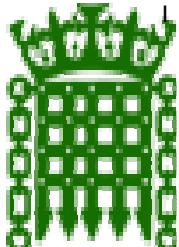




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All Party Parliamentary Light Rail Group

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA
"The past we inherit, the future we build
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Ban on diesel in London urged by health professionals



by Alice Munro | Dec 10, 2016

Doctors, health professionals and medical students today launched the *Doctors Against Diesel* campaign, by holding up giant numbers which read '9,400', representing the number of early deaths in London each year due to toxic air pollution[1].

This meeting by invitation only, where MPs, Stakeholders etc., within the Light Rail industry and invited members of the Public will have a chance to discuss debate and raise questions concerning Light Rail & Trams.

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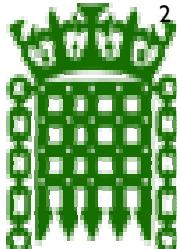
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Doctors Against Diesel is an emerging group of professionals from across the medical and campaigning community, who are shining a spotlight on the link between the use of diesel fuels and the air pollution public health emergency.

They are calling for diesel fuels to be banned in urban areas and to be progressively phased out elsewhere.

Hundreds of doctors, medical students and health workers gathered alongside Euston Road, one of the most polluted roads in London, to launch the campaign.

They are calling for Sadiq Khan, Mayor of London, to commit to phase out diesel vehicles from London, and for the public to respond to a TFL public consultation in support of the phase out of diesel in London.

Mexico City, Paris, Athens and Madrid have already announced moves to ban diesel vehicles by 2025, demonstrating that ambitious goal-setting is necessary[2].

Recent modelling found that nearly 40 per cent of all NOx emissions and PM10 pollution within London comes from diesel vehicles[3].

Prof. Jonathan Grigg is co-author of *Every breath we take: the lifelong impact of air pollution*[4]: “Air pollution levels in London exceed legal limits and affect people’s health at every stage of life. Effects begin with changes to fetal growth before birth affecting lung development. In childhood pollution reduces lung capacity and increases the risk of asthma. In adulthood it increases the risk of death from heart and lung disease and stroke”.

Ashok Sinha, Chief Executive of the London Cycling Campaign said:

“A zero harm transport system should be the ultimate destination. Slashing air pollution by phasing out diesel, and helping people switch to walking cycling and public transport, is a critical to reaching it.”

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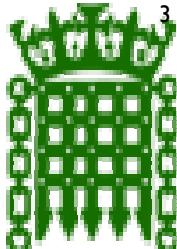
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Greenpeace campaigner Areeba Hamid said:

"The number of people affected by air pollution in the capital is alarming and our health professionals have to deal with the consequences every day. Today, they have come together to demand for bold action, which can make a real difference to the air we breathe. The days of dirty diesel are over, governments need to support clean transport and hold car companies accountable for selling products that exceed legal and health limits".

[1] Kings College London (2015) *Understanding the Health Impacts of Air Pollution in London*, available at: <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/lsm/research/divisions/aes/research/ERG/research-projects/HIAinLondonKingsReport14072015final.pdf>

[2] http://www.c40.org/blog_posts/daring-cities-make-bold-air-quality-commitment-to-remove-all-diesel-vehicles-by-2025

[3] IPPR (2016) *Lethal and Illegal: Solving London's air pollution crisis*. Available at: http://www.ippr.org/files/publications/pdf/lethal-and-illegal-solving-londons-air-pollution-crisis_summary_Nov2016.pdf?noredirect=1

[4] The Royal College of Physicians, Royal College of Paediatric and Child health (2016) *Every breath we take: the lifelong impact of air pollution*, available at: <https://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/projects/outputs/every-breath-we-take-lifelong-impact-air-pollution>

Courtesy : Alice Munro, Medact



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