

Lord Hunt of Kings Heath OBE

Minister of State
Department for Environment, Food and
Rural Affairs
Nobel House
17 Smith Square
London SW1P 3JR

Date:

16 MAR 2009

Dear Phil

Air Quality Working Group

Thank you for your letter of 5 February regarding our joint approach to ensure we meet air quality objectives in London. I thought our recent meeting was very productive.

I can confirm that I have asked my officials to work with yours in a joint working group reporting directly to us as described in your letter. A meeting of the working group has already taken place and work is underway to establish modelling methodologies, to agree baselines and to analyse potential interventions. I understand that further meetings are planned and that these will aim to draw up more detailed terms of reference and to develop jointly the Action Plan that the UK Government will need to submit to the European Commission as part of its application for a time extension to the particulate matter (PM10) limit value.

I understand that my officials have been in contact with officials at Defra regarding a detailed response from the Greater London Authority to the consultation on the time extension application. I am pleased to note that the consultation material acknowledges the work carried out by the GLA and Transport for London to improve air quality in London, and agree that the Action Plan should underline our shared commitment to meeting the PM10 limit value.

I look forward to continuing our ongoing dialogue to deliver better air quality in London.

Yours ever,



Boris Johnson
Mayor of London