

LIBERTY

THE RIGHT TO CLEAN AIR

JUNE 2023

A Policy and Campaigns Officer presented a paper on the right to clean air. Liberty has historically had little involvement in environmental issues. From the early 1990s Twyford Down actions to the more modern examples of Extinction Rebellion and Just Stop Oil, where Liberty has overlapped with environmental groups it has tended to relate to their right to protest rather the issues they espouse. However, AGM motions passed in 2022 signal a shift in approach by recognising the climate crisis as a human rights issues, and urging Liberty to explore human rights protections being expanded beyond the ECHR.

It is also vital that Liberty continues to advocate for our current rights framework to be the floor, not the ceiling, of human rights protections. Taking a strong position on the right to clean air helps us in this goal.

Policy Council agreed that Liberty should adopt a position advocating for the recognition of the right to clean air.