



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

Sheena Ramsey

Chief Executive, Gateshead Council

7 December 2022

Pam Smith

Chief Executive, Newcastle City  
Council

**By email**

**VARIATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT ACT 1995 (GATESHEAD COUNCIL AND  
NEWCASTLE CITY COUNCIL) AIR QUALITY DIRECTION 2020**

You submitted your full business case for a Clean Air Zone (class C), and further information on the phased launch of your Clean Air Zone (class C) related to your local air quality plan and the associated Ministerial direction.

You have submitted evidence asking that the directed local plan measures be varied as follows; 1. No associated measures will be required in addition to the CAZ C; and 2. The CAZ will be launched on a phased basis from January 2023, which will mean that compliance will now be achieved by 2023.

This letter formally confirms that the Secretary of State for the Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs, in exercise of the power conferred by section 122(2) of the Environment Act 1995(a), varies the Environment Act 1995 (Gateshead Council and Newcastle City Council) Air Quality Direction 2020 as set out above. This decision was made, as Gateshead Council and Newcastle City Council satisfactorily submitted evidence supporting the variation that the directed local plan measures should be varied as stated to achieve compliance in the shortest possible time.

These changes will be applicable on the day after this letter is signed. The variation will be published in the London Gazette and on a government website and made available for inspection at Seacole Building, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF.

Yours sincerely,

**Rebecca Pow MP**

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Department for Environment, Food and Rural  
Affairs