

Sue Hayman responds to Government's plans to ban all new petrol and diesel cars and vans from 2040

Sue

Hayman MP, Labour's Shadow Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,

commenting on the Government's plans to ban all new petrol and diesel cars and vans from 2040, said:

"We

have had seven years of illegal air pollution under this Conservative Government

who have only acted after being dragged through the courts.

"Despite

the scale of the problem of illegal air pollution, we are presented today with

further consultations and delays, a squeamish attitude to clean air zones, shunting the problem onto local authorities and no detail about how the Government's

2040 target will be achieved. With nearly 40 million people living in areas with illegal levels of air pollution, action is needed now, not in 23 years' time.

"This

all comes after years of cuts to grants for electric vehicles and just days after the Government announced scrapping the electrification of rail lines

and

the introduction of diesel trains.

"A

Labour Government will introduce a new Clean Air Act to drive challenging emissions reduction targets, introduce a network of clean air zones and

invest

in greener, integrated public transport systems for the long term."