

11 March 2021

Andrew Murrison MD MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

Wiltshire Council  
County Hall  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8JN

Our Ref: PW/PT/PW21029

Dear Andrew

**Re. Bath Clear Air Zone**

I am sure you will by now have read Rebecca Pow and Rachel Maclean's joint ministerial response to your expressed concerns regarding Bath Clean Air Zone.

I think the response is non-specific, non-committal and unhelpful, and gives neither ourselves (or our residents) the assurances we have been continuously looking for.

To be blunt, the Minister's response largely avoids the issue, and fails to acknowledge our point that BANES' forecast of wider impacts has a strong chance of being proved wrong.

They suggest that:

*Once the CAZ is operational, JAQU officials will work with BANES council on possible short-term, additional provision for traffic monitoring, to assist with ongoing air quality work.*

This vague suggestion goes nowhere near addressing the problem we have identified.

Monitoring outside the Clean Air Zone needs to be in place from the outset, with agreement on remedial action if improvements to Bath's air quality occur at the expense of worsening declared AQMAs elsewhere.

I hope you agree that we should not let this matter rest.

Defra/DfT's stated 'minimum requirements' insist that:

*Clean Air Zone proposals will not result in the displacement of the most polluting vehicles away from town centres to surrounding areas.*

Can I ask that you respond to the Minister's letter expressing our dissatisfaction and pressing them for a more constructive reply.

Yours sincerely



**Philip Whitehead**  
**Leader**

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