

CHANGING OUR WORLD ONE STREET AT A TIME



2025 WAS A BREAKTHROUGH YEAR FOR CLEAN CITIES. WE LAUNCHED BOLD NEW CAMPAIGNS, INFLUENCED CITY AND NATIONAL POLICIES AND MOBILISED TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE.



Right: The Streets for Kids Campaign
Below: Nina Bak, Director of Clean Cities Poland, addresses the media alongside the head of the Warsaw City Guard about the need for proper enforcement of the city's new low-emission zone.



CLEAN CITIES' 10 HIGHLIGHTS OF 2025

- We convinced the Mayor of London to support greener fleets by lowering the Congestion Charge for electric vans and lorries.

CARGO
REVOLUTION



Carspreading
When big cars become a big problem

- We supported and pushed for the introduction of Europe's first zero-emission zones for freight in 18 Dutch cities together with our Dutch partner.
- We secured a popular vote for 500 new green and pedestrianised streets in Paris.
- We launched Carspreading, a campaign to curb the spread of oversized SUVs, supported by brand-new Europe-wide research.

- We successfully passed an amendment in the Italian parliament that provides funding for additional cycling infrastructure and requires the government to swiftly clarify how these funds will be distributed.
- We worked alongside the Warsaw City Guard to ensure stronger enforcement of the city's new LEZ.
- We signed up four Spanish ministries to our Spanish Clean Cities Manifesto for Livable Cities: Transport, Health, Ecological Transition and Social Rights.



- We launched our Free the Buses campaign in Warsaw for new bus lanes to unlock the city's congestion.
- We engaged more than 350,000 parents, teachers and children across 300 cities as part of our Streets for Kids campaign.

- We legally challenged three Spanish cities for their lack of progress on LEZ implementation and clean air.

ACCELERATING THE ELECTRIFICATION OF ROAD TRANSPORT

We're working with cities and companies to accelerate the electrification of transport at the city level. Our vision is for everyone to benefit from the transition - so we're working with small and large businesses, not-for-profit organisations and communities of colour as well as major corporations.



Honor Elliott

ZERO-EMISSION ZONES



Working with our Dutch partner, we supported the introduction of Europe's first zero-emission zones for freight. There are now 18 Dutch cities with their own zones. This shows what partnerships between public authorities and private companies can achieve.

Our recent publication *Pioneers of zero-emission logistics in European cities* provided an overview of the numerous European cities and companies that have become 'pioneers' by transitioning to zero-emission urban logistics.

We helped to win support for the Paris City Council to adopt a trial for a zero-emission delivery zone. And we took on the secretariat of the Transport Alliance for Clean Air, a Brussels-based business network that champions private sector leadership on clean urban transport.

In partnership with Respire, we estimated the health and environmental impacts of last-mile deliveries in Paris and modeled the benefits of transitioning to e-vans and cargo bikes.

We focused on building a coalition of companies dedicated to zero-emission logistics in Milan, laying the groundwork for a Pact for Sustainable Logistics with the city administration. Our policy platform provides a clear roadmap for transforming Milan's urban logistics.

With the main Spanish deliveries' association and the Ministry of Transport, we developed a guide for cities to promote clean freight distribution.

CHAMPIONING E-CARGO BIKES



In Milan, we launched Italy's first Cargo Bike Day, engaging over 500 participants. The work frames freight not only as a technical issue, but as a cultural and public one, making zero-emission delivery both visible and desirable.

Our business alliance in Milan now includes IKEA, DHL and Decathlon, representing a combined Italian turnover of €9bn. They have committed to 100% clean urban logistics.

Our 2025 London Cargo Bike Cruise drew a diverse range of businesses from plumbers to milkmen to showcase pedal-powered logistics as a sustainable alternative to vans.

We took cycle logistics to the Iberian Congress of Urban Cycling in Santiago de Compostela.

We're also rebranding zero-emission zones as Living Districts to better communicate their impacts on our cities, and it's already been featured in Spain's most influential newspaper El País.

We won an extension to London's Cleaner Vehicle Discount by creating a coalition of small and medium-sized businesses.



We published new research on the market for e-vans which showed that by 2026, there will be more e-van models than diesel and petrol, and battery-electric vans will be cheaper than their diesel counterparts by 2027.

We published new research into how London can maintain its position as a leader in delivering clean air by delivering a zero-emission zone for freight in central London.

CHILD-FRIENDLY CITIES & SPACE FOR PEOPLE

We're harnessing the transformational power of parents and children in cities across Europe. Children's safety and health is genuinely uncontroversial, so we tap into a reservoir of empathy with easy-to-understand demands to mobilise people that we otherwise wouldn't be able to reach beyond the climate community, through countless small and informal grassroots groups driving real-life impact.

Streets for Kids was supported by our landmark Child-Friendly Cities Ranking. It assessed 36 European cities on school street implementation, protected cycling infrastructure and safe speed limits, with coverage in The Guardian, La Repubblica, Le Figaro and Süddeutsche Zeitung.

Budapest announced its intention to introduce two school streets in each city district this year and for every school to have one by 2030, a major win for the movement in Hungary - and a significant step forward for our work in Central and Eastern Europe.

In Kraków, the Deputy Mayor promised to support the city's first school street. In Florence, the City Council approved a motion implementing school streets. Rome announced 100 school streets. And 13 of 16 German regions now have school streets, marking a significant breakthrough.

In Barcelona we presented to the Catalan Parliament's Decalogue for Safe School Environments, kick-starting the process for regional regulations, in collaboration with parliamentary representatives, pediatricians, and families.

SCHOOL STREETS AND THE SCHOOL RUN

2025 saw an unprecedented surge in school streets. Our citizen mapping, to date, has found more than 1100 across Europe - and the project to locate them all continues. Clean Cities has become the point of expertise on these popular and effective urban interventions.

Our Streets for Kids Spring Days of Action saw more than 570 events in 20 countries. That takes the total events across Europe since we started to 2,800 with 350,000 parents, teachers and children joining in across 300 cities!



URBAN REALM AND PARKING INTERVENTIONS

We campaigned for Parisians to back the greening of 500 streets—directly inspired by the school streets model, two thirds of whom did as part of a referendum. And we're delighted that our Paris, en plus vert campaign was also endorsed by Mayor of Paris, Anne Hidalgo.

Our UK Carspredding campaign has stirred up public opinion, tackling oversized SUVs. We helped pass a London Assembly motion calling for SUV parking fees. This was on the heels of Paris' referendum hiking oversized vehicle parking charges which prompted Bordeaux to do the same.