

Dear <INSERT local authority leader name>

Greater Manchester's clean air plan

As a resident of XXX, I'm writing to show my support for Greater Manchester's clean air zone and express my concerns that it doesn't go far enough.

Air pollution, which largely comes from vehicle emissions, has a devastating impact on the health of people living across Greater Manchester.

As you know, toxic air disproportionately effects people living with a lung condition, older people and children. Urgent action is particularly needed in Greater Manchester given we already have some of the worst lung disease outcomes in England, the region has been hit very hard by Covid-19 and toxic air is costing us up to £1 billion in health costs every year.

I am pleased to see that action is planned across all ten polluted authorities. However, I am concerned that the proposed plans don't go far enough to protect people's lung health.

I want to see the following changes:

- **A more ambitious clean air zone** that includes charging for all polluting vehicles. It's unclear how the proposed zone will lower pollution as quickly as possible, given it doesn't include restrictions on private vehicles which the largest source of pollution on Greater Manchester's roads.
- **A speedier timeline for delivery and action.** Under these plans, compliance with legal levels of pollution are not expected until 2024. This is unacceptable, every day that passes is a missed opportunity to protect people's health.
- **Incentives for walking and cycling, as well as for cleaner vehicles and public transport.** I am pleased to see financial incentives to help taxis, bus companies and businesses change to cleaner vehicles. However, in the long run we need not just cleaner vehicles but fewer vehicles on our roads. These incentives should go much wider and enable access to alternative options such as membership of car and van clubs, e-bikes, active travel and season ticket loans for public transport.
- **Targeted action to reduce pollution outside schools, hospitals, and care homes** to protect those most at risk. Much more detail is needed on how those who are most at risk will be protected from all types of pollution.

I urge you to consider these proposals in your fight to tackle Greater Manchester's toxic air.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours sincerely,

XXX