Joining Forces to Improve Air Quality and Health

Sector Involvement

Air Quality: The Charities Perspective

Harriet Edwards
(Asthma UK & British Lung Foundation)
How does air pollution affect our supporters?

- **It affects their daily life, particularly for people with a lung condition** - 82% said that air pollution has an effect on their own health and 66% noticed air pollution when they go outside.

- **Strong majority want more information and government action** - 96% said the UK government should introduce an air pollution public health campaign.

- **Around a third felt they don’t have enough data or information** to campaign on the issue.

- **Poor air quality is a trigger** for over half of people with asthma.
‘Air pollution levels [where I live] are extremely bad, especially around where I’d to go for Pulmonary Rehab Classes. Within 4 weeks of attending twice weekly classes, my fitness levels dropped dramatically, and my lung function deteriorated. The air traffic pollution levels in the area surrounding the health centre are some of the worst in [the area].

‘It is very depressing and affects my mental health by anxiety and worry for the future.’

‘I have stopped walking to places as I was having too many asthma attacks, which in turn has a negative effect on my health but my car isn’t helping the pollution.’

‘I have applied for ill health retirement from my job in London as my bronchiectasis and asthma are too strongly affected by pollution.’

‘my doctor advised me to move out of London not easy to do when you have little money and are in social housing.’
What do we want to see?
Thank you