

Written evidence submitted by APPG Air Pollution (PHS0597)

I suggest that the Terms of reference for Health Committee report on Prevention include air pollution

In particular:-

Pollution levels in urban environments eg 41 of 52 cities breaching the 2014 World Health Organisation standards

Physical and mental health impacts of air pollution:- lung cancer, heart disease, strokes, diabetes, obesity, dementia - on babies, children and older people including on allergies (21 million) and asthma in children. 64,000 premature deaths each year.

Costs of air pollution to NHS and the UK economy from WHO £60 billion

Ella Kissi Debrah - air pollution cause of death

Air pollution reducing resilience to disease - in particular Covid-19 deaths and transmission (Harvard, Max Plank Institute, Queen Mary's University)

World Health Organisation air pollution limits and trajectories eg health impact of reducing 10 micrograms of PM2.5 per cubic metre per year by 2040 target for UK to 2030 as required by the EU Action needed to reach WHO limit of 5 micrograms of PM2.5 per cubic metre.

Strategies for reducing outdoor air pollution including transport industry, agriculture

Indoor air pollution - where we spend 90% of our time. 900 chemicals affecting health from volatile organic compounds in building materials to cleaning agents, flame retardants, emissions from cooking, mould and damp. Impact of cocktail on health as outdoor pollution mixes with indoor

Affect of wood burners on outdoor and indoor air pollution with 1.5 million people polluting themselves and their communities with burners six times worse than HGVs when the vast majority of owners have central heating.

Air pollution reports commissioned by the Chief Scientific Adviser, Sir Patrick Vallance and The Chief Medical Officer, Chris Whitty

Ventilation in work, home and transport infrastructure to reduce the spread of infection.

Creating health impact awareness with more local air quality monitors eg outside schools, to encourage action

Holistic approach from government with DEFRA NHS Transport NICE local government and housing, and Trade & business and Energy Security and Net Zero incentivised by Treasury fiscal strategy

Enforcement of air quality standards eg is Office for Environmental Protection empowered as effectively as EU was to encourage clean air?

The 'Right to clean air' as part of the right to a healthy environment and right to life

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