

9 February 2018

Dr Corra Boushel  
UWE Outreach Clair City  
UWE Bristol  
Bristol  
BS16 1QY

Dear Dr Boushel

Thank you for the set of letters from Year 5 pupils at Upper Horfield Community School and Horfield CE Primary School can you please send our thanks to the pupils for taking the time to get involved in such an important topic; I was excited to know that they have been learning about the issues related to poor air quality and are taking such an interest.

I appreciate Bristol City Council has been working hard for over 15 years to improve air quality at the worst locations across the city. They have been doing a number of things to try and reduce pollution from cars, lorries and buses and encouraging more people to cycle, walk or use buses and trains. However, poor air quality remains a problem in many places.

I am pleased that the City Council is now developing a new clean air plan to reduce air pollution from traffic to provide recommended safe levels of air quality by 2021. Whilst the plan is still being developed and I believe it will consider the following measures, many of which I was impressed to see were suggested by the children:

- Changing road layouts where congestion and air pollution is worst
- Encouraging people to use electric and other clean vehicles
- Providing more electric charging points
- Making vehicle exhausts cleaner to trap pollution
- Encouraging more people to walk, cycle and use buses and trains
- Restricting dirtier vehicles from entering the most polluted areas, possibly by charging them
- Designing new communities in a way that reduces the need to travel

I recognise that factories and homes also contribute to poor air quality so we are looking at how to improve this too and make the region cleaner and greener.

Poor air quality is one of my main concerns in the West of England, especially as the biggest impacts are on the young, elderly and other vulnerable residents. The need to improve air quality will be a very important part of the new transport plan for the region, which will cover the next 20 years.

I look forward to with Bristol City Council and other councils to help tackle this serious problem.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Bowles', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Tim Bowles

**Mayor**

**West of England Combined Authority**