

[Consultation outcome: Improving air quality: reducing nitrogen dioxide in our towns and cities](#)

Updated: Liverpool City Region Combined Authority was omitted as a respondent to the consultation therefore the response document now reflects their contribution.

We want to know what you think about our draft plan to improve air quality in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The draft plan sets out proposed actions to meet air quality standards within the shortest possible time.

This consultation includes the following documents:

- draft UK Air Quality Plan for tackling nitrogen dioxide ('Improving air quality in the UK: tackling nitrogen dioxide in our towns and cities')
- technical report, including details of modelling techniques and assumptions used in the draft UK Air Quality Plan for tackling nitrogen dioxide

Alongside the consultation we have also published the following:

- framework document: [Clean air zone framework for England \(principles which Local Authorities should follow when setting up clean air zones\)](#)
- summary of responses to the [Implementation of Clean Air Zones in England](#) consultation

[Press release: New air quality plan published for consultation](#)

Options open for consultation to reduce nitrogen dioxide in our towns and cities.

The government today published a draft plan to improve air quality by reducing nitrogen dioxide levels in the UK.

The options now open for [consultation on reducing nitrogen dioxide in our towns and cities](#) are designed to reduce the impact of diesel vehicles, and accelerate the move to cleaner transport.

Local authorities are already responsible for improving air quality in their area, but will now be expected to develop new and creative solutions to reduce emissions as quickly as possible, while avoiding undue impact on the motorist.

The government is consulting on a range of measures that could be taken to mitigate the impact of action to improve air quality.

In line with the timetable directed by the Courts the government is seeking views on these proposals in advance of preparing its final plan for publication by 31 July. All final decisions will be taken by the incoming government.

This consultation will run until 15 June.

[Policy paper: Air quality: clean air zone framework for England](#)

This framework sets out the principles local authorities should follow when setting up Clean Air Zones in England.

It explains the approach they should take if they are introducing a zone to improve air quality, and the types of measures they should include.

In finalising this framework, we have taken into account the comments we received on the [implementation of Clean Air Zones in England consultation](#).

[News story: Invitation to an IIAC meeting on 6 July 2017](#)

The aim of the meeting is to give members of the public, their representatives, and people with a professional interest in occupational diseases, the opportunity to learn and ask questions about the council's work.

The meeting will be at:

Manchester Conference Centre & Pendulum Hotel
Weston Building

Sackville Street
Manchester
M1 3BB

The meeting will include:

- an explanation of the council's role in making recommendations to ministers about the industrial injuries scheme
- a discussion about the council's work in the past year
- an opportunity to contribute views and ideas on the council's future work

The council welcomes any questions in advance of the meeting, where they will respond.

It may not be possible to accept all applications if the number of requests is higher than expected.

The Industrial Injuries Advisory Council (IIAC) provides advice to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions and the Department for Communities in Northern Ireland on matters relating to the industrial injuries scheme. In particular they give advice on which diseases, and the jobs that cause them, should be included in the scheme.

The council is formed of medical, scientific and legal experts, and representatives of employers and employed earners.

The council does not represent the Department for Work and Pensions and has no involvement in individual claims or decisions.

[News story: Avian flu confirmed at a farm near Thornton, Wyre, Lancashire](#)

H5N8 avian flu has been confirmed at a farm near Thornton, Wyre, Lancashire.

The UK's Chief Veterinary Officer has confirmed H5N8 avian flu in a small backyard flock of chickens at a farm near Thornton, Wyre, Lancashire.

A 3 km Protection Zone and a 10 km Surveillance Zone have been put in place around the infected premises to limit the risk of the disease spreading. We have published [full details of the controls in place](#).

The flock is estimated to contain around 30 birds. A number have died and the remaining live birds at the premises are being humanely culled. A full investigation is under way to determine the source of the infection.

Public Health England advises that the risk to public health from the virus is very low and the Food Standards Agency is clear that bird flu does not pose a food safety risk for UK consumers.

[Read the latest advice and information on avian flu in the UK](#), including actions to reduce the risk of the disease spreading, advice for anyone who keeps poultry or captive birds and details of previous cases. Journalists with queries should contact [Defra press office](#).