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Sent By Michael Ryan

Email Address michaelryan [redacted]

Michael Ryan BSc; C Eng; MICE, [redacted]

Postal Address [redacted] Shrewsbury [redacted]

Email To mayor@london.gov.uk

Recipients robert.neill@london.gov.uk  
jennette.arnold@london.gov.uk  
jenny.jones@london.gov.uk  
sally.hamwee@london.gov.uk

Email CC Recipients [redacted]

Group General

Directorate POLICY AND PARTNERSHIPS

Preferred User Jane Harmsworth

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Campaign

Other Key People

Reply View

P&P (Health & Planning & Environment). This was sent to Ken and the London Assembly Members

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Dear Mr Livingstone and Assembly Members,

I have examined the infant mortality rates in electoral wards around 15 incinerators, 2 oil refineries, 2 power stations, 1 cement works and a foundry and have found the same pattern in each case; namely elevated infant mortality rates in the downwind wards compared with the upwind wards.

If you plot the 2003-5 infant mortality rates onto a ward map of London, you'll see that Chingford Green has the highest infant mortality rate in London at 17.1 infant deaths per 1,000 live births. The rates in wards around Edmonton incinerator suggest that PM2.5 emissions from that plant are likely to be the main cause. The highest infant mortality rate in Haringey Borough is 15.6 infant deaths per 1,000 live births [2003-5] and that ward is Northumberland Park, which is the closest ward in Haringey to the Edmonton incinerator.

In Pexley, there are two incinerators within the Borough, White Rose [Sidcup ward] and Crossness sludge incinerator [Thamesmead East]. There is also a major power station at Littlebrook D, just to the east of North End ward.