



**MEDIA ADVISORY - 19 January 2015 -
BRUSSELS**

**Cleaner air in our cities: debate on the air
quality package & NEC directive**

Media contact: Rose Montgomery,
communications executive, EUROCITIES

Tel. +32 2 552 08 43; mobile: +32 496 503 887
rose.montgomery@eurocities.eu

WHAT: Parliament and Commission have fought hard about whether to keep or scrap the air quality package over recent months. At our event, MEPs, the Commission and cities will discuss the centrepiece of the air package: the National Emissions Ceilings (NEC) Directive. Cities will explain why they need a strong NEC Directive to help them clean up the air.

Julie Girling MEP, Parliament rapporteur on the NEC Directive, will host 'Cleaner air in our cities' on 28 January 2015. Lot van Hooijdonk, deputy mayor of Utrecht and chair of the EUROCITIES Environment Forum, will explain why cities need support from member states and the EU for cleaner air.

Marianne Wenning, director at DG Environment, and Deputy State Secretary Alda Ozola from the Latvian Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, will both deliver keynote speeches.

Panel discussions will focus on cleaning up the air in our cities and the NEC Directive, and will feature representatives from local and regional government, the European Parliament and the Commission.

WHO: Interventions will be given by:

- Marianne Wenning, director, DG Environment
- Alda Ozola, deputy state secretary, Latvian Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development
- Julie Girling MEP, European Parliament rapporteur on NEC Directive
- Lot van Hooijdonk, deputy mayor of Utrecht and chair of the EUROCITIES Environment Forum

WHEN: 28 January 2015 9.15-12.20

WHERE: European Parliament, PHS P1 A02, Brussels

PRESS RSVP: to enter the European Parliament you need to be accredited. Please contact Rose Montgomery if you would like to attend or if you are interested in having an interview with one of the speakers.

EUROCITIES: established in 1986, EUROCITIES is the political platform for major European cities towards the European institutions. We network the local governments of over 130 of Europe's largest cities and 40 partner cities that between them govern some 130 million citizens across 35 countries.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: agenda <http://bit.ly/170RqZL>; EUROCITIES www.eurocities.eu; and follow the debate @EUROCITIES tweet via #AIRQcities

ENDS