

# NEWSLETTER

## HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

### At Our Annual General Meeting

At our AGM on Wednesday 26th February at the City of London Walbrook Wharf Offices Lord Witty warned EPUK to be vigilant in the coming months. Whilst the turmoil over Brexit could lead to gains in some areas of environmental health, deterioration in others was equally likely. Following the business session. Eloise Scotford in her seminar on '*Air quality governance in England: challenges and potential reform*' also made the point that 'EU standards are the current rules of the game, and we're playing rules of a game, rather than being focused on the endgame, which should be about health.'

This presents a significant challenge to the Society as the quantification of impacts of measures is a very complex business.

## News in Brief

### Air Quality Committee

AQC Meets next on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March at the City of London Walbrook Wharf Offices. Last minute items for the Agenda should be sent to:

Dr David Muir at:  
muirenvironmental@gmail.com

### Policy Committees

Air, Land and Noise Committees are busy finalising their priorities for 2020. We will report details in the forthcoming issues of our Newsletter, as soon as they are available.

### One Day Seminars

Following our highly successful Seminar at ALS Life Sciences Laboratory, Hawarden in January this year, 3 more are planned for 2020. See forthcoming events diary below for more details. Additional significant events are also in the pipeline, so do watch this space.

## Welsh Soundscape and TAN11 Review

Martin McVay writes: In December 2018 the Welsh Government issued Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 (PPW10)

(<https://gov.wales/planning-policy-wales>), which brought national planning

policy in Wales into line with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. PPW10 included up-to-date planning policy on air quality, noise and soundscape, in particular in section 6.7 which is devoted to those inter-related topics.

The Welsh Government committed to reviewing its existing technical advice on planning and noise ('TAN11'), with a view to replacing it with a new Technical Advice Note covering air quality, noise and soundscape, within this Assembly term, i.e. by May 2021. This exercise does not involve making changes to planning policy, which remains as laid out in PPW10, but rather the guidance necessary to assist planners and developers in implementing PPW10's air quality, noise and soundscape policies.

We are grateful to all those who have had conversations with us to date, who have shared their expertise, experience and ideas to inform the development of the new Welsh guidance. Today we are launching a 12-week formal call for evidence, accompanied by a short discussion paper, to enable all interested parties to provide written input.

The call for evidence may be found at:

<https://gov.wales/air-quality-and-soundscape-review-tan-11>  
and closes on 4 May.



## IUAPPA Update

As you will be aware the IUAPPA Secretariat is now in the transitional phase of moving to Korea. The *corona virus* (Covid-19) epidemic is at present having a severe effect on activities there, but Young Sunwoo, the new Director-General, and his team are busy finalising arrangements for the new organisation, in particular the local registration and funding options.

### Secretariat Contact Details

During this period, and until further notice, it would be grateful if you could continue to address correspondence to [secretariat@iuappa.org](mailto:secretariat@iuappa.org), but with copies to the new Director-General, Young Sunwoo, ([airsunwoo@gmail.com](mailto:airsunwoo@gmail.com)) and the Treasurer, Ji Hyeon Song ([songih@sejong.ac.kr](mailto:songih@sejong.ac.kr)).

### Forthcoming Meetings

Would any who have missed the earlier announcement please note that the next World Congress will be held in Singapore in the autumn of next year, 2021. The date, location and programme will be announced shortly. Meanwhile, in cooperation with EFCA and UK colleagues, it hopes to organise a major meeting in the UK in November 2020 in conjunction with the meeting of COP24 in Glasgow. Further details will follow in due course. You will be advised of arrangements for other meetings this year in Korea and elsewhere once the virus-related restrictions on large gatherings are eased.

## Stephen Holgate to Champion with EPUK

Professor Stephen Holgate, the Government's new Clean Air Champion, has reached out to EPUK inviting us to consider working with his team to engage with the public at large as to reducing air pollution. Lord Whitty, Christopher Fry and David Muir met with Stephen Holgate on the 2nd March. This Government initiative is the Strategic Project Funding (SPF) Clean Air, involving UKRI and the Met Office. Professor Holgate (who is also a Vice-President of EPUK) is a MRC Clinical Professor at the Faculty of Medicine University of Southampton and concerned with Respiratory Medicine, Clinical Science and Environmental Health. His team includes Professor Martin Williams Head of the Science Policy Unit, Environmental Research Group, King's College, London and Dr Jenny Baverstock, Senior Collaboration Fellow, Faculty of Environmental and Life Sciences, University of Southampton.



## And forthcoming events for the diary...

### South West Division

The EPUK South West AGM is on Thursday 23 April at Brigwater House, King Square Brigwater, Somerset, courtesy of Nicola Gardner and colleagues of Sedgemoor District Council. This will be an excellent opportunity to plan forthcoming events, catch up with colleagues and strengthen the committee for the forthcoming year. See you there!

### ClairCity Project's final conference

The ClairCity Project's final conference is on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March in Brussels! It's set to be a lively event, with thought provoking discussions from cities across Europe, working together for a clean air future. It will have a diverse range of speakers including representatives from the WHO, European Commission, local authorities, universities and H2020, as well as delegates including mayors, researchers, social enterprises and the general public. There'll be plenty of time to network, as well as the chance to try out ClairCity's various engagement tools that helped to involve citizens in city decision-making on air pollution and carbon emissions. There is a limited budget to support those in need of support in paying for accommodation or transport. For these enquiries, please get in touch with [irati.artola@trinomics.eu](mailto:irati.artola@trinomics.eu)

### Air Quality and Public Health

The PHE *Air Quality and Public Health Stakeholder Seminar 2020* is on Thursday 4 June from 09:30 to 16:00 in Manchester  
[www.phe-events.org.uk/aqph20](http://www.phe-events.org.uk/aqph20)

The *Annual UK Review Meeting on Outdoor and Indoor Air Pollution Research* will be held on Wednesday 3 June 2020.

There are also regular meetings on air quality hosted by the GLA. Rosalind O'Driscoll (on the mailing list) organises these. More details can be found at: <https://aprilnetwork.net/>

## Continuing EPUK Regional Seminar Series, 2020

The next scheduled regional event will be an **Air Seminar** at Birmingham University in early May. This is being organised by the EPUK Air Quality Seminar and a flyer is expected after the AQC meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> March.

The **Contaminated Land Seminar** to be held at the British Geological Survey HQ at Keyworth near Nottingham has been **moved back one day to Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020**. The Land Quality Committee will circulate a flyer on 16<sup>th</sup> March. To date the speakers will be Jack Shore District Manager of Regeneration for UK and Scandinavia who will present a paper on the remediation of sites affected by PFAS substances (perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl) a large group of man-made chemicals which have been in use since the 1950s but which are described as emerging contaminants. This group includes PFOA (perfluorooctanoic acid) and PFAS (perfluorooctane sulphonic acid). At this seminar it is also hoped to launch the new EPUK guidance on the re-development of petrol/diesel forecourts and this would be presented by David Rudland who is the former Chairman of the LQC and author of the guidance. In light of the Gorebridge (Midlothian Region) emergency which arose from the leakage of carbon dioxide from old mine workings it is hoped to have a presentation by the RSK Consultants who carried out the investigation.

### **Joint Campaigns with the West Midlands Combined Authority:**

The West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) reached out to EPUK last month and invited us to discuss a joint campaign for the upcoming **Clean Air Day** event in June. The Mayor of the WMCA is also keen to promote the re-**Development of Brown Field Land**. David Rudland has responded initially stating that EPUK has long been campaigning for a proactive "*Brownfield First*" policy by central Government because there are too many examples of developers favouring out of town greenfield sites over inner-urban sites offering opportunities for regeneration. We have approached Government and provided comment on various aspects of its land quality policy and have challenged those parts which appear to be retrograde, such as withdrawal of grants to local authorities to fund clean-up of Part2a/orphan contaminated sites.

The West Midlands Combined Authority comprises the 18 local authorities and 3 Local Enterprise Partnerships and the current Mayor was elected in May 2017. The WMCA Strategic Economic Plan includes Industrial Strategy, Transport, Housing & Regeneration and Environment.

## Like Us, Love Us, and Visit Us on:

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/epuk5>,

Linkedin:

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8448926/>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/envprotectionuk/>



### MEMBERSHIP

We are always looking for new members. Please recommend EPUK and its services to your colleagues and any organisation you feel would benefit from membership. Follow the link below for more information regarding types of membership and associated cost.

<https://www.environmental-protection.org.uk/membership/>

Or ask us for a Membership Booklet by emailing [info@environmental-protection.org.uk](mailto:info@environmental-protection.org.uk)

**AND FINALLY, FROM THE PRESS**

Reporting on the conclusions of an air quality health impacts study undertaken on behalf of City Hall by the environmental consultancy HealthLumen, it claims that expanding the ultra-low emission zone in London will cut air diseases by a third. The report concludes that some 250,000 diseases linked to nitrogen dioxide and PM2.5 particulates would be avoided by 2050.

Copies of this 132page report:

*'Modelling the long-term health impacts of changing exposure to NO2 and PM2.5 in London'* can be downloaded at:

[https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/modelling\\_the\\_long-term\\_health\\_impacts\\_of\\_changing\\_exposure\\_to\\_no2\\_and\\_pm2.5\\_in\\_london\\_final\\_250220\\_-4.pdf](https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/modelling_the_long-term_health_impacts_of_changing_exposure_to_no2_and_pm2.5_in_london_final_250220_-4.pdf)

**Published by Environmental Protection UK**

Email: [info@environmental-protection.org.uk](mailto:info@environmental-protection.org.uk)

Web: [www.environmental-protection.org.uk](http://www.environmental-protection.org.uk)

Phone: 0752284860

Charity registered in England and Wales number 221026;

in Scotland SC040990 Company Limited by guarantee,  
registered in England and Wales, number 594860

*Reproduction of items is permissible subject to acknowledgment to EPUK*