

Amendment by the Green Group

Transport and Environment Committee

27 January 2022

Item 7.3 Air Quality Annual Progress Report

Deletes 1.1.2 and adds

1.2 Is concerned that Edinburgh has five Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) in which air quality has failed to meet safety standards;

1.3 Notes from this report that following new evidence on the adverse health effects of air pollution, the World Health Organisation has published revised health-based air quality guidelines but that Scottish air quality objectives have yet to be revised in line with these;

1.4 Recognises that the main cause of this harmful pollution is exhaust gases from cars and other vehicles and that before the Covid pandemic around 60,000 commuting vehicles were travelling through Edinburgh every day;

1.5 Recognises that air quality improvements will depend on reducing the pollution caused by this traffic and that the forthcoming Low Emission Zone is intended to tackle this issue;

1.6 Notes the recent general improvement in air quality as a result of reduced traffic because of the Covid pandemic. However recognises that as restrictions ease, traffic levels are likely to return towards pre-pandemic levels with a consequent impact on air quality;

1.7 Agrees not to revoke the Inverleith AQMA until it can be confirmed that pollution levels will not again breach air quality standards once Covid pandemic restrictions are lifted and that the LEZ will prove to be effective in this location.

Moved by: Councillor Burgess

Seconded by: Councillor Miller