

Doctors Against Diesel
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14 February 2017

The Rt Hon Theresa May MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
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Dear Prime Minister,

Re. Phasing Out Diesel

We are writing as doctors, nurses and health professionals from across the UK to ask for government action to remove the current fleet of diesel vehicles from the road as soon as possible, with a particular focus on towns and cities.

We are encouraged that you said in parliament that 'nobody in this house doubts the importance of the issue of air quality'. We also note the view of your Chief Medical Officer, that diesel vehicles should be phased out. No doubt you are aware of the evidence regarding the adverse health consequences of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and black carbon (soot) emissions. There is strong and growing evidence of a wide range of life-course health effects from these pollutants. For example, in infants and children there is strong evidence, including data from children in London, that exposure to fossil fuel-derived air pollution stunts lung growth.

We are asking you to focus on diesel because road transport generates 45% of total NO_x emissions in Greater London. Modelling has shown that, alongside other measures, the percentage of cars that are diesel will need to be reduced from 57% to 5% of the total if Greater London is to become compliant with legal limits on NO₂ emissions.

Although London is especially affected by diesel emissions, we need national action against diesel vehicles. There are now 585 Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) in the UK – this means that the majority of local authorities now have a statutory duty to take action on illegal levels of air pollution in at least one area. However, the options available to local authorities when creating Clean Air Zones or seeking to tackle AQMAs do not include powers to ban the single biggest source of pollution – diesel vehicles.

A national diesel reduction initiative, led by government, will represent a major public health advance. However, time is running out, without urgent action emissions from diesel vehicles will cause irreversible lung damage to the current generation of children.

Yours Sincerely,

Professor Jonathan Grigg, Professor of Paediatric Respiratory and Environmental Medicine, Queen Mary University of London, and founding member of Doctors Against Diesel
Professor Chris Griffiths, Professor of Primary Care, Joint Centre Lead Centre for Primary Care and Public Health Barts and the London School of Medicine and Dentistry
QMUL
Professor Inderjeet Dokal, Professor of Paediatrics, Centre for Genomics and Child Health, Queen Mary University London
Professor Sir Andrew Haines, Professor of Public Health and Primary Care, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
Professor Adrian Martineau, Clinical Professor of Respiratory Infection and Immunity, Queen Mary University London
Professor Alan Maryon-Davis, Hon Professor of Public Health, Kings College London
Professor David McCoy, Professor of Global Public Health, Queen Mary University London
Professor Martin McKee, Professor of European Public Health, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
Professor Robert Walton, Clinical Professor of Primary Care, Queen Mary University London
Professor John Yudkin, Emeritus Professor of Medicine, University College London
Professor Martin Pippard, Emeritus Professor of Haematology
Professor Christopher Ludlam, Emeritus Professor of Haematology and Coagulation Medicine
Professor Walter Holland, Emeritus Professor of Public Health
Professor John Middleton, President Faculty of Public Health
Professor Stephen Holgate, Professor of Immunopharmacology and Honorary Consultant Physician (Respiratory), University of Southampton
Professor Nigel Leigh, Professor of Neurology
Dr Alex Armitage, Paediatric Registrar
Dr Stephen Amiel, General Practitioner
Dr Clare Andrews, GP registrar
Dr Mark Ashworth, GP and Reader in Primary Care, King's College London
Dr Katie Baker, GP Trainee ST2
Dr Nick Bates, Paediatric Registrar
Dr Gabriella Bathgate, GP Trainee
Dr Miriam Beeks, GP, Hackney
Dr Shona Biggart, GP Trainee
Dr Frances Blackmore, GP, Camden CCG
Dr Sancos Boland, GP
Dr Kambiz Boomla, General Practitioner and Senior Lecturer, Tower Hamlets
Dr Benjamin Bouquet, Public Health Registrar, South West London
Dr Isobel Braithwaite, Foundation Doctor, Paediatrics
Dr Rossa Brugha, Clinical lecturer
Dr Mark Butler, ST7 paediatrics
Dr Daniel Champion, Occupational Physician
Dr Sharon Christy, GP Trainee
Dr Kathryn Clare, SHO Psychiatry
Dr Jim Cole, GP, Poplar, London
Dr Annabel Crowe, GP, Hounslow CCG
Dr June Crown, Retired public health physician
Dr Preeti De, Doctor
Dr Paquita de Zulueta, Hon senior clinical lecturer. Portfolio GP, Imperial College London
Dr Felicity de Zulueta, Emeritus Consultant Psychiatrist in Psychotherapy
Dr Ross Dyer-Smith, GP Partner - Hurley Group
Dr Rebecca Endersby, GP trainee
Dr Lucy Farley, General Practitioner
Dr Sarah Finer, Senior Lecturer and Honorary Consultant in Diabetes

Dr Valentina Gallo, Lecturer in Epidemiology
Dr Varsha George, Psychiatry
Dr Hugh Grant-Peterkin, Psychiatrist
Dr Jessica Hanlon, Junior Doctor
Dr Alexia Haysom, Doctor
Dr Susan Hill, Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologist, Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children
Dr Mark Howarth, Retired GP
Dr Sarah Hughes, GP Registrar, London
Dr Sally Hull, GP
Dr Charlotte Iveson, Gp Trainee, Whittington Hsopital
Dr Hina Javid, Gp Trainee, London deanary
Dr Coral Jones, GP, London Fields Medical Centre
D Lucy Emma Jones, GP Trainee, Whittington Hospital
Dr Shai Katti, GP registrar, Whittington Hospital
Dr Devon Kennard, GP Trainee
Dr James Kent Bramer, Core Medical Trainee, Whittington Hospital
Dr Jonathon Kong, GP Registrar, UCLH scheme, Caversham Practice, London
Dr David Lawrence, Consultant in Public Health Medicine
Dr Helena Lendrum, GP Trainee
Dr Norrice Liu, Registrar in Paediatrics and Clinical Research Fellow
Dr Anna Livingstone, GP
Dr Bethan Loveless, GP Trainee
Dr Monica Marta, Consultant Neurologist
Dr Asif Mazumder, Consultant Neuroradiologist
Dr Almas Malik, GP
Dr Azhar Malik, Doctor (General Practitioner)
Dr Benjamin McLewis, Psychiatry Higher Trainee
Dr Erika McnAbb, GP trainee, Whittington Hsopital
Dr Rajive Mitra, GP, Lambeth Walk Group Practice
Dr Heloise Moore-Mate, GP Registrar
Dr Alick Munro, GP, Hounslow CCG
Dr Nitisha Nahata, GP Trainee
Dr Georgina Neve, Junior Doctor
Dr Pol O'Maolin, Clinical Teaching Fellow in Medicine, Croydon University Hospital
Dr Maryam Omar, Medical Doctor
Dr Davina Kaur Patel, Medical Doctor
Dr Benjamin Pearson, Paediatrician
Dr Dhammika Perera, Global Medical Director, Marie Stopes International
Dr Jessica Potter, Doctor
Dr Hannah Redhouse, General Practitioner
Dr Catherine Roberts, Specialist Registrar in Infectious Diseases and Microbiology
Dr Partho Roy, Public Health Registrar
Dr Robin Russell-Jones, Retired Consultant Dermatologist
Dr Harry Rutter, Public health physician and Senior Clinical Research Fellow, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
Dr John Robson, General Practitioner
Dr Reshma Shah, GP Trainee
Dr Fran Silman, General Practitioner, Caversham Practice, London
Dr Alexandra Smith, Doctor, ST2 Public Health registrar
Dr Joanna Smith, GP Registrar
Dr Teresa Smith, Retired GP
Dr Chris Smith, Retired GP
Dr Alex Sohal, General Practitioner
Dr Donatella Soldi, Speciality Dr in Community Paediatrics
Dr Tabitha Tanqueray, Consultant anaesthetist
Dr Sherine Thomas, Consultant in Infectious diseases and Acute Medicine, Barts health

Dr Vicky Tittle, SPR Infectious Diseases, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital
Dr Jennifer Tivey, GP Registrar, Whittington Hospital
Dr Neil Vass, General Practitioner, Lambeth CCG
Dr Abigail Whitehouse, Paediatric Clinical Research Fellow
Dr Jimmy Wickremesinghe, General Practitioner, Lambeth CCG
Dr Marie Williamson, Core Medical Trainee, North Mid Hospital
Dr Frank Stewart, GP/Paediatrician (retired)
Dr Ciara Drummond, Specialty Registrar
Dr Lyn Williamson, Consultant rheumatologist
Dr David Williamson, Consultant orthopaedic surgeon
Dr Asim Ahmed, Consultant, Child and Adolescent Services, University Hospital Of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust
Dr Sarah Alhulail, GP Registrar
Dr Liz Anderson, Consultant, Sexual and Reproductive Health, Liverpool
Dr Elizabeth Archer, Retired GP
Dr Frank Arnold, Retired psychiatrist
Dr Emily Ashworth, ST2 Paediatrician, Basildon
Dr Trevor Aughey, Retired GP
Dr Harriet Aughey, Paediatric Registrar
Dr Richard Banks, Consultant Physician (Rtd)
Dr Joyce Barkla, Retired consultant psychiatrist
Dr Bob Basu, Paediatric Specialist Registrar
Dr Christopher Birt, Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturer in Public Health
Dr Bashaar Boyce, Rheumatology Consultant
Dr Catherine Boyce, GP Registrar
Dr Gilly Brenner, Specialty Registrar in Public Health
Dr Richard Brown, Doctor
Dr John Brittain, GP Trainee
Dr Christopher Butler, Retired hospital consultant
Dr Jo Cleere, Foundation Trainee
Dr Philip Coyne, Retired General Practitioner
Dr Helen Coyne, Retired GP
Dr Eleanor Cooke, Doctor
Dr Jillian Creasy, General Practitioner
Dr James Crick, Consultant in Public Health Medicine
Dr Rosemary Croft, GP
Dr Jonny Currie, GP and Public Health Specialty Registrar
Dr Jack Czauderna, GP retired
Dr Jenny Dodds, Junior Doctor
Dr Ciara Drummond, Specialty Registrar
Dr Maggie Eisner, GP and GP training programme director (retired)
Dr Mary Eminson, Psychiatrist (retired)
Dr Patricia Evans, GP
Dr Jacqueline Ferguson, Psychoanalyst in Private practice, and Retired Psychiatrist
Dr Rosemary Field, Retired GP
Dr Heather Fletcher, Retired consultant paediatrician
Dr Charlie Forbes, Psychiatry trainee
Dr James Friend, Retired Consultant Respiratory Physician
Dr John Furness, Consultant Paediatrician
Dr Leonie Giesen, Anaesthetics trainee
Dr Don Gillett, Consultant Haematologist
Dr Stefanie Gissing, Foundation Year 1 doctor
Dr Joe Gleeson, Foundation 1 Doctor
Dr Ian Grant, Retired GP
Dr Jessica Hamilton, Medical Doctor

Dr Paul Heron, Junior Doctor
Dr Kristien Hintjens, GP
Dr Trevor Hyde, General Practitioner (retired)
Dr Kathryn Ingold, Public Health Speciality Registrar
Dr Margaret Jackson, Principal in General Practice
Dr Jane Jackson, Public Health Director (retired)
Dr Margaret Jackson, GP, Sleights and Sandsend Medical Practice
Dr Caroline Jessel, GP and Clinical Transformation Lead (NHS England)
Dr Guy Johnson, Retired GP
Dr Anna Jones, Public Health doctor
Dr Suren Kanagasundaram, Hospital Consultant, Newcastle
Dr Annemiek Kok, GP
Dr Rachel Kwiatkowska, Public Health Specialty Registrar
Dr Rosie Kyeremateng, Paediatrician
Dr Catherine Lawson, Doctor (CT 2 Acute Medicine)
Dr Rajeka Lazarus, Registrar infectious diseases and microbiology, Oxford University Hospital Foundation Trust
Dr Sonya Leff, Consultant community paediatrician (retired)
Dr Dorothy Logie, Retired General Practitioner
Dr Claire Macdermott, ST5 Palliative medicine
Dr Robert MacGibbon, FRCGP
Dr Runa Mackay, MB ChB MD DCH FRCPE
Dr Laura Maclachlan, Medical doctor
Dr Iain MacLennan, Consultant in public health and general practitioner (retired)
Dr Rachael Marsh, Public health registrar
Judith McDonald, Retired GP
Dr Paul McGurnaghan, Staff Grade Microbiologist
Dr Helena McKeown, GP, Wiltshire
Dr Stefan McKenzie, Foundation year 1 doctor
Dr Charles Merrill, Consultant Emergency Medicine, University Hospital Wales
Dr Eleanor Morad, GP Trainee
Dr Ellen Newberry, Junior Doctor
Dr Richard Newman, GP
Dr Michael Orgel, Medical Doctor Retired NHS
Dr Morag Parnell, GP retired
Dr Hayley Pinto, Consultant psychiatrist
Dr Thara Raj, Consultant in Public Health
Dr Paul Redgrave, Former Director of Public Health
Dr Nicola Ridley, Associate Specialist
Dr Geoff Schrecker, General Practitioner
Dr Hilary Scott, Retired Consultant Paediatrician
Dr Ruth Speare, Public Health SpR
Dr Thomas Spelman, ST1 Emergency Medicine
Dr Amy Squire, Psychiatrist, Pennine care
Dr Emily Stevenson, Specialty Registrar in Public Health
Dr Frank Stewart, Retired GP
Dr Sarah Stringer, Independent S12 Doctor
Dr Bala Subramanian, Consultant, Paediatrics and Neonatology, Derby Teaching Hospitals
Dr Frank Swinton, Consultant Anaesthetist
Dr Adam Tam, Surgical Registrar
Dr Ji Tham, Specialty Training Registrar
Dr Alex Thompson, Cardiology registrar
Dr Michael Tonkins, FY2 Doctor
Dr David Tooth, Post foundation fellow
Dr Michael Trauer, Emergency Medicine Specialist Registrar

Dr Andrew Turner, Public Health Specialty Registrar
Dr Robert Twycross, Emeritus Clinical Reader in Palliative Medicine, Oxford University
Dr Sue Vaughan, GP (retired)
Dr Ian Walker, Public Health Registrar
Dr Sarah Walpole, Medical Registrar
Dr Katrina Wardrope, Haematology ST3
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Dr Elizabeth Whittle, Core Medical Trainee
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Dr Alexander Wilkinson, Consultant Respiratory Physician
Dr David Williamson, Consultant orthopaedic surgeon
Dr Lyn Williamson, Consultant rheumatologist
Dr Pam Wortley, Retired GP
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Dr Sarah Follon, GP
Dr Deon Louw, Specialty Doctor, Emergency Medicine
Dr Jacqueline Harris, GP
Professor Gill Walt, Emeritus Professor of International Health Policy
Professor Frank Kelly, Professor of Environmental Health, King's College London
Professor Hazel Inskip, Professor of Statistical Epidemiology
Professor Martin Williams, Professor of Air Quality Research, King's College London
Professor Imti Choonara, Emeritus Professor
Lizette Akinyi, Physiotherapist
Judith Anderson, Psychotherapist
Stefi Barna, Lecturer in Public Health
Jason Bower, Senior Pharmaceutical Advisor
Andreea Bratu, Dietitian, Barts Health NHS Trust
Camillus Buunaaisie Buunaaisie, Registered Nurse
David Charchoglyan, Medical student
Jane Cole, Retired medical research council scientist
Erminia Colucci, Clinical Psychologist
Judith Cook, Sessional Lecturer
Benjamin Eder, Medical Student
Nadia Ellis, Physiotherapist
Stephen Flanagan, Registered Nurse
Amrita Ghataure, Pharmacist
Rebecca Gibbs, Nurse
Daniel Hadley, Medical Student
Kimberlea Hardwick, Macmillan Senior Cancer Information Nurse Specialist
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Jason Hickel, Lecturer in Health Anthropology, London School of Economics
Vicky Hickson, Research Nurse
Ciara Hogan, Dietitian
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Kate Homer, Health Researcher
Julie Hotchkiss, Consultant in Public Health
Natalia Hounsome, Health Economist
Vicky Lawson, Principal Health Psychologist
Gay Lee, Registered Nurse working in Palliative Care
Felicity McElderry, Senior Paediatric Occupational Therapist
Alice Munro, Registered General Nurse

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Roshni Patel, Medical student
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Owen Thomas, Medical student
Jonas ThomasMcCormick, Public Health Specialty registrar
Caroline Tomes, Public Health Specialty registrar
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