

global action plan

OUR LIVES. OUR PLANET.

**Rapid scoping review
commissioning brief
covid-19 & air pollution
May 2020**

Contents

- 1. Summary 3
- 2. About Global Action Plan 4
- 3. The brief in more detail 5
- 4. Commissioning process 6
 - 4.1. Timeline 6
 - 4.2. Applying by email 6
 - 4.3. Emailing questions 6
 - 4.4. Assessment criteria 7
 - 4.5. Review process for shortlisted applicants 7
 - 4.6. Rights clearance 7
- 5. Budgeting 8
- 6. Contact us 8

1. Summary

Environmental charity Global Action Plan (GAP) and Guys & St Thomas' Charity are undertaking a project on air quality and coronavirus, with particular local application in Lambeth and Southwark.

We are working with air quality and respiratory academic experts as well as thousands of local residents through polling and interviews to capture 'lived experience' stories. Together these will form a campaign to build back cleaner air as Covid-19 restrictions are lifted – we want to see the life come back to our streets but not the air pollution. Our project will explore some of the big questions being asked right now: Is there a link between air pollution and vulnerability to coronavirus and related health outcomes? Has air quality improved and why, and how can we maintain current low levels of air pollution?

This is the commissioning brief for a Rapid Evidence Assessment (REA) of the health link between Covid-19 and air pollution which forms one aspect of our project. While our wider project has a particular focus in Lambeth and Southwark, the REA should be national in scope (and where relevant, draw on international research).

You can apply by sending your application to cleanerair@globalactionplan.org.uk by the deadline of **Monday 25th May 2020**. We expect to notify the successful applicants by Monday 1st June 2020. We are looking to publish the REA in part or in full throughout the summer.

We are looking for an academic (or academic team) to compile health evidence and produce a Rapid Evidence Assessment about the link between Covid-19 and air pollution in the UK.

To be eligible to apply you must be a UK-based academic.

We plan to commission one team to complete the REA.

The rest of this brief gives detailed information on content we're looking for, the commissioning process and how we can help you to deliver a successful project.

2. About Global Action Plan

Global Action Plan is a charity that's working for a green and thriving planet where we can live happily without ruining the Earth we depend on.

We're experts in helping people live more sustainable lifestyles.

We do this by making connections between what's good for people and good for the planet.

We're the people behind [Clean Air Day](#), the UK's largest air pollution campaign.

We work with young people on [reducing consumerism](#) and increasing wellbeing - what's good for us is often greener too.

And we bring [business and young people](#) together to work on a sustainable future - helping young people develop the skills and knowledge to tackle environmental issues is good for the planet and for everyone's future too.

3. The brief in more detail

This brief complements the wider work and research undertaken by Global Action Plan. We understand that new evidence is emerging all the time, which is why we would like to stress that this is a *Rapid Evidence Assessment* about the link between Covid-19 and air pollution.

Why REA?

Rapid evidence assessments provide a more structured and rigorous search and quality assessment of the evidence than a literature review but are not as exhaustive as a systematic review. We would like this work to

- Gain an overview of the density and quality of evidence on this issue
- Support programming decisions by providing evidence on key topics
- Support the commissioning of further research by identifying evidence gaps

We are particularly interested in the REA answering the following research questions but this should not exclude the exploration of other relevant areas or questions:

- Is there a link between exposure to nitrogen dioxide (and/or other air pollutants) and susceptibility to infectious disease, such as coronavirus?
- To what extent has air pollution contributed to covid-19 deaths in the UK?
- How does the number of deaths and the burden of ill health from coronavirus (covid-19) compare to the number of deaths and the burden of ill health from air pollution? We understand the sensitive nature of this question.
- What air pollution abatement policies would be most effective in reducing population vulnerability to infectious disease?

Research should be relevant / applicable to the UK context.

4. Commissioning process

4.1. Timeline

11 th May 202	The brief published
15 th May 2020	Email open for applications
21 nd May 2020	Factual email questions can be submitted
25th May 2020	Deadline for applications
28 th May 2020	Successful applicant notified
w/c 1 st June 2020	Kick-off meeting with GAP
22 nd June 2020	REA complete

4.2. Applying by email

Please email your application to cleanerair@globalactionplan.org.uk by midday on **25 May 2020** with the subject 'REA Application'.

Applications should be no more than 2 sides of A4 and include

- Details about you/ your team
- Your approach
- Examples of similar work you have undertaken

4.3. Emailing questions

If you have a question about the brief or the application process please email our commissioning team: cleanerair@globalactionplan.org.uk. Out of fairness to other applicants, we are unfortunately unable to give detailed advice about your application, whether by email, telephone or meetings. However, we can answer brief, factual questions regarding the brief or the process by email.

4.4. Assessment criteria

At all stages of the selection process we will use the following assessment criteria:

- Fit with our areas of interest and research focus
- Whether you and/or your partners have the ability to deliver the commission with the correct level of support and resourcing
- What risks exist within the proposal, particularly in relation to on time delivery, rights clearance, compliance, etc. and how they have been mitigated
- Value for money and financial viability

4.5. Review process for shortlisted applicants

If you are successfully shortlisted following our selection process, our team will engage with you to work through your proposal through a kick-off meeting. The aim of this process is primarily to align understanding but will also for the purpose of:

- Reviewing your proposal
- Ensuring that all rights are clearable to meet the publication plan
- Assessing and agreeing the project timeline
- Ensuring that you have the right team and resources in place to deliver a successful commission, that there is a clear lead organisation and each partner or supplier has clear responsibilities
- Checking that your approach to project development is robust and realistic
- Making sure your budget is comprehensive and affordable

4.6. Rights clearance

We are looking to use the research in any way we see fit and publish it in parts or as a whole giving credit to the researchers. We will own the intellectual property of the work. We need to know that you can clear the rights necessary for online publication of your project (and where relevant for broadcast, cinema or live event distribution). This normally means that you are in a position to clear rights on a non-exclusive, royalty-free, worldwide basis for non- Commissioning Brief / commercial publication, including via the BBC. Ideally, this should be for a minimum period of three years but it could be shorter if you have specific constraints. We also want to be sure that GAP has the rights we need to promote your work and to share learnings from your project online via the Clean Air Hub. Any publication by Global Action Plan shall suitably acknowledge the service providers contribution.

5. Budgeting

We expect that budgets do not exceed £10,000(+VAT).

We will enter into a contract for services.

Please set out your budget in your application.

6. Contact us

If you have any questions about this brief or the commissioning process, please email cleanerair@globalactionplan.org.uk.

The logo for Global Action Plan features the words "global", "action", and "plan" stacked vertically in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font. The text is contained within a white, rounded rectangular frame that has a tail extending downwards and to the left, resembling a speech bubble or a stylized bracket. Below the frame, the tagline "OUR LIVES. OUR PLANET." is written in a smaller, white, uppercase, sans-serif font.

global
action
plan

OUR LIVES. OUR PLANET.

201 Borough High Street, London, SE1 1JA
Telephone 0203 8177 636

Charity registered in England and Wales No. 1026148, in Scotland No. SC041260

Registered company in England and Wales No. 2838296

VAT No. 625 994 009