

In May 2023 the City of Perth informed COPWR that the City's role in the regulation of air quality is limited and a matter that does not fall within the scope of the QEII Precinct Plan. COPWR agrees that the City cannot regulate air pollution, but it does believe that the City can support us in our aim to alert authorities to the growing traffic related air pollution in and around QEII campus.

The World Health Organisation states that there is no level at which pollution can be deemed safe. A growing body of research indicates that about 11,000 Australian adults die each year prematurely, due to the exposure to emissions created by traffic. This is ten times the number of deaths from the national average road toll.

In the face of this knowledge the RAC in Western Australia has launched the biggest air sensor network in Australia, to measure particulates (PM10 and PM2.5) as well as nitrogen dioxide (NO2). There are 150 monitoring stations across Perth and Peel and the easily accessible results show that traffic levels are the key driver of pollution concentrations.

City of Perth residents have accessed the RAC data for locations around the Hospital complex and note that at times, the levels of fine particulates and nitrogen dioxide exceed World Health standards. We consider that air quality should be a factor in any further planning for the QEII site, and we ask that the City support our residents as they advocate for better health outcomes for the citizens of the City. We ask that the City assist us to ensure that plans to concentrate further health services on this Hospital site incorporate strategies to reduce, not increase the number of cars and encourage other emission reduction strategies. Air quality information could be used to assist in Council decisions and help in the responsible siting of facilities, such as childcare centres and schools.