

Dear Councillors

We are writing to you about a very important matter on behalf of the five organisations named below.

We are most concerned about the procurement by BCC of the continued operation of the Tyseley waste incinerator to 2034, with option to 2039, because this would contradict the Climate Emergency Declaration and Zero Carbon aim of the City Council and also the national target. Everything has changed since the Tyseley plant was built in 1995.

The plant produced 308,485 tonnes of carbon dioxide in 2019, so we believe that an alternative for waste has to be planned and implemented, as soon as possible. Paying the operator for the tonnage they burn would be completely the wrong incentive.

According to the composition analysis of the waste burned at Tyseley, 62% is biodegradable. Other elements are textiles, paper, metals, glass, which are potentially saleable. Local companies could use the waste items, if they are not burned. Many local authorities do not have a waste incinerator, so the methods of collection for separated waste are well known.

To run down and close the plant would be in conformity with BCC's Clean Air Strategy. This will shortly charge people who drive polluting vehicles, but it does not cover the Tyseley plant, despite its huge exhaust emissions. Birmingham Public Health Report 2019 shows that we have the worst infant mortality rate of all local authorities. Birmingham's high levels of air pollution contribute to poor health and early death in the city, concentrated in the east of the city (maps pp 22, 23) https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/downloads/file/11845/birmingham_health_profile_2019

We urge you to raise this issue in relevant meetings and with your colleagues.

We look forward to hearing your views.

Yours sincerely,

Pete Doubtfire, on behalf of

Jai Jagat UK <https://jaijagat2020.co.uk/>

Peace Hub <http://peacehub.org.uk/>

Footsteps (Faiths for a Low Carbon Future) <https://footstepsbcf.org.uk/>

Climate Action Network West Midlands <https://www.climateactionwm.org.uk/>

Birmingham Friends of the Earth (which has sent a briefing about the incinerator to all councillors) <http://www.birminghamfoe.org.uk/what-we-do/issues-we-work-on/waste-recycling/tyseley-incinerator-briefing-document-for-birmingham-city-councillors/>



Footsteps
Faiths for a Low Carbon Future



**Birmingham
friends of
the earth**