



Scottish Natural Heritage Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba

All of nature for all of Scotland
Nàdar air fad airson Alba air fad

By e-mail only to: environmental.health@eastdunbarton.gov.uk

Anne Prescott
Environmental and Community Protection
East Dunbartonshire Council
Southbank House
Southbank Road
Kirkintilloch
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Date: 17 January 2018
Our ref:

Dear Ms Prescott

Draft Bearsden Air Quality Action Plan

Thank you for your consultation on the draft Bearsden Air Quality Action Plan.

We have reviewed the draft plan and are generally supportive of the measures proposed but offer the following comments for your consideration.

Green infrastructure/Tree and wildflower planting

We welcome the inclusion of planting schemes as a measure to reduce pollutant levels and recommend that the latest research and guidance is used to maximise the benefits of any planting. Please see below for some relevant examples from the Green Infrastructure Strategic Intervention website (<https://www.greeninfrastructurescotland.org.uk/useful-links-research>):

- <http://www.es.lancs.ac.uk/people/cnh/UrbanTreesBrochure.pdf>
- <https://www.surrey.ac.uk/mediacentre/press/2017/cities-need-green-reduce-impact-air-pollution-residents-well-buildings>
- [https://www.forestry.gov.uk/PDF/FCRP026.pdf/\\$FILE/FCRP026.pdf](https://www.forestry.gov.uk/PDF/FCRP026.pdf/$FILE/FCRP026.pdf)

As well as helping to improve air quality, green infrastructure can deliver multiple benefits for people and nature. This will provide added value to any investment in green infrastructure to improve air quality.

In terms of section 5.2.7.5 of the plan, although we support the use of solar panels and photovoltaic panels, we recommend that these are best considered under a separate heading (e.g. low carbon energy).

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Active travel

The 2015-2020 Active Travel Strategy identifies that there is scope to enhance active travel provision within the Bearsden Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). We recommend that the plan gives greater prominence to investigating the feasibility of these enhancements as any such improvements could deliver wider health benefits.

Table 7: Options eliminated from further consideration in the Bearsden AQMA

This table suggests that reducing emissions by encouraging *better travel choices/ behavioural change* has been eliminated from further consideration in the Bearsden AQMA. As measures to encourage *better travel choices/ behavioural change* are considered further in the plan, we assume that this is a misprint.

I hope that these comments are useful but please let me know if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Graeme Heenan
Operations Officer
Strathclyde & Ayrshire