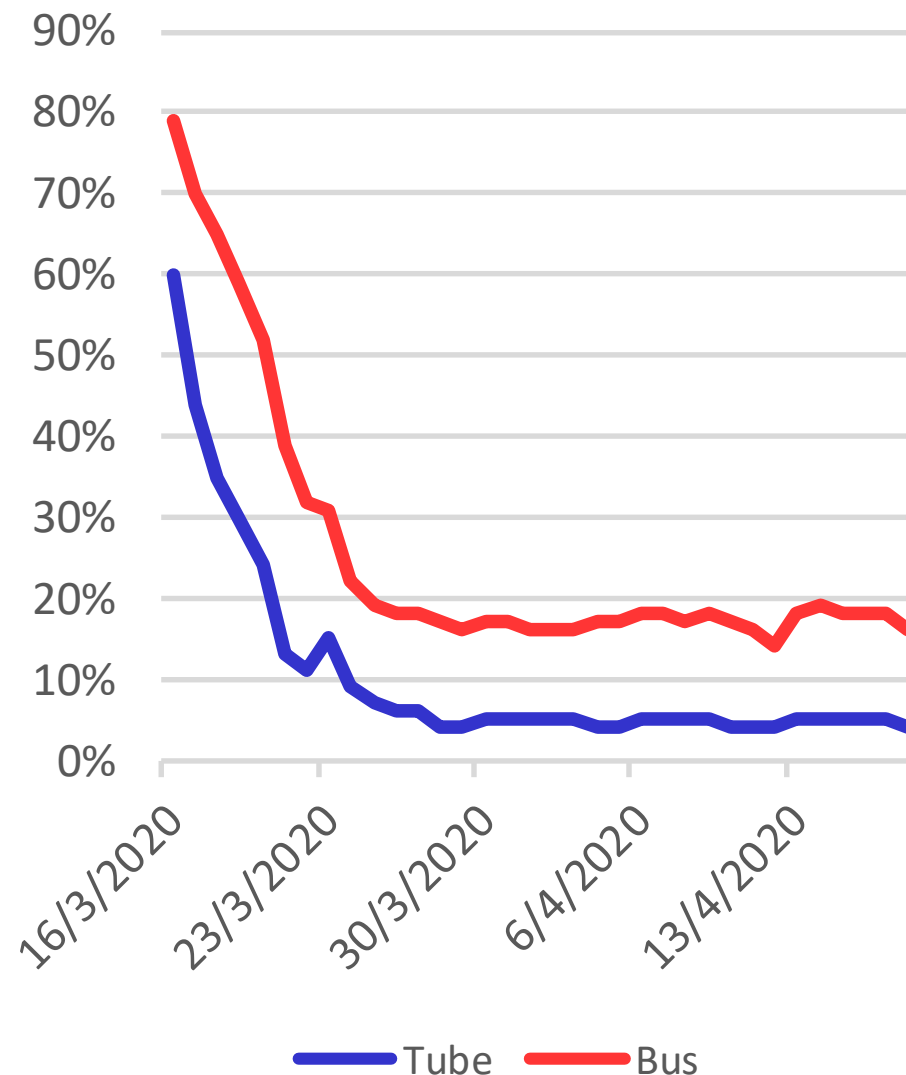
EVERY JOURNEY MATTERS

When the pandemic hit, the UK went into lockdown. Public transport use collapsed

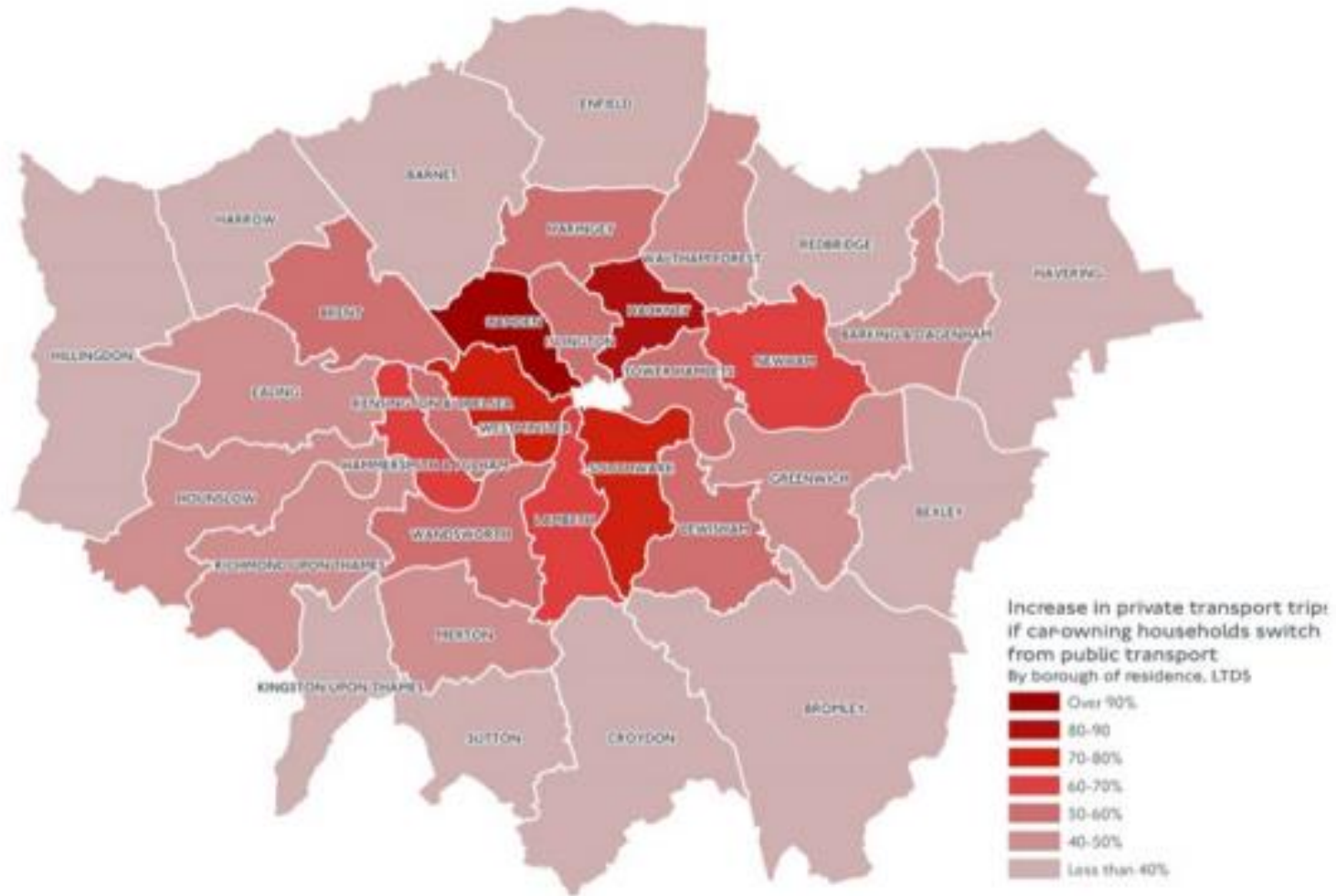
This included instructions to:

- Work from home if you can
- Avoid unnecessary public transport journeys

At the height of lockdown, Tube journeys fell by 95 per cent and journeys on buses fell by 85 per cent

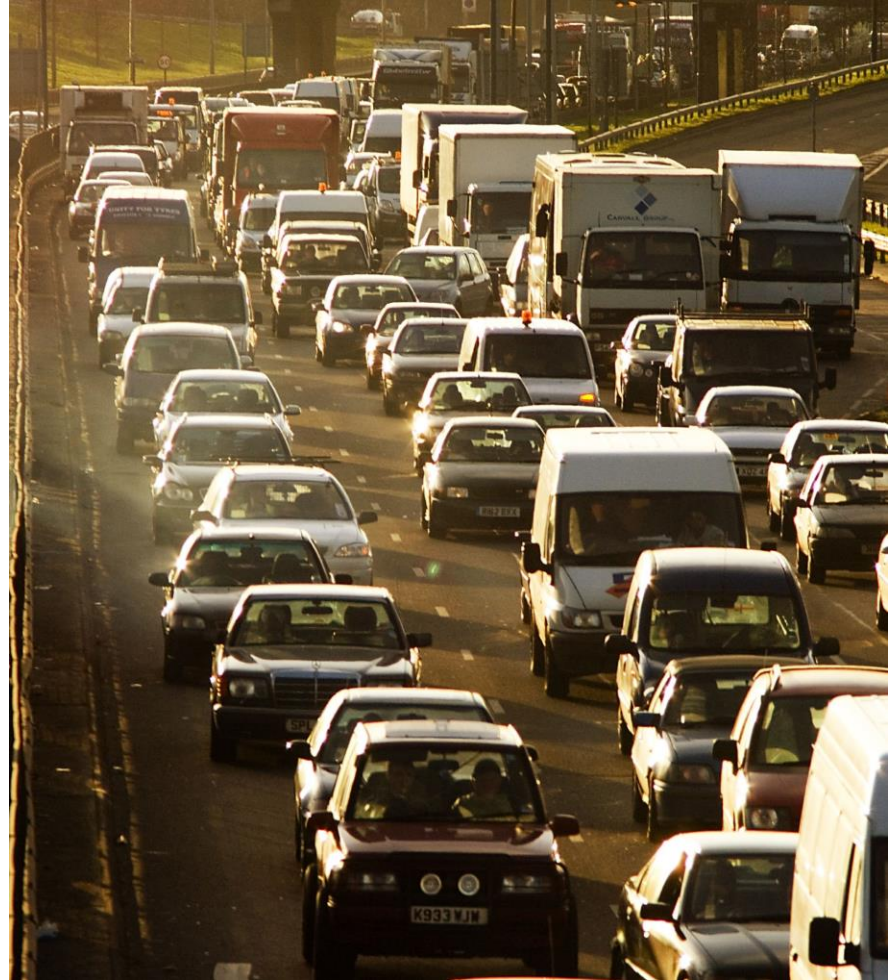


This posed an immediate risk of people switching their usual journeys to the car, posing a massive congestion challenge



Increasing reliance on cars posed a number of risks:

- **Road safety** with more pressure on health services
- **Road reliability** affecting emergency services
- **Public health** including worse air quality which would impact COVID
- **The economic recovery** with impacts on essential freight
- **The environment** with increased carbon emissions



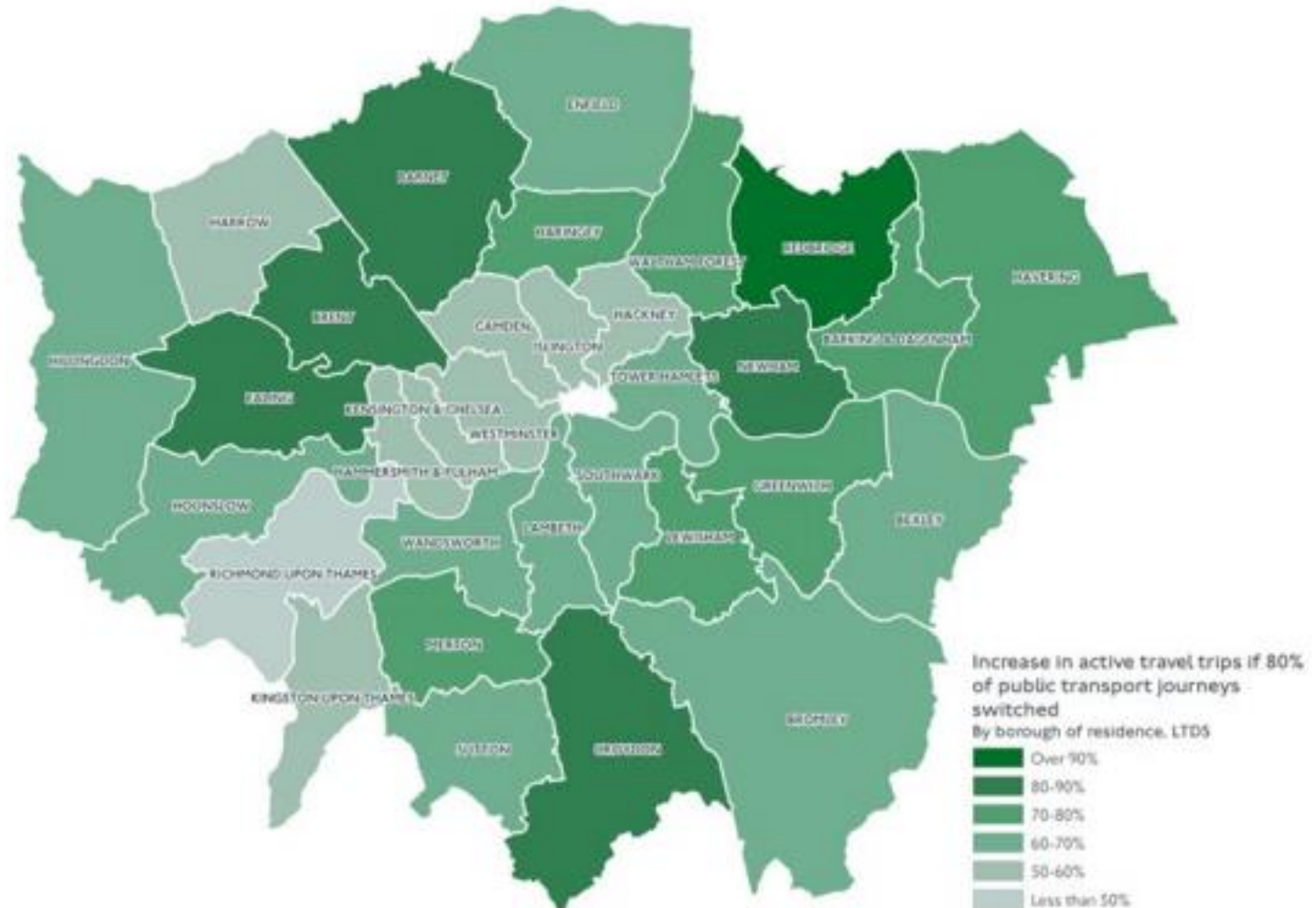
The UK Government issued guidance to help switch public transport journeys to walking and cycling instead



Areas with high public transport use should temporarily reallocate road space to walking and cycling as quickly as possible

New emergency funding and laws for more temporary schemes

This would be a big challenge, with many areas reliant on public transport without much provision for active travel



So we developed the Streetspace for London programme

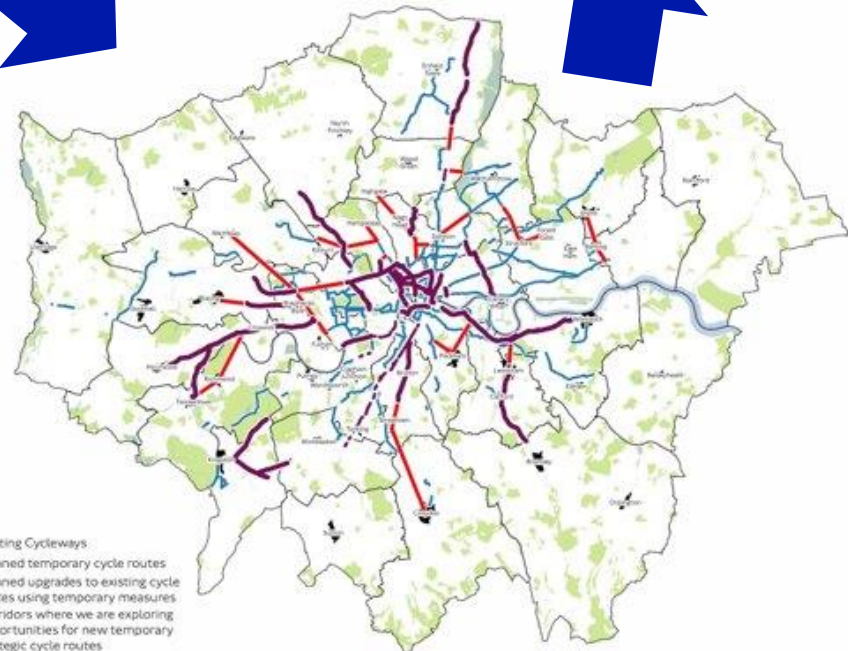
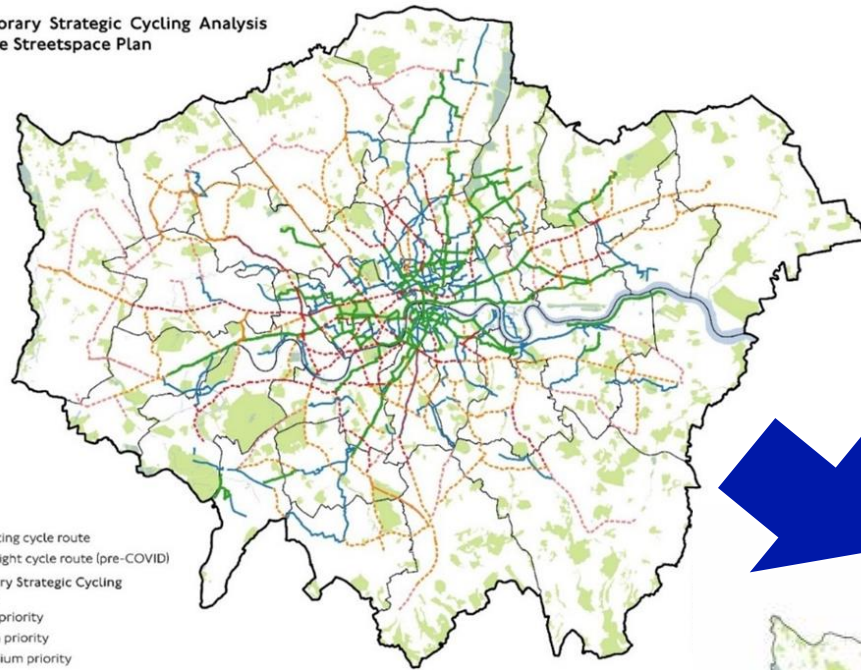
Using funding from central government, we supported bids from London's 33 boroughs for:

1. Providing **temporary cycle routes**
2. Providing **additional space for people walking in town centres and at transport hubs**
3. Providing **low traffic neighbourhoods and school streets**



1. Temporary cycle routes

Temporary Strategic Cycling Analysis
for the Streetspace Plan



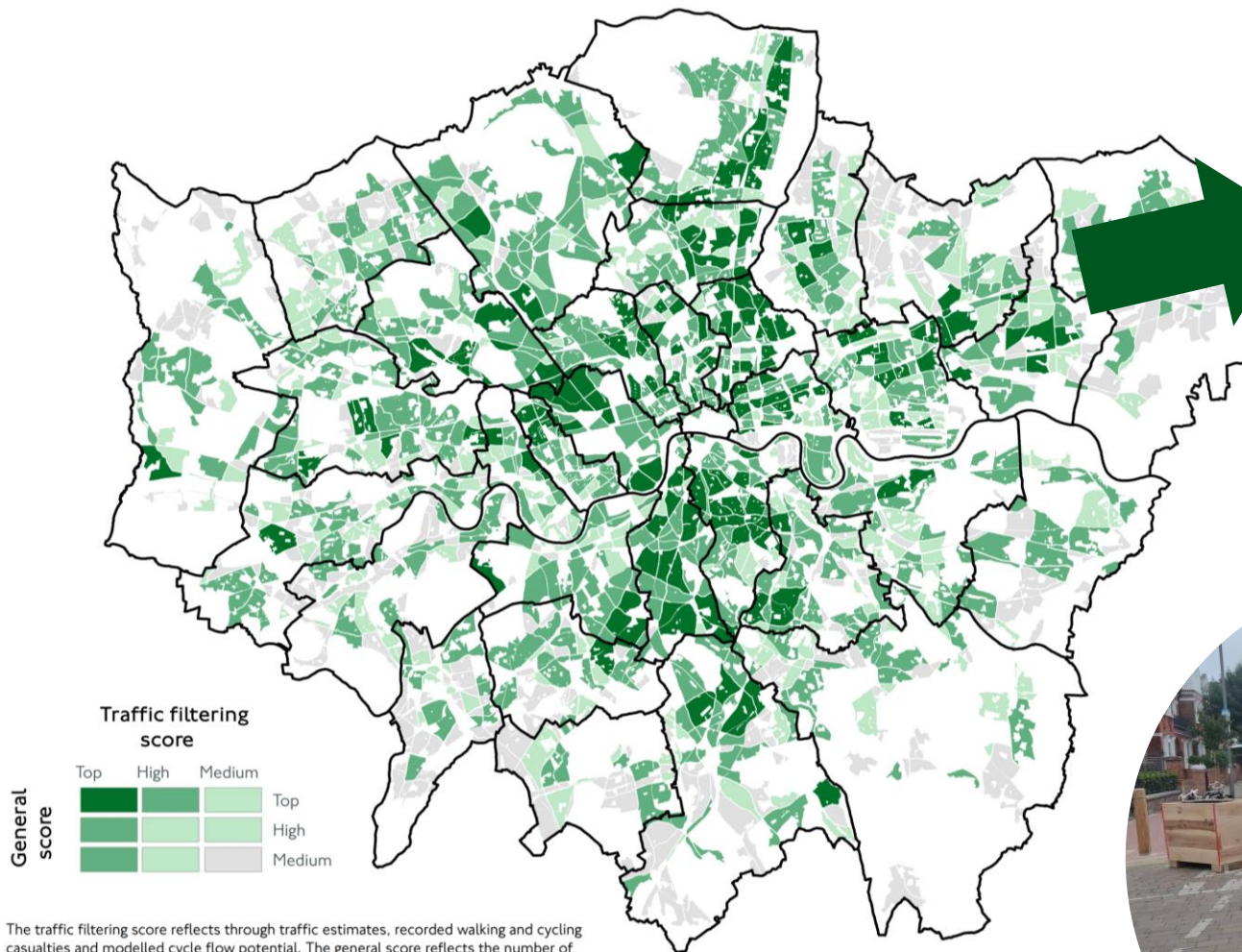
2. Town centres



© Crown copyright and database rights 2017 Ordnance Survey 100035971

0 0.075 0.15 km
01/06/2020

3. Low Traffic Neighbourhoods & school streets



Streatham Hill Low traffic neighbourhood



By August, we had funded £20m for projects across the whole of London

157 Low Traffic Neighbourhoods

437 School Streets

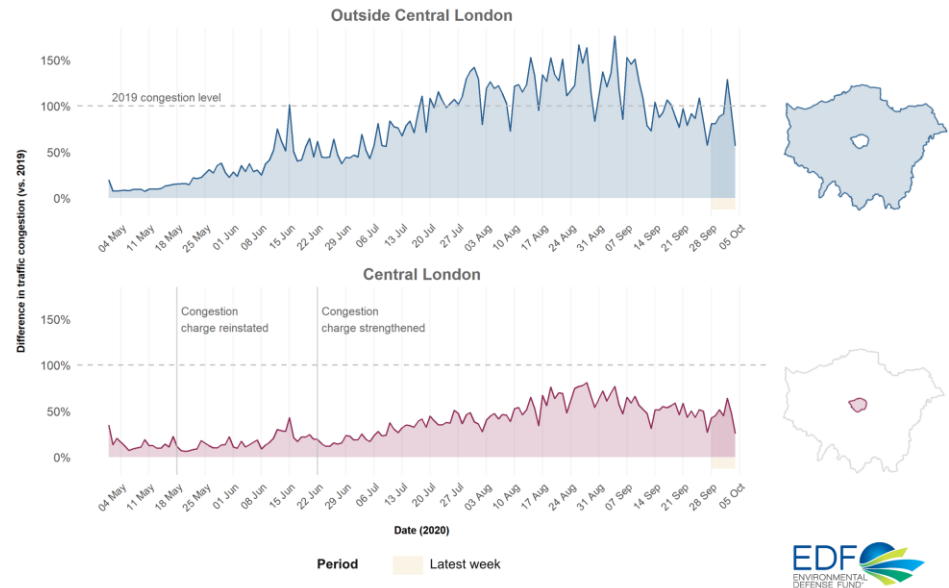
233 Town Centre schemes

66 strategic cycle routes



It remains a time of unprecedented challenges

- Further funding
- Ensuring inclusive temporary designs
- Rising traffic and congestion
- Public reception and engagement
- Monitoring the impacts
- Changes in the pandemic – restrictions being re-introduced in London tomorrow including on public transport
- Supporting a green recovery for the long-term



Source: <https://www.edfeurope.org/traffic-congestion>



Questions?

Josephine Vos
Jack Maizels



EVERY JOURNEY MATTERS