

Committee(s):	Date(s):	
Port Health and Environmental Services Committee	September 9 2013	
Subject: Working together to improve the air quality of London – Letter from London Local Authorities and Greater London Council to Government	Public	
Report of: Director of Markets and Consumer Protection	For Information	
<u>Summary</u>		
<p>As one of the many strands of work the City Corporation is taking on improving air quality in London, a joint letter on this matter has been agreed and sent from the Mayor of London and London Councils Transport and Environment Committee on behalf of the Greater London Council and all London local authorities requesting various actions and support of Government. The letter is attached to this report for information and updates on air quality in the City will continue to be reported to your Committee.</p>		

Main Report

Background

1. It was agreed, following meetings of the City Corporation with London Borough of Camden, City of Westminster and the Greater London Authority/Transport for London (GLA / TfL) in autumn 2012 to discuss what steps could and should be taken regionally and nationally to improve air quality in London, that a joint letter be drafted from the GLA and all three authorities requesting action and support on these matters from the relevant Government ministry, Department of Environment and Rural Affairs (DEFRA). The GLA extended the offer to sign the letter to other London Boroughs, via London Councils.
2. The letter was agreed and a copy of the letter sent on August 1 can be seen for information at Appendix 1. The next steps will be for your Chairman to meet with Matthew Pencharz, the Mayor of London's Environment Adviser, and for the signatory authorities to review the anticipated response back from DEFRA. This matter will be the subject of further updates to your Committee.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

Work on air quality improvement fits with one of the City Corporation's three aims of the Corporate Plan 2013 – 2017 in that it seeks to evolve a service 'to provide modern, efficient and high quality local services and policing within the Square Mile for workers, residents and visitors with a view to delivering sustainable outcomes'. It also meets one of the five key policy priorities, KPP3, in that it seeks to be 'engaging with London and national government on key issues of concern to our communities including policing, welfare reform and changes to the NHS' and specifically with the 'Mayor of London – Environment (air quality)'.

Implications

3. There are no current implications to the existing budgets of Markets and Consumer Protection Department.

Background Papers:

None.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Letter to DEFRA – 'Working together to improve the air quality of London'

Contact:

Steve Blake | steve.blake@cityoflondon.gov.uk | 1604