

Transport and Environment Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 12 September 2019

Petition for Consideration: Call for Independent Air Study Analysing the likely Impact of CCWEL Road Layout Changes on Roseburn Terrace NO2 Pollution Levels

Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	Corstorphine / Murrayfield
Council Commitments	

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 To consider the terms of the petition 'Call for Independent Air Study Analysing the likely Impact of CCWEL Road Layout Changes on Roseburn Terrace NO2 Pollution Levels' as set out in Appendix one.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

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Report

Call for Independent Air Study Analysing the likely Impact of CCWEL Road Layout Changes on Roseburn Terrace NO2 Pollution Levels

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The Transport and Environment Committee is asked to consider a petition at this meeting.

3. Background

- 3.1 The City of Edinburgh Council at its meeting on 22 June 2017 agreed the Petitions Committee be discontinued and that petitions would be sent to the responsible executive committees or in future locality committees for consideration.

4. Main report

- 4.1 A valid petition entitled 'Call for Independent Air Study Analysing the likely Impact of CCWEL Road Layout Changes on Roseburn Terrace NO2 Pollution Levels' has been received. The petition received 32 signatures from businesses and 188 signatures from individuals.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 The committee will determine next steps at this meeting.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 Not applicable.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 There are no stakeholder/ community impacts arising from the consideration of the petition.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 Minute of the City of Edinburgh Council 22 June 2017.

9. Appendices

- 9.1 Appendix 1 – Petition - Call for Independent Air Study Analysing the likely Impact of CCWEL Road Layout Changes on Roseburn Terrace NO2 Pollution Levels

Appendix 1 - Call for Independent Air Study Analysing the likely Impact of CCWEL Road Layout Changes on Roseburn Terrace NO2 Pollution Levels

Date made available for signatures	Date closed for signatures	Petitions Title and Petitions Statement	Wards affected
19 June 2019	10 July 2019	<p>Call for Independent Air Study Analysing the likely Impact of CCWEL Road Layout Changes on Roseburn Terrace NO2 Pollution Levels</p> <p>Traders and residents want an air study, for we have just learnt from a recently retired local air quality expert, John Lamb, with 17 years at SEPA under his belt, of a potential risk to public health by the CCWEL. Roseburn Terrace is a text book example of a street canyon, where traffic pollution becomes trapped between buildings. This effect is exacerbated by prevailing wind conditions, leading to nitrogen dioxide (NO2) concentrations that are around 34% higher on the south side, as CEC's passive diffusion tube measurements show. The expert noted stationary cars keep the traffic away from the shop fronts, creating a space in which NO2 dilutes naturally. Dundee City Council recently moved traffic one lane from homes to reduce pollution in this way.</p> <p>John points out the CCWEL will remove the parking bays (and the natural dilution zone), thus moving westbound traffic 3m closer to the shopfronts. The lane of traffic waiting to turn right will move into the southern half of the Terrace. The combination of these factors may lead to a breach of the limit set in the Air Quality Standards (Scotland) Regulations 2010. High levels can lead to asthma, coronary heart disease, stroke, lung cancer, miscarriages and COPD</p> <p>The impact of the planned changes on air quality and health should be assessed by a suitably qualified expert, using an approved dispersion modelling tool that can model the</p>	Corstorphine / Murrayfield

		<p>complex environment of a street canyon, with the findings made public. Murrayfield Community Council fully support this petition. Reasonable steps to resolve the issues</p> <p>In 2016 we, the members of the Roseburn Vision Group, raised the matter of likely pollution in Roseburn Terrace through a petition against the CCWEL that drew around 6,000 signatures. The Council responded by setting up a stakeholder working group who agreed by a majority to support the CCWEL. A local doctor, Dr Milton Park, had pointed out the worrying impact of poor air quality arising from the CCWEL on public health at a public meeting we arranged in August 2016 - which drew 175 people, including 9 Councillors. The Roseburn Vision Group comprise traders and residents who have come together to give proposals on how to promote cycling in the city, without building the CCWEL.</p> <p>This led to the Committee meeting of December 2016 agreeing to monitor air quality after the CCWEL was built.</p> <p>We have submitted an FOI asking why monitoring of NO2 ceased on the south side between 2009 and 2016 - see www.tinyurl.com/roseburnair</p> <p>The Community Council called upon Cllr Gloyer to assist and she undertook, as a first step, to forward the new pollution research to the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee and ask what investigations had been carried out.</p> <p>Such was the strength of local feeling on this matter, the traders and residents wanted to petition the Council as well. We have made a video to explain the data we have found, with the assistance of John Lamb, ex-SEPA air expert. It can be viewed at www.tinyurl.com/roseburnplume</p>	
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