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Ella Adoo-Kissi-Debrah: Air pollution a factor in girl's death, inquest finds

Inquest lists air pollution as cause of death

A nine-year-old girl who died following an asthma attack has become the first person in the UK to have air pollution listed as a cause of death.

Ella Adoo-Kissi-Debrah, who lived near the South Circular Road in Lewisham, south-east London, died in 2013. The inquest heard that in the three years before her death, she had multiple seizures and was admitted to hospital 27 times.

At the conclusion of the two-week inquest, coroner Philip Barlow said Ella had been exposed to "excessive" levels of pollution and found that air pollution "made a material contribution" to Ella's death. Prof Gavin Shaddick, a government adviser on air pollution, called it "a landmark decision".

Read the full story on the [BBC News Website](#):

The court ruling marks the first time a person in the UK has had air pollution listed as part of the cause of death. Coroner Philip Barlow ruled that exposure to nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter (PM2.5) pollution in excess of World Health Organisation guidelines contributed to Ella's death.

Following the inquest, the coroner concluded that a failure to reduce air pollution contributed to her death, as did the failure to provide her mother with information about the potential of air pollution to exacerbate asthma.

Read the full story on the [Air Quality News Website](#)

Indoor air pollution can be five times higher than that outside – read [Evotech's guide to indoor air pollution](#): know the facts to help keep the air you breathe clean.

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