

**Written evidence submitted by Donal O'Dowd, Ellen Wilkinson Primary School**

I feel very strongly that the current targets for NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> are far less ambitious than they should be. Matching the WHO targets is a must if the UK is to maintain its reputation as a world-leading country in terms of its approach to public health. The target dates should also be brought forward as a matter of urgency- there is no reason people should have to breathe polluted air which damages their lungs. I teach in a school next to London City Airport- so funding research into making aviation fuel less polluting is important to ensure children in this area don't grow up with breathing problems. Poor air quality damages us all- but the poor suffer by far the worst effects. Making polluters pay for the negative externalities they generate should be a first principle of how the UK intends to tackle the issue.

Thank you for the opportunity to give evidence.

Donal O'Dowd

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