



Cross Party Group Clean Air Act for Wales

Grwp Trawsbleidiol Deddf Aer Glan Gymru

12:15 - 13:15

08.06.2021

Virtual Meeting using Teams
Cyfarfod ar-lein dros Timau

Attending

Huw Irranca-Davies MS – Chair

Janet Finch-Saunders MS – Vice Chair

Delyth Jewell MS – Vice Chair

Mathew Norman – AUK-BLF & HAC – Secretariat

Joseph Carter – AUK-BLF & HAC – Speaker

Haf Elgar – FoE – Vice Chair of HAC

Llyr Gruffydd MS

Jenny Rathbone MS

Professor Paul Lewis

Olwen Spiller

George Watkins

Paul Willis

Paula Renzel

Heledd Fychan MS

David Bithell

Sarah Murphy MS

Jason Bale

Adam Fletcher

Robin Lewis

David Bithell

Jane Pratt

Gwenda Owen – Cycling UK

Rhodri Evans

Charlotte Morgan

Brody Anderson
Jayne Bryant MS
Robin Lewis
Rhiannon Hardiman – Living Streets
Neil Lewis
Liz Williams – RCPSych

Apologies

Gemma Roberts – British Heart Foundation
Vikki Howells MS – Robin Lewis, Sr Advisor attending from her office
Luke Fletcher MS
Mark Isherwood MS

Actions from this meeting:

- 1. Submit papers to table office**
- 2. Email MSs to agree purpose of the Group**
- 3. Send minutes of last meeting before the next**
- 4. Arrange time and date of next meeting with topics from agenda items discussed.**

Agenda

1. **Acting Chair, Huw Irranca-Davies MS:** Welcome, introductions and apologies.

Cadeirydd Dros Dro, Huw Irranca-Davies MS: Croeso, cyflwyniadau ac ymddiheuriadau.

2. **AGM – Election of Chair, Vice Chairs and Secretariat of the CPG.**
Nominations sought from members in attendance.

AGM - Ethol Cadeirydd ac Ysgrifenyddiaeth y Grwp. Gofynnir am enwebiadau gan aelodau sy'n bresennol.

Current Nominations / Enwebiadau:

Chair/Cadeirydd – Huw Irranca-Davies MS

Huw Irranca-Davies MS is nominated by Janet Finch-Saunders MS and seconded by Delyth Jewell MS.

No other nominations are made.

Huw Irranca-Davies MS is elected as Chair.

Vice Chair/Is-gadeirydd - Janet Finch-Saunders MS

Delyth Jewell MS nominated Janet Finch-Saunders MS – Llyr ap Gruffydd MS seconded

Second nomination was made.

Vice Chair/Is-gadeirydd – Delyth Jewell MS

Janet Finch-Saunders MS nominated Delyth Jewell MS – Llyr ap Gruffydd MS seconded

With no other nominations, Delyth Jewell MS and Janet Finch-Saunders MS are both elected as Vice Chairs.

Secretariat/Ysgrifenyddiaeth – Healthy Air Cymru – Mathew Norman
AUK-BLF Wales

Llyr ap Gruffydd MS nominates Mathew Norman from Healthy Air Cymru and Asthma UK-British Lung Foundation Wales.

Jenny Rathbone MS seconded.

With no other nominations, Mathew Norman is elected Secretariat.

Huw Irranca-Davies MS thanks everyone for putting their names forward and for their support for the CPG

3. **Presentation from Joseph Carter, Healthy Air Cymru.** The next five years, aims, calls and proposals for clean air reform.

Cyflwyniad gan Joseph Carter, Healthy Air Cymru. Y pum mlynedd nesaf, nodau, galwadau a chynigion ar gyfer diwygio aer glân.

Who are we

- Healthy Air Cymru (HAC) brings together organisations that share a common vision for a cleaner and greener Wales. We want our nation to be a better place, where people have the right to breathe clean air and do not have to suffer from the harmful effects of air pollution. Saved to this PC
- We raise awareness of the impact of poor air quality on our everyday lives. We aim to shape the conversation in Wales about how we tackle these problems and influence policy decisions; to make the case for practical local solutions to reduce air pollution.

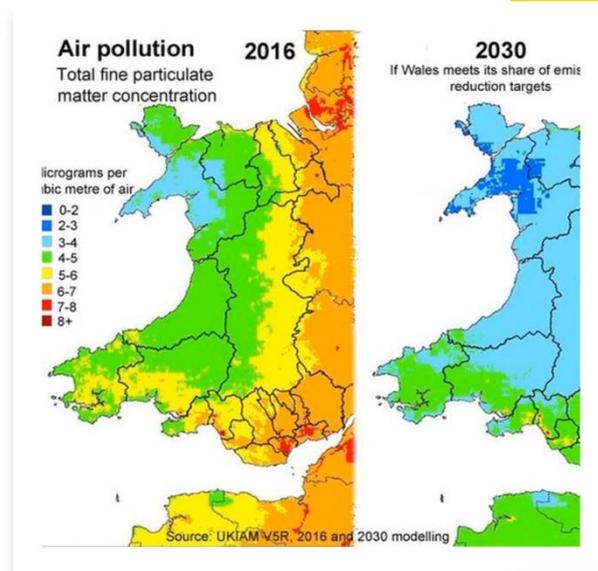
Our Mission

Create a Healthier Wales

Cleaner Greener Future

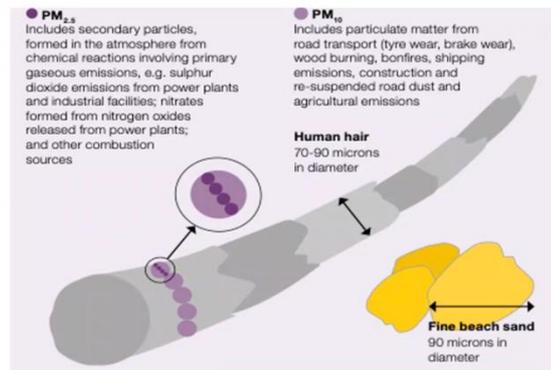
Supporting Active Travel

Creating Fairer Communities



What we are concerned about

- Particulate matter (PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$)
- Nitrogen dioxide (NO_2)
- Sulphur dioxide (SO_2)
- Ozone (O_3)



What are the sources of air pollution and where are people exposed?



Source DEFRA UK

Landmark ruling

- Philip Barlow, the inner south London coroner, said Ella Kissi-Debrah's death in February 2013 was caused by acute respiratory failure, severe asthma and air pollution Saved to this Page.
- Report to prevent future deaths, recommendations:
 - PM2.5 set at higher levels than WHO recommended levels
 - Low Public Awareness
 - Adverse effects of air pollution poorly communicated



Health Impacts

- Increased rates of Childhood Asthma
- Decreased lung development & function
- Exacerbation of existing health conditions
- Heart disease
- Dementia
- Mental health
- Obesity
- Increased risk of cancer



Joseph: The impact increases on a yearly basis as more conditions are affected by this.

Ongoing research is highlighting the impact of air pollution on several aspects of health conditions.

6.2.3 Global burden of disease

With respect to air pollution, the Global Burden of Disease (GBD) 2010 study¹³ focused on quantification of mortality impacts from exposure to PM_{2.5} and O₃. Overall, results indicate that a total of 7 million deaths in 2010 across the world were attributable to indoor and outdoor air pollution, making air pollution one of the most important risk factors globally. Results for air pollutant impacts for the UK, expressed as both disability-adjusted life-years (DALYs) and deaths (GBD did not include morbidity), are shown in Table 2.

Table 2. GBD results for outdoor air pollution for the UK¹³

	DALYs	Deaths	%
Ambient PM pollution			
Cerebrovascular disease	73,061	5,448	20%
COPD	27,558	1,681	8%
Ischaemic heart disease	220,643	13,907	61%
Lower respiratory infections	815	9	0%
Trachea, bronchus and lung cancers	38,623	2,328	11%
Total (all causes)	360,700	23,373	100%
Ozone			
Total (all COPD)	8,865	772	100%

Table 4. Estimated impacts in 2010 in the European Union and the UK¹⁵

O ₃ effects	Units	EU	UK
Mortality	Premature deaths	23,507	1,371
Respiratory hospital admissions	Cases	19,117	1,368
Cardiovascular hospital admissions	Cases	86,279	2,678
Minor restricted activity days	Days	108,845,140	6,662,683
PM_{2.5} effects			
Mortality	Life-years lost	4,030,653*	327,769*
Mortality	Premature deaths	379,420*	30,018*
Infant mortality	Premature deaths	777	70
Chronic bronchitis	Cases	316,685	25,582
Bronchitis in children aged 6–12	Cases	1,068,990	102,386
Respiratory hospital admissions	Cases	142,243	11,652
Cardiac hospital admissions	Cases	108,989	4,523
Restricted activity days	Days	436,351,761	40,809,466
Asthma symptom days in children	Days	11,290,673	1,171,559
Lost working days	Days	121,378,612	6,097,215

Every breath we take

Mortality Impact

- 1000 – 1400 deaths per year in Wales can be attributed to air pollution (Huw Brunt PHW)
- People from most deprived communities are impacted the most

Saved to this PC

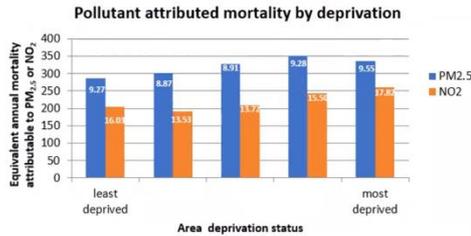
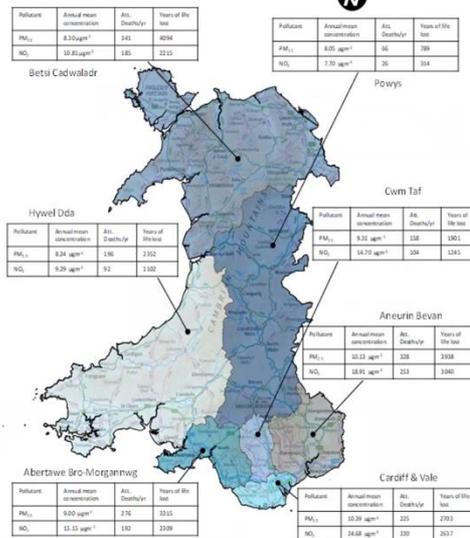


Figure 1
Pollutant attribute mortality across Health Boards in Wales



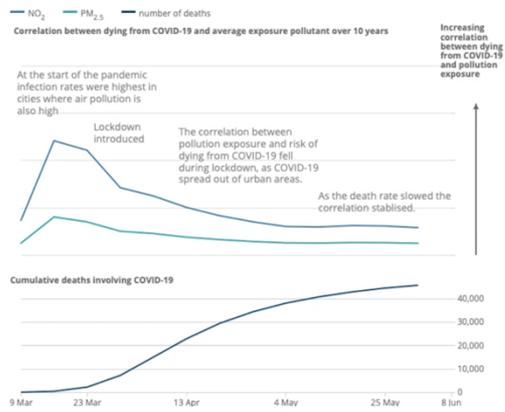
Poverty major factor here and shouldn't be ignored.

Impact of Air Pollution on Covid-19

Saved to this PC

Polluted areas initially had higher rates of COVID-19 deaths, but this trend decreased as the death toll rose

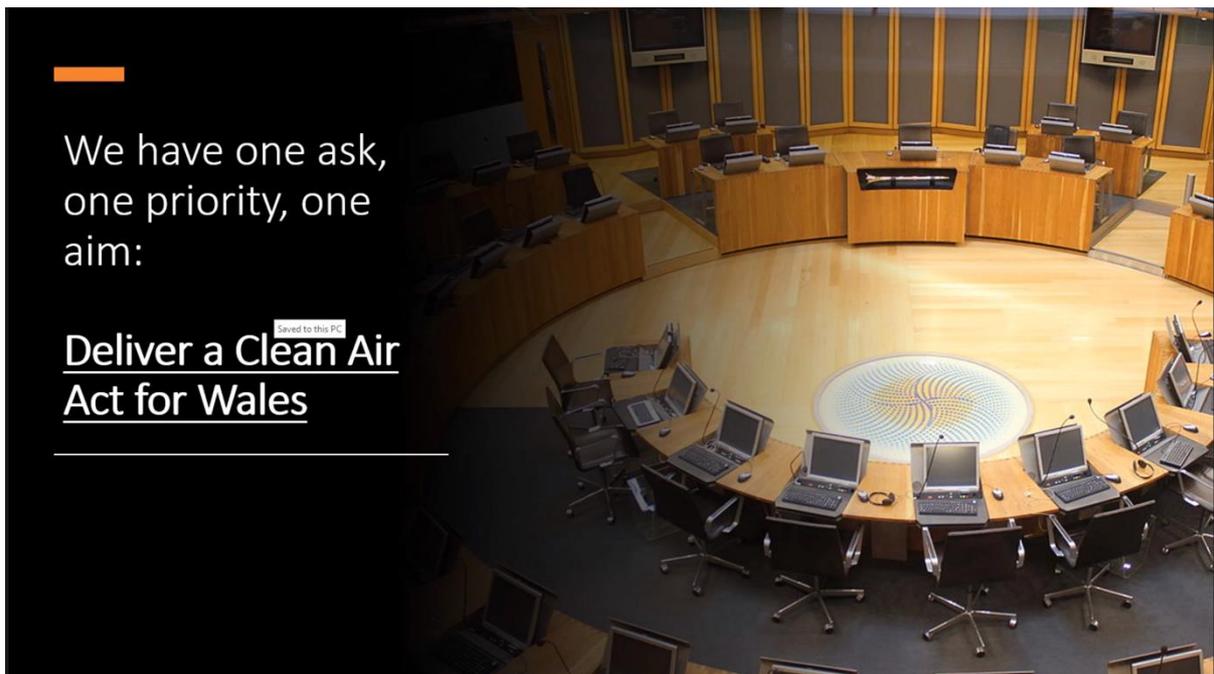
Correlation between COVID-19 deaths in England and 10-year exposure to nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5})



This graph highlights the first wave correlation between air pollution and covid-19 deaths. There has been a far higher COVID-19 death rate in areas where air pollution is at its highest.



Investment returns.



One ask to deliver a Clean Air Act for Wales



1. New Legal Framework

Saved to this PC

- Introduce a new Clean Air Act for Wales which commits to tackling air pollution as a public health imperative.
- Right to breathe – WHO targets
- Statutory air quality strategy every five years
- Independent monitoring and assessment board



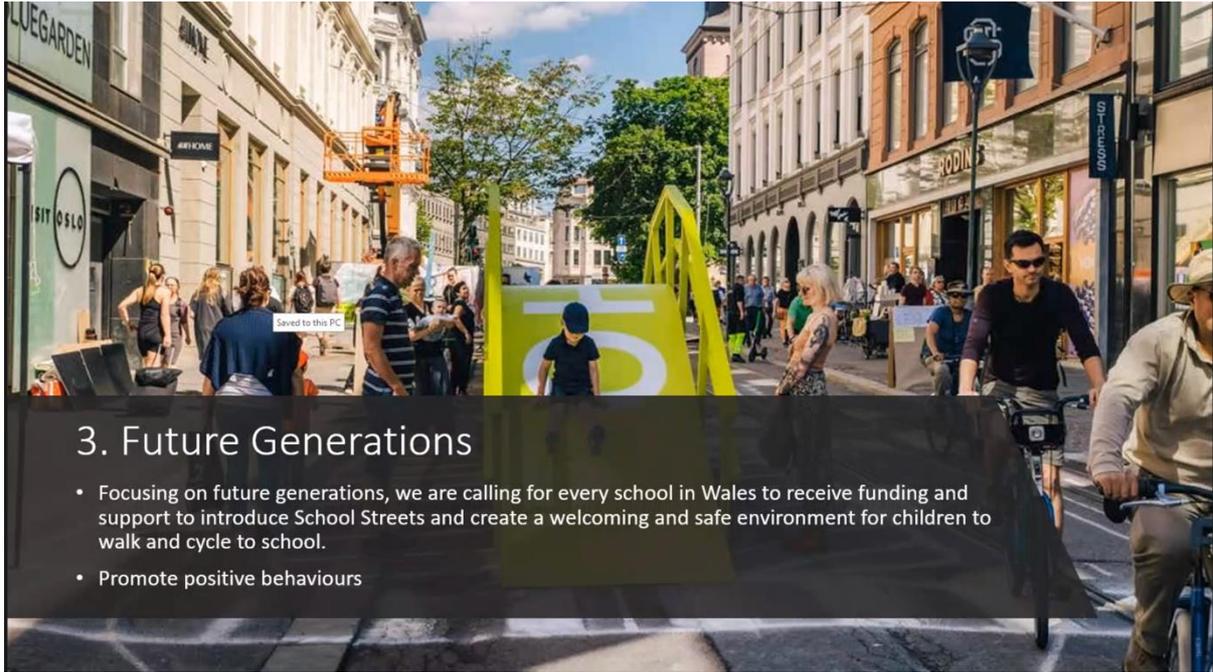
2. Statutory Duty & Monitoring

With the support of a Clean Air Fund, we are calling for a statutory duty on local authorities to increase monitoring and assessment of air pollution appropriately.



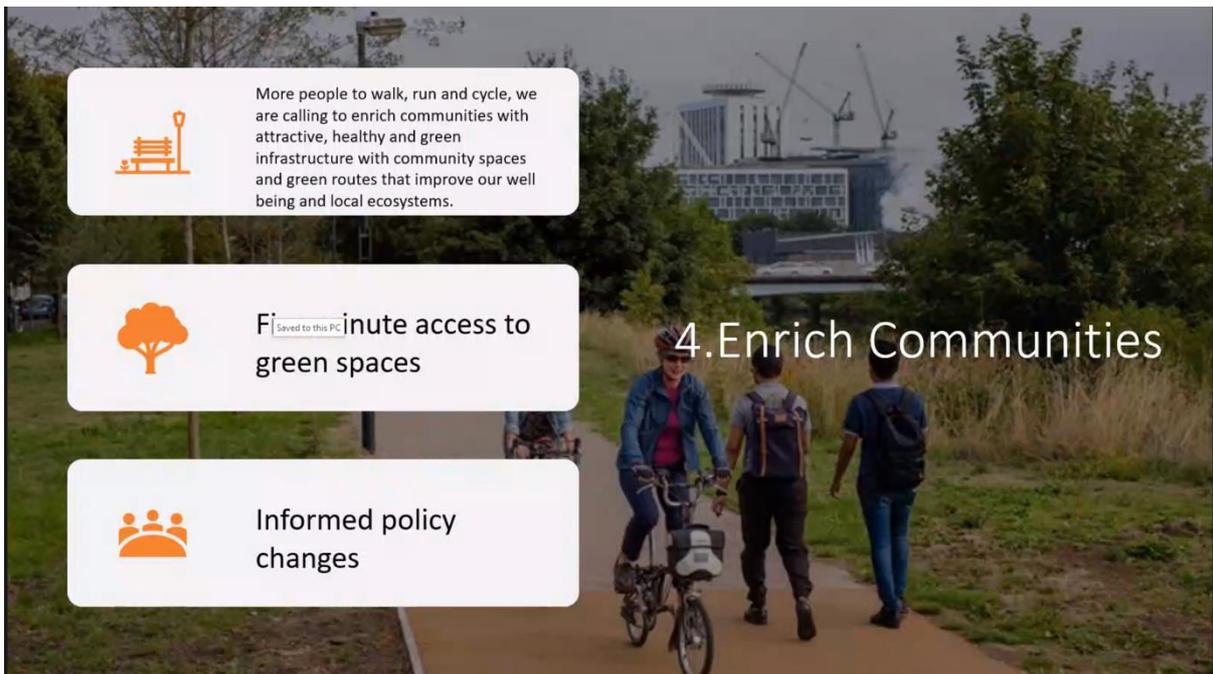
Saved to this PC

Monitoring is varied from place to place.



3. Future Generations

- Focusing on future generations, we are calling for every school in Wales to receive funding and support to introduce School Streets and create a welcoming and safe environment for children to walk and cycle to school.
- Promote positive behaviours



More people to walk, run and cycle, we are calling to enrich communities with attractive, healthy and green infrastructure with community spaces and green routes that improve our well being and local ecosystems.



Five minute access to green spaces



Informed policy changes

4. Enrich Communities



5. Modal Shift

- By discouraging the use of the most polluting vehicles on our roads for better alternatives
- Targeted support to trade in diesel and petrol vehicles for their alternative electric/hybrid versions and encourage a modal shift from car/van use to bicycles, e-bikes, e-cargo bikes and e-car sharing clubs. Charging network which doesn't clutter active travel routes
- Support for demand-responsive community transport, electric car and bike-sharing schemes and active travel-friendly neighbourhoods which repurpose car parks as community spaces and discourage vehicle traffic.

I will support introducing a Clean Air Act for Wales in 2021

Saved to this PC

Play your part,
become a
healthy air
champion

- We are calling for you to become our champion, Wales' champion to keep our hills green and our lungs clean.
- By signing this pledge, you are calling for our Senedd to enact a new Clean Air Act for Wales, to empower generations to make healthier, better choices in their everyday lives, that not only support their community but the local economy too.
- Stand with us and become one of the voices for change, a **healthy air champion**.

Joseph: Hope that we can work with all of you as we deliver this clean air act and have Wales leading the way.

Q&A Session

Led by the Chair, contributions were made by Jenny Rathbone MS, Neil Lewis, Delyth Jewell MS and Heledd Fychan MS.

The points raised were the following:

- Concern was expressed around the 'order of legislation' that needed to be passed this year. Specifically, re-regulating the bus industry was sounded out as a priority to effectively apply a future Clean Air Act.
- Technical question around the amount of PM_{2.5} emitted from tyres on Castle Street compared to Diesel and Petrol cars. Professor Paul Lewis responded - brake and tyre wear relevant for higher PM₁₀. PM_{2.5} is small percentage of overall transport (still significant) and weather conditions are influential in how long they hang around.
- Optimism was expressed with the Clean Air Act, highlighting a possible opportunity for Wales to lead a green, environmentally friendly rebuilding phase out of a World Pandemic.
- Appetite for reform was noted with calls for reforms to review local transport networks and links to reduce the use of the car.
- Concern was expressed around local development plans. Noting that an LDP lasts 10 years and in absence of a Clean Air Act councils could cause long term negative impacts the longer that doesn't take into account this legislation and crucially a cleaner and greener way of thinking which will impact the future generations.
- It was proposed that the best way for councils to take account of the Act is to have the Bill laid in the Senedd as soon as possible. Then seek Ministerial advice whether LDPs have to take into account proposed legislation such as the Clean Air (Wales) Bill when drawing out their plans.

Chair - I am going to use my position as Chair to re-order the agenda. Since this first the meeting of the CPG in this term, I think it make sense that we should get a family photo. We do two versions – one is everyone who is attending today another for colleagues. So, everyone who wants to be in the photo, turn on your camera and Mathew will do the rest.

Mathew – On the count of three – Three, two, one – Cheese: (Repeats for members)



4. **Future planning** - Aims and purpose of the CPG, proposals for agendas of future meetings (speakers etc) and next meeting date?

Previous CPG's purpose: 'Secure political support to deliver a Clean Air Act for Wales'

Cynllun am yr dyfodol - Nodau a phwrpas y Grwp, cynigion ar gyfer agendâu cyfarfodydd yn y dyfodol (siaradwyr ac ati) a dyddiad y cyfarfod nesaf?

Pwrpas blaenorol y Grwp oedd: 'Cefnogaeth wleidyddol ddiogel i gyflawni Deddf Aer Glân i Gymru'

Chair: One item is the aim and purpose of the CPG and the next meeting dates. If we turn to the CPG purpose – **Chair** reads out the old purpose.

Are we content as that this purpose should remain as the defining purpose of the CPG? And if we deliver it we might have to revisit the purpose and discuss other things – how do you feel?

- **HAC** – supported to re-use the previous purpose.
- **Llyr ap Gruffydd MS** – No issue with the wording, although we could end up with a Clean Air Act that doesn't have any bite, do we say that we want a 'strong clean air act' or should we say a 'strong clean air act for Wales'?

Chair – I can see a couple of nods to that and we could make a couple of tweaks. Mathew I see a raised hand?

Mathew – Thank you Chair, since this matter has to be agreed in order to submit the papers may I suggest that we discuss this matter over email with Members?

Chair – Hapus Llyr?

Llyr ap Gruffydd MS – Hapus.

Chair: Future meetings and agenda items – Llyr?

Llyr ap Gruffydd MS – I would like to explore the potential impact of legislation on industry – looking at Chirk in my area, it has suffered greatly from a lack of clean air – whilst we want legislation – we should review the impact of industry and have discussions with them on what they should expect to do in response – principle is good but we need to work with them.

Chair - agreed, Delyth?

Delyth Jewell MS – Picking up on what was discussed and raised by Jenny, I would welcome an item on public transport and to discuss the hindrance of pushing the agenda forward to legislate on this area.

Chair – I think it would be a good idea to see as to whether we have the timing to ask a Minister to attend the group early on. Maybe the CPG could write to the Minister inviting her to the group?

Joseph – We have written on behalf of HAC to ask about a prospect to attend a CPG too. We would aspire for that to be sooner rather than later.

Maybe we could ask them to attend the next meeting which could be in October or late September – good to get the Minister to that meeting and have a steer from the legislative statement and Julie or Lee to talk to that. We could also ask our Civil service colleagues analysis of the white paper consultation too – that could be a good opening meeting.

Mathew – It would be good to also get an update of the data and the monitoring of air pollution in Wales. Professor Paul Lewis, we spoke before the meeting, I am certain that you would welcome the opportunity to do that in the next meeting?

Prof Lewis – Yes, I would welcome that, we should have the data written up by then.

Chair– are we planning to have meeting – 4-5 weeks before the Senedd recess? Timing would be better when we return?

If members would have a meeting before recess and of course conscious of time tables and that is why we wanted to have the meeting early and set up and then provisional agenda's together. The important thing is that we have the group up and running and start talking about this very important area of work and so should we make arrangements in early autumn?

If all agreed? Then thank you all for attending and to those who arranged the meeting. We will circulate the minutes of this meeting before the next and arrange the next date by email, as well as the purpose.

Meeting closed.

Actions:

1. Submit papers to table office
2. Email MSs to agree purpose of the Group
3. Send minutes of last meeting before the next
4. Arrange time and date of next meeting with topics from agenda items discussed.