



Healthy Air Scotland, a coalition of public health, environment and active travel organisations and academics, is calling on the next Scottish Government to enact policy proposals to meet the ambition for Scotland to have the best air quality in Europe.

We are asking all political parties to adopt ambitious policies in their manifestos for the Scottish Parliament elections in May 2026.

Healthy Air Scotland 2026 Manifesto

Vehicle Emissions

- Establish Low Emission Zones in other cities and large towns and expand the boundaries of LEZs in Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow.
- Address vehicle engine idling through local and national initiatives, including increased fines and support school street schemes to reduce pollution around schools.
- Ban on diesel train engine idling in train stations.

Domestic Burning

- Deliver a public awareness campaign on the risks of wood burning stoves to human health.
- Ban new stoves in all properties, except for those off-grid and in areas that are known to experience power shortages.
- Implement a stove scrappage scheme to support moves to cleaner forms of energy.

Human Rights

- Ensure a right to breathe clean air for everyone.
- Implement a right to take legal action against local authorities for breaching air quality limits.
- Reintroduce the plan for a Human Rights Bill for Scotland, including a right to a healthy environment.

Active Travel

- Prioritise safety: reduce traffic speeds, create more accessible streets, implement the pavement parking ban and reinforce the updated Highway Code.
- Encourage social prescribing of walking, wheeling and cycling.
- At least 10% of Scotland's transport budget to be spent on active travel with a focus on joined up public transport.

Monitoring Air Quality

- Adopt the 2021 WHO air quality guidelines.
- Deliver a multi-year public awareness campaign about the dangers of air pollution to encourage behaviour change.
- Monitor air quality in areas such as nurseries, schools, hospitals and care homes.
- Review local authority powers and abilities to take urgent action when monitors report poor air quality.

AIR POLLUTION IN SCOTLAND CAUSES 2,700 EARLY DEATHS
SUPPORT HEALTHY AIR SCOTLAND TO CLEAN OUR AIR

Healthy Air Scotland is a coalition with the support of the following charities, third sector organisations and academics:

Asthma + Lung UK Scotland
British Heart Foundation Scotland
Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland
Cycling Scotland
Living Streets Scotland
Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh

Brain Health Scotland
British Association of Social Work
Communities Against Woodsmoke
Friends of the Earth Scotland
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health
Walk Wheel Cycle Trust Scotland

To join Healthy Air Scotland, contact Scotland@asthmaandlung.org.uk

