

Jim Martin
Chair
Environmental Standards Scotland
Ìrean Àrainneachdail na h-Alba

ENVIRONMENTAL
Standards Scotland
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ESSChair@environmentalstandards.scot

Scottish Parliament

Laying ref no: ESS/2022/02

29 September 2022

Dear Scottish Parliament,

On 23 September 2022, Environmental Standards Scotland (ESS) completed an investigation into Scotland's compliance with statutory limit values for the air pollutant nitrogen dioxide. The main finding of the investigation is that measures should be taken by Scottish Ministers to strengthen the effectiveness of the law underpinning the systems in place to improve air quality in Scotland.

Given the importance of complying with statutory limit values, ESS has issued its findings in the form of an improvement report. Under section 29 of the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Continuity) (Scotland) Act 2021 ("the Continuity Act"), the improvement report must be laid before the Scottish Parliament, which is attached for lodging with you.

Under section 30 of the Continuity Act, the Scottish Ministers must now prepare an improvement plan and lay it before the Parliament setting out what they propose to do in response to the recommendations within the improvement report.

Environmental Standards Scotland
enquiries@environmentalstandards.scot
Thistle House, 91 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh, EH12 5HD
0808 1964000

If we are able to support the Parliament in any way with regard to our findings, please let us know.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Martin

Chair, Environmental Standards Scotland

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