# London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

CABINET



### 7 NOVEMBER 2016

### **H&F AIR QUALITY COMMISSION REPORT**

Report of the Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport and Residents Services – Councillor Wesley Harcourt

Open Report

**Classification - For Decision** 

Key Decision: Yes

Wards Affected: All

Accountable Director: Kim Dero, Director of Delivery and Value

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# 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. The resident-led Air Quality Commission (AQC) has completed its review of air pollution in Hammersmith and Fulham and herewith presents its findings and recommendations to the Cabinet for consideration, discussion and adoption. The recommendations are aimed at central government, the Mayor of London and regional government as well as the Council, businesses, community groups and residents of the borough.
- 1.2. The report has previously been discussed by the Community Safety, Environment and Resident Services PAC, which has referred it to Cabinet for adoption by the Council.

#### 2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1. That the Council welcomes the AQC report's findings.
- 2.2. That the Council promotes the report's findings and recommendations to central government, the Mayor of London and other parties to whom the recommendations are directed for action.

2.3. That officers are tasked with producing an action plan and costings for the implementation of the recommendations directed at the Council.

### 3. REASONS FOR DECISION

3.1. The AQC is a resident-led commission that was charged by the Council with examining the causes of air pollution in the borough and reporting back to the Council with recommendations for action. The attached report is the result of the AQC's research and evidence gathering over the past ten months and is presented to Cabinet for consideration and action.

### 4. PROPOSAL AND ISSUES

- 4.1. The Air Quality Commission was launched in December 2015 to review research and gather evidence on air quality in the borough, with a view to reporting back on its findings to the CSERS PAC in autumn 2016.
- 4.2. The Commission, chaired by Rosemary Pettit, consists of six local residents from across the borough and from a range of professional backgrounds who have selflessly provided the time and effort required to produce this report without payment of any kind. The Commissioners were appointed following a call for expressions of interest and they have studied recent research in this area and gathered evidence from experts and other residents of the borough to inform their discussions and debates.
- 4.3. The final report of the AQC (attached) is the fruits of that labour and it makes a series of recommendations aimed at central government, the Mayor and the GLA, the Council, local businesses, schools, community groups and individual residents.

#### 5. OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 5.1. This cover report recommends that the findings are welcomed by the Council and that the recommendations are taken forward by way of promotion and the development of an action plan.
- 5.2. The CSERS PAC considered the report at its meeting of 21 September, where Members of the PAC and other attendees praised the report and the work of the Commission. The AQC has fulfilled its brief and its report has been welcomed by the PAC.
- 5.3. The recommendations directed at the Council should be costed and subject to the development of an action plan that sets out timescales and monitoring arrangements. The costing of the implementation of recommendations directed at the Council will, inevitably, impact upon timescales for delivery.

### 6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1. As part of the process of the Commission's research, a call for written evidence went out to residents of the borough. Responses were analysed by the Commission and these have informed its deliberations and the resulting findings and recommendations.
- 6.2. The PAC meeting in September further served to provide an opportunity to consult members of the public on the Commission's draft report.

# 7. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

7.1. There are no direct equality implications arising from the Council's adoption of the AQC's report. Air pollution, however, is more harmful to vulnerable groups such as children and older people.

# 8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1. The attached report is that of an independent resident-led Commission and there are no legal implications for the Council in considering the AQC's findings and adopting the report. Any legal implications arising from the implementation of the proposals will need to be considered as part of the action plan referred to at paragraph 5.3 of this report.
- 8.2. Implications verified/completed by: LeVerne Parker, Chief Solicitor (Planning and Property) tel 020 7361 2180.

# 9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1. The Commission has produced its draft report without any public funding. In considering the findings and recommendations of its report there are no direct financial implications arising from the officer recommendation to the Cabinet. If the Council adopts the Commission's findings and recommendations then there will be financial implications for the Council and these will need to be costed and considered as part of the Council's financial planning process.
- 9.2. Implications verified/completed by: Andrew Lord, Head of Finance (Budget Planning and Monitoring) tel. 020 8753 2531.

# 10. BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT

No.	Description of Background Papers	Name/Ext file/copy	of	holder	of	Department/ Location
1.	None					

# LIST OF APPENDICES:

Appendix 1: Report of the Air Quality Commission