

ARBORETUM, DUNKIRK & LENTON, RADFORD & PARK COMMITTEE
27TH FEBRUARY 2013

Title of paper:	Local Air Quality Management process update: Progress Report 2011, Updating and Screening Assessment 2012, Further Assessment 2012	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	John Kelly: Corporate Director Communities Andrew Errington: Director Community Protection	Wards affected: Arboretum, Bridge, Dales, Dunkirk and Lenton, Mapperley Park, St Ann's, Radford and Park
Report author(s) and contact details:	Richard Taylor Community Protection: Environmental Health and Trading Standards; Pollution Control team 0115 8761458	
Other colleagues who have provided input:		
Relevant Council Plan Strategic Priority: (you must mark X in the relevant boxes below)		
World Class Nottingham		X
Work in Nottingham		
Safer Nottingham		
Neighbourhood Nottingham		X
Family Nottingham		
Healthy Nottingham		X
Leading Nottingham		
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):		
Environmental		
1.1	Poor air quality is known to be detrimental to health and is linked to illness, reduced lifespan and health inequality. There is national and European legislation and guidance in place to ensure the protection of air quality.	
1.2	Under the Environmental Protection Act Local Authorities have a duty to carry out assessments of air quality to ensure it meets Air Quality Objectives (AQOs) specified for a number of 'pollutants of concern', one of which is nitrogen dioxide (NO ₂). Since 2001 there have been exceedances of the AQO in relation to NO ₂ in certain parts of the City and air quality management areas (AQMA) have been established. The exceedances are caused by emissions from road transport, and AQMA action plans to reduce nitrogen dioxide to improve air quality are detailed in the local transport plan.	
1.3	An Updating and Screening assessment, which reviewed a range of changes to sources of air pollution and potential sensitive receptors was submitted to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) in August 2012 and its findings accepted and confirmed by DEFRA in October 2012. It concluded that there were no new/significant sources or receptors other than those that were being considered as part of the detailed assessment.	
1.4	It is proposed that the outcomes of the latest review, the changes to the AQMA and the agreement to carry out a detailed assessment are shared with citizens through Area Committees and the Council's web site.	
1.5	Additional background information is detailed in the accompanying Portfolio Holder	

Decision and background report.

Recommendation(s):

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| 1 | The Area Committee notes the summarised findings of the Air Quality reports, air quality monitoring data, and measures being taken and proposed to maintain and improve air quality, and reduce exposure to air pollution, in the area. |
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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Environment Act 1995 introduced the concept of Local Air Quality Management which requires Local Authorities to carry out assessments of Air Quality in their areas to ensure it meets Air Quality Objectives (AQOs) specified for a number of 'pollutants of concern', one of which is nitrogen dioxide.
- 1.2 In 2001 the air quality review and assessment process identified that the annual mean air quality objective for nitrogen dioxide of 40 ug/m³ were being or likely to be breached in the City Centre and along a stretch of the A52 in the vicinity of the Queens Medical Centre. Two Air Quality Management Areas were declared by 'Order'.
- 1.3 Since 2001 air quality monitoring has continued to measure concentrations of nitrogen dioxide in excess of the AQOs at the 3 roadside automatic monitoring sites and at a number of nitrogen dioxide diffusion tube sites. All but two of these locations are within the Nottingham No.2 and No.3. Air Quality Management Areas (varied in 2010).
- 1.4 As part of the periodic Local Air Quality Management process an Updating and Screening Assessment was submitted to DEFRA in July 2012. It did not identify any significant changes to emissions, or significant increases in monitored air pollution, but did conclude that it was appropriate to extend the Detailed Assessment to include those locations where diffusion tube monitoring data exceeded 40 ug/m³. DEFRA confirmed its agreement with the findings and conclusions of the USA on the 30th October 2012.
- 1.5 A Detailed Assessment of air quality is currently being undertaken by Community Protection's Environmental Health and Trading Standard's Pollution Control team. It is also proposed to carry out more detailed modelling to predict air quality in future years.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

- 2.1 Publicising the air quality management process and findings, recommendations and actions arising from the process is a key part of the process.

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 None.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)

- 4.1 See accompanying Portfolio Holder Decision and report.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES (INCLUDING LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS)

5.1 See accompanying Portfolio Holder Decision and report.

6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- (a) not needed (report does not contain proposals for new or changing policies, services or functions, financial decisions or decisions about implementation of policies development outside the Council)
- (b) No
- (c) Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached

7. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

7.1 None.

8. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

8.1 See accompanying Portfolio Holder Decision and report.