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Harry Cohen MP
House of Commons
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Our ref: MGLA020709-3920

Date: 30 JUL 2009

Dear Harry

Thank you for your letter of 23 June enclosing correspondence from Simon Birkett of the Campaign for Clean Air in London. My officers and I have been in regular contact with Simon as well.

I am committed to improving the health of Londoners through improvements to air quality. My officials are aware of recent research into the impacts of poor air quality in urban areas, including the European Environment Agency's recent publication *A spatial assessment of PM10 and ozone concentrations in Europe (2005)*, which outlines the health effects of PM10 in urban areas and which Mr Birkett refers to in his correspondence.

As part of the work to support the revision of my Air Quality Strategy, the GLA has commissioned a review of research that will aim to give greater understanding of the nature of the health effects of poor air quality in London and where the impacts are greatest. This will assist in developing policies for the Strategy that are better targeted at improving health, and will also help the GLA to provide advice to boroughs and other stakeholders.

I intend publishing a first draft of my Air Quality Strategy for consultation with the London Assembly and Functional Bodies, as well as wider stakeholders in early autumn. This will include a range of potential measures to reduce emissions in London. However, emissions from outside London also contribute to poor air quality in London, so it will set out how central Government can help improve air quality in the capital.

A further draft of the Air Quality Strategy will be published for consultation with the public a few months thereafter, with the final Strategy published in late 2010.

I would be happy to send you a copy of the draft Strategy and, if you have further detailed questions, do feel free to contact my Environmental Advisor, Isabel Dedring.

Yours sincerely,



Boris Johnson
Mayor of London