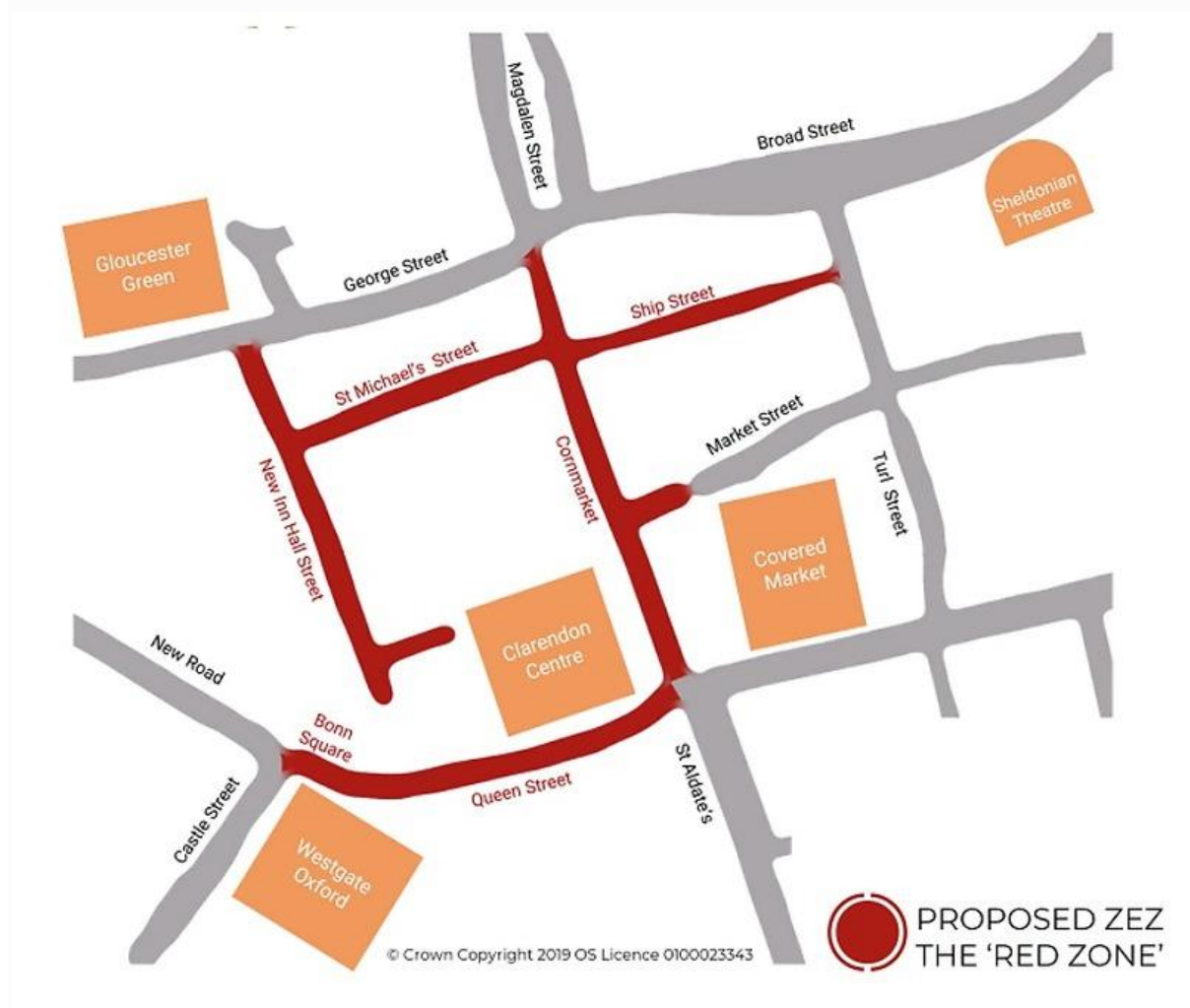


## Zero Emission Zone

Oxfordshire County Council and Oxford City Council are working jointly towards the creation of a [Zero Emission Zone](#) in Oxford city centre. The proposal would see emissions requirements implemented in Oxford city centre in phases, from 2020 to 2035.

Parts of Oxford city centre currently have illegally-high levels of toxic nitrogen dioxide, which contributes to diseases including cancer, asthma, stroke and heart disease - and contributes to around 36,000 deaths in the UK every year. In Oxford transport accounts for about 75% of nitrogen dioxide pollution.

The 'Red Zone' phase of the ZEZ is planned to be operational from December 2020 and is likely to be the first area in the UK to set a zero emission requirement. There are schemes in London and other UK cities which set 'ultra low emission' requirements but none which set a zero emission requirement.



The councils have considered several methods for the implementation and enforcement of the ZEZ Red Zone. The thinking on the best approach has evolved through discussions with businesses and developments nationally in emissions-control (albeit not zero emission) schemes.

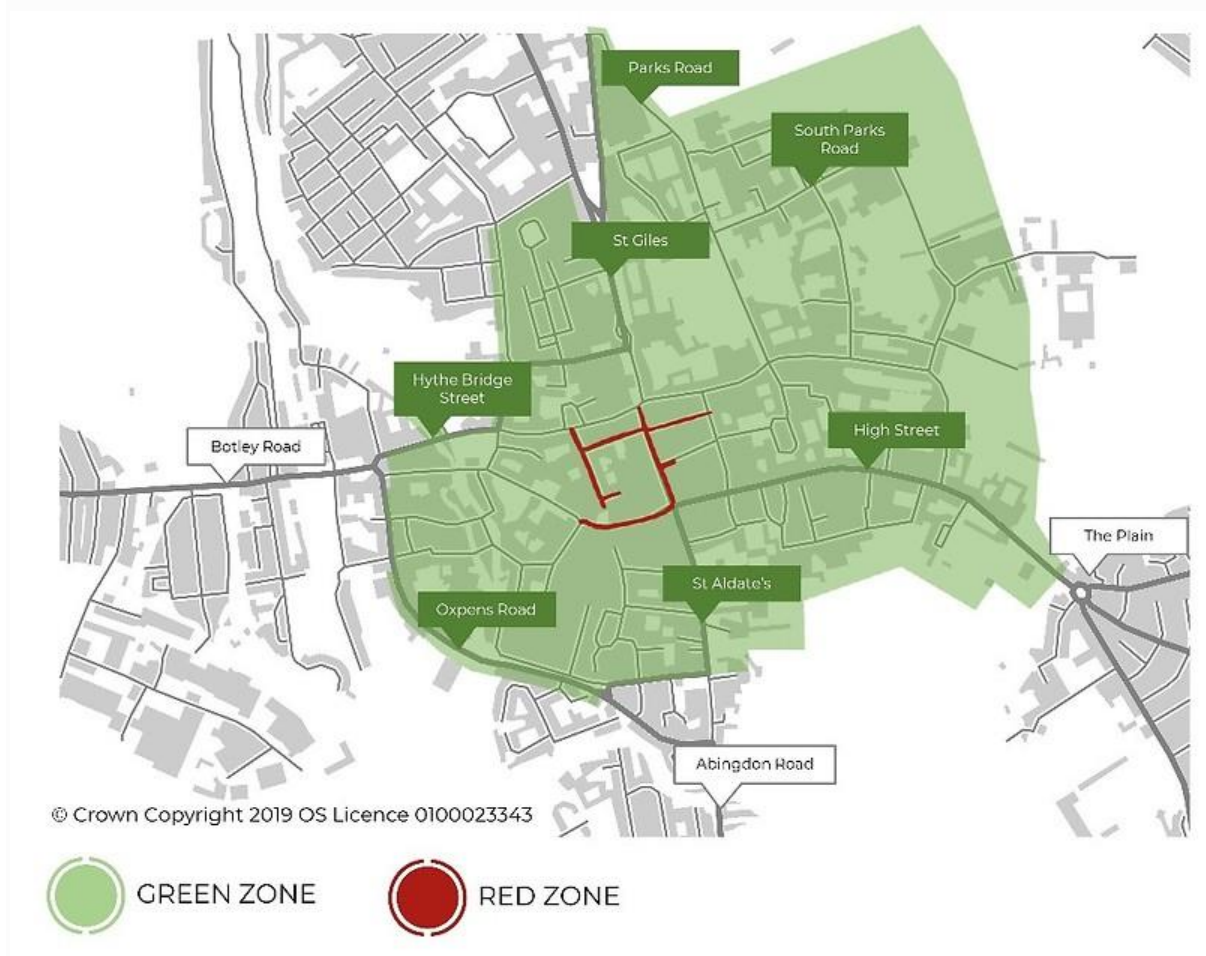
The proposal is to charge a daily fee for non-zero emission vehicles to enter the Red Zone, to accelerate the transition to zero emission transport in the zone, whilst maintaining access for shops and other businesses.

The ZEZ Red Zone will lead to cleaner air, quieter streets, contribute to action on climate change, and allow the councils to gain useful experience and information to inform future, larger phases of the ZEZ.

The councils invited views on the proposals for the Red Zone during January 2020. That feedback is currently being considered.

The ZEZ Red Zone is just one part of our journey to zero emission transport.

In addition to the Red Zone, a 'Green Zone' is proposed for implementation in 2021/22. This will cover the rest of the city centre.



The councils have also agreed ambitious new taxi and bus emission standards.

The next steps for the Zero Emission Zone proposals are as follows:

- Formal consultation – March 2020
- Councils consider responses and make formal decisions on implementation – Spring 2020
- If approved, scheme comes into effect – December 2020

The Zero Emission Zone is part of a wider transport plan which aims to improve connectivity, reduce emissions and support sustainable growth across Oxford. The councils have recently undertaken public engagement on their *Connecting Oxford* proposals to tackle congestion and improve public transport connections into and across Oxford (see separate Topic Paper).

## Question 20

### **Will you be responding to the forthcoming consultation on the Zero Emission Zone?**

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

Please enter any additional comments

To respond please use the online consultation form.