

**Question for written answer E-010388/2013  
to the Commission**

Rule 117

**Glenis Willmott (S&D) and Claude Moraes (S&D)**

Subject: Air Quality Directive and Member States' responsibility to monitor air quality

According to the UK's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), the EU limits for nitrogen dioxide were exceeded in 40 of the UK's 43 air quality zones in 2010. Nevertheless, the UK Government has recently announced plans to close 600 air quality monitoring stations and to remove the requirement for local authorities to monitor air quality.

The Commission's answer to question E-009266/2013 confirmed that legal proceedings may be initiated against Member States who have not complied with the requirements of Directive 2008/50/EC.

Can the Commission clarify whether, under the directive, it will be looking into how Member States meet the requirements for monitoring air quality? Does the Commission believe that, by closing air quality monitoring stations, the UK Government is breaching those requirements? Would it consider opening infraction proceedings if this is the case?