

NOTTINGHAM CITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD 29th October 2014

Title of paper:	Air Quality and Health: delivering longer, healthier lives in Nottingham City.	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Chris Kenny, Director of Public Health	Wards affected: ALL
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Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s) (if relevant)		
Relevant Council Plan Strategic Priority:		
Cutting unemployment by a quarter		<input type="checkbox"/>
Cut crime and anti-social behaviour		<input type="checkbox"/>
Ensure more school leavers get a job, training or further education than any other City		<input type="checkbox"/>
Your neighbourhood as clean as the City Centre		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Help keep your energy bills down		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Good access to public transport		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham has a good mix of housing		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham is a good place to do business, invest and create jobs		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham offers a wide range of leisure activities, parks and sporting events		<input type="checkbox"/>
Support early intervention activities		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Deliver effective, value for money services to our citizens		<input type="checkbox"/>
Relevant Health and Wellbeing Strategy Priority:		
Healthy Nottingham: Preventing alcohol misuse		<input type="checkbox"/>
Integrated care: Supporting older people		<input type="checkbox"/>
Early Intervention: Improving Mental Health		<input type="checkbox"/>
Changing culture and systems: Priority Families		<input type="checkbox"/>
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recent national air pollution events have raised public awareness that air quality remains an important and relevant public health issue. Long term exposure to air pollution is harmful at levels well below current air quality targets. The scientific evidence for the health impacts of air pollution has developed substantially in recent years. For many aspects of air pollution there is now a high degree of certainty about the scale and likely mechanisms for adverse impacts. In Nottingham City the main threat to health from poor air quality arises from anthropogenic particulate air pollution, NO₂ and other gases. For the population of Nottingham City in 2010, the scale of impact on life expectancy was 		

equivalent to a loss of 1559 life-years.

- Air pollution disproportionately affects the health of the vulnerable and most deprived in society.
- A range of achievable actions have been identified which local authorities could take with their partners to improve air quality and health. These will be set out in a revision of the Air Quality Management Strategy.
- Collaboration on the Nottinghamshire Air Quality Management Strategy is coordinated by the Nottinghamshire Environmental Protection Working Group which comprises officers from Nottingham City Council and district councils, each of which has statutory duties related to air quality management.
- Review of the Air Quality Management Strategy will require the engagement of a wider range of officers and organisations. In this regard, the patronage and raised profile that the Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Health and Wellbeing Boards can provide would bring renewed focus to the collaborative working that is needed for the development of the Nottinghamshire Air Quality Improvement Strategy and for the realisation of improvements in public health.

Recommendation(s):

1	To note the public health significance of good air quality and that the adverse health impact on our residents of long term exposure to air pollution can be modified through realistic and practical steps.
2	To exercise patronage of the work of the Nottinghamshire Environmental Protection Working Group, to ensure that they are able to secure the engagement of all relevant parties to review the Nottinghamshire Air Quality Improvement Strategy.

1. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1. Air quality is a significant determinant of health. Mortality associated with air quality features in the Public Health Outcomes Framework.
- 1.2. The patronage of the Health and Wellbeing Board will reinforce the responsibility and accountability of the Council as a whole and add momentum to the work of local authorities represented by the Nottinghamshire Environmental Protection Working Group.

2. BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

Health Impacts of Air Pollution

- 2.1. The high air pollution event experienced across the UK in the spring of 2014 again raised public awareness that air quality remains an important and relevant public health issue.

- 2.2. In Nottingham City the main air quality hazard arises from anthropogenic fine particulate matter¹ (which are small enough to float in air and are inhaled deep into the lungs) and certain gases (including NO₂, SO₂, O₃ and some volatile compounds).
- 2.3. Much of this pollution comprises products of combustion or incomplete combustion (e.g. soot, benzene-based carcinogens) or friction (e.g. silica, heavy metals, rubber, bitumen). In urban areas, road transport is responsible for up to 70% of the harm associated with air pollution.
- 2.4. Evidence of the impacts of air quality on health has developed substantially over recent years. Since 2005 when current EU air pollution limits were set, the scientific understanding of the health effects of everyday air pollution has advanced with the publication of several thousand epidemiological, laboratory and toxicological studies. As a result, there is a high degree of certainty and precision about many of the population effects of even low levels of air pollution. For example:
- Studies confirm that there is no safe level of exposure to particulate air pollution. It is toxic well below current EU & UK limits (REVIHAAP, 2013)
 - Long term exposure to everyday air pollutants contributes to the development of cardiovascular disease, stroke, lung cancer, respiratory disease, and asthma
 - The lower the levels of air pollution, the better the cardiovascular and respiratory health of the population will be, both long- and short-term (WHO Factsheet on outdoor air pollution)
 - The impact of air quality on mortality is most closely associated with concentrations of ambient or background PM_{2.5}. (HRAPIE, WHO, 2013). Reductions in population exposure to air pollution yield appreciable benefit in terms of increased life expectancy (COMEAP, 2010). Every 10 µg/m³ decrease in long term exposure of PM_{2.5} there is associated with an increase in life expectancy of about 7 months (Pope et al, 2009)
 - Road transport is responsible for up to 70 per cent of air pollutants in urban areas (King's Fund, 2013). It is frequently the most deprived in society who experience the greatest impact, through occupying housing closest to main transport routes. Many studies have shown excess health risks in proximity to roads (REVIHAAP, 2013)
 - Improving air quality could have an enormous impact on health. The health impacts of air pollution are greater than the risks of passive smoking and transport accidents added together (Department of Health 2010).
- 2.5. Important conclusions to draw from this are that the health impacts of air pollution make it a significant public health problem (irrespective of whether local air quality targets are being met), and that there is good evidence for how air pollution causes or contributes to disease processes which lead to premature deaths. The burden of death and ill-health arising from this is experienced across the whole population, but

¹ Particulate matter are categorised according to their size in micrometres (thousandths of a millimetre). Roughly speaking, PM_{2.5} are approximately 2.5 micrometres in diameter. To put this in context, consider that the breadth of an average human hair is in the order of 100 micrometres.

it falls disproportionately on those living in environments close to main transport routes.

- 2.6. Public Health England has included an indicator in the Public Health Outcome Framework relating to air quality. The indicator is a summary measure of the impact on death rates of long term exposure to man-made particulate air pollution. It can be expressed in different ways, which are described in detail in Appendix 1. The indicator underlines the scale of the health impact and the fact that it is modifiable.
- 2.7. Appendix 2 provides a map illustrating current levels of PM_{2.5} across Nottinghamshire.

The role of Local Authorities

- 2.8. Unitary and lower tier local authorities have a statutory responsibility to improve air quality and have spent the last 15 years developing, implementing and revising air quality strategies and air quality action plans to reduce air pollution from these, generally, invisible pollutants.
- 2.9. Local authorities have introduced a range of transport initiatives and improved travel choices in order to increase sustainability, reduce congestion, and reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and other pollution. However, despite these actions, there are areas where the Air Quality Objectives are still exceeded, and computer modelling predicts they will continue to be exceeded, indicating the need for more radical measures in addition to those already, or in the process of being, implemented.
- 2.10. Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council have renewed responsibility for public health following the government's 2012 health and social care reforms and the creation of local Health and Wellbeing Boards to establish and promote health priorities.
- 2.11. Appendix 3 identifies Local Air Quality Management objectives, and provides maps of the Local Air Quality Management Areas in Nottinghamshire County and Nottingham City.

Joint Action on Air Pollution

- 2.12. Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire's district and borough councils are working together, and with other partners, to reduce emissions to improve air quality.
- 2.13. However, unlike the measures introduced in the Clean Air Acts, which effectively controlled visible smoke and sulphur dioxide from domestic and commercial boiler plant, and were successfully regulated by Local Authorities alone, the actions needed to reduce emissions to achieve the air quality objectives and improve air quality beyond these require a concerted effort by all partners and stakeholders.
- 2.14. There are a range of evidence based and achievable actions which improve air quality and health outcomes (e.g. The Kings Fund, 2013). Action can be taken at a number of levels and, in some cases, overlaps significantly with those to increase

physical activity, decrease obesity and improve cardiovascular and respiratory health. For example:

- Nearly 80 per cent of car trips under five miles could be replaced by walking, cycling or using public transport (Cabinet Office Strategy Unit 2009).
- Promote active travel among local authority staff, and work with major local employers across all sectors to do the same (King's Fund, 2013).
- Improve street environments to prioritise place over cars by increasing perceptions of safety, quality of life and 'walkability' (King's Fund, 2013).
- Inform susceptible individuals (the elderly, those with existing heart disease and respiratory disease) of the risks of air pollution, how to take avoiding action and how to use air pollution forecasts (American Heart Association)
- Organise 'eco-driving' training for taxi-drivers to encourage more fuel-efficient driving, and reduce idling at taxi ranks (Kilbane-Dawe, 2012)
- Replace boilers with the least polluting models (Kilbane-Dawe, 2012)
- Ensure that new buildings are air quality neutral (Kilbane-Dawe, 2012)
- Make full use of local authority powers to regulate types of traffic and traffic flows to ensure that they are fully contributing to public health strategies and goals (King's Fund, 2013).

2.15. Prioritising action in this way delivers benefits across the agendas of local authorities and clinical commissioners, and to the following Public Health and NHS Outcome indicators.

Indicator (Framework)	Description
1.10 (PHOF)	Rate of people killed and seriously injured on the roads, all ages, per 100,000 resident population
1.16 (PHOF)	Percentage of people using outdoor space for exercise/health reasons
2.06i (PHOF)	Percentage of children aged 4-5 classified as overweight or obese
2.06ii(PHOF)	Percentage of children aged 10-11 classified as overweight or obese
2.12 (PHOF)	Percentage of adults classified as overweight or obese
2.13i (PHOF)	Percentage of adults achieving at least 150 minutes of physical activity per week in accordance with UK CMO recommended guidelines on physical activity
3.01 (PHOF)	Fraction of all-cause adult mortality attributable to long-term exposure to current levels of anthropogenic particulate air pollution
3.06 (PHOF)	Percentage of NHS organisations with a board approved sustainable development management plan
4.04i (PHOF)	Age-standardised rate of mortality from all cardiovascular diseases (including heart disease and stroke) in persons less than 75 years of age per 100,000 population

4.07i (PHOF)	Age-standardised rate of mortality from respiratory disease in persons less than 75 years per 100,000 population
2.3i and 2.3ii (NHS OF)	Reducing time spent in hospital by people with long-term conditions i Unplanned hospitalisation for chronic ambulatory care sensitive conditions (adults) ii Unplanned hospitalisation for asthma, diabetes and epilepsy in under 19s

- 2.16. Action on air quality is required at multiple levels including at district, city and county level, and will build on work which is already taking place. Local authorities work with developers and planners to ensure developments within their area consider air quality and incorporate design features, mitigation or alternative provision to reduce or minimise emissions that may affect air quality or climate change.
- 2.17. Nottinghamshire County Council, as the highway authority for most of Nottinghamshire's road network outside the Nottingham City boundary, has identified and is implementing a range of measures to reduce emissions from road transport throughout Nottinghamshire. These are reported in the Local Transport Plan that is produced jointly with Nottingham City Council. An excerpt of the range of activity underway is provided in Appendix 4 for Nottinghamshire County and Nottingham City.
- 2.18. It must be noted however, that the measures detailed in the Local Transport Plans will not be sufficient on their own to solve the air pollution/air quality challenge faced in Nottingham City.
- 2.19. Although regulatory activity does control polluting emissions, the collective benefits of small changes in the actions, life and travel choices of individuals will also have a significant impact on air pollution and on the health of those individuals.

The role of the Health and Wellbeing Board

- 2.20. Prioritising action on air quality would significantly improve the public health outcomes of people in Nottingham City. This requires effective joint working across Nottingham City Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and all District Councils in Nottinghamshire. Departments including environmental health, transport, housing, planning, and public health all have a role to play.
- 2.21. The Nottinghamshire Environmental Protection Working Group (NEPWG) is about to review the local Air Quality Improvement Strategy. The membership of NEPWG includes representatives from Nottingham City Council, Ashfield District Council, Bassetlaw District Council, Broxtowe Borough Council, Gedling Borough Council, Mansfield District Council, Newark and Sherwood District Council, Rushcliffe Borough Council. The NEPWG are seeking engagement from partners including

public health, transport and planning, at district, county and city levels. This joint approach is critical to the long term success of the strategy and its implementation. A JSNA chapter on Air Quality is being developed which will support the review of the Air Quality Improvement Strategy.

- 2.22. The Health and Wellbeing Boards in both local authority areas are requested to exercise patronage of the work of the NEPWG. This includes raising the profile of the health impacts of air quality, and securing partner engagement to the review of the Nottinghamshire Air Quality Improvement Strategy.

3. **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

Paper is for information, financial implications not identified at this stage.

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

No risk management issues identified.

6. **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

Has the equality impact been assessed?

Not needed (report does not contain proposals or financial decisions) **X**

No

Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached

Due regard should be given to the equality implications identified in the EIA.

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

8. **PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT**

Buck, D. and Gregory, S. *Improving the public's health: A resource for local authorities*, The King's Fund 2013

Review of Evidence of the Health Aspects of Air Pollution (REVIHAAP) - Technical Report, World Health Organisation Office for Europe, 2013

Air Quality - Environmental Audit Committee Memorandum, Department of Health, 2010, Available at <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200910/cmselect/cmenvaud/229/229we28.htm>, accessed 02.05.2014

The Mortality Effects of Long-Term Exposure to Particulate Air Pollution in the United Kingdom, Committee on the Medical Effects of Air Pollutants (COMEAP)

C. Arden Pope III, Ph.D., Majid Ezzati, Ph.D., and Douglas W. Dockery, Sc.D. *Fine-Particulate Air Pollution and Life Expectancy in the United States*, New England Journal of Medicine, 2009;360:376-86.

Henschel, S. and Chan, G. *Health risks of air pollution in Europe (HRAPIE): New emerging risks to health from air pollution – results from the survey of experts*. WHO Regional Office for Europe, 2013.

Brook, R.D. et al. *Particulate Matter Air Pollution and Cardiovascular Disease : An Update to the Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association*, Journal of the American Heart Association, Circulation 2010, 121:2331-2378.

Gowers, A.M. et al. Estimating Local Mortality Burdens associated with Particulate Air Pollution, Public Health England, 2014

Kilbane-Dawe, I. *14 Cost Effective Actions to Cut Central London Air Pollution*, Par Hill Research Ltd. Science, Environment and Policy Research. Available at http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/pdf/air_quality_cost_effective_actions_full_report.pdf, accessed 02.05.2014

Cabinet Office Strategy Unit, *An Analysis of Urban Transport*. 2009. Available at <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/media/308292/urbantransportanalysis.pdf>, accessed 02.05.2014

APPENDIX 1: Public Health Outcome Indicator 3.01 – explanation and derivation

Public Health England has included an indicator in the Public Health Outcome Framework which is the “Fraction of mortality attributable to particulate air pollution”. It is a measure which relates to the impact of air pollution on death rates. In the Public Health Outcomes Framework it is expressed as the percentage of all adult deaths which scientific data indicate are attributable to long term exposure to man-made particulate air pollution. By this measure, in Nottingham City, air pollution is responsible for 150 of all adult deaths.

Another way of framing this evidence is to say that long term exposure to air pollution is responsible for 150 deaths in Nottingham City. This is helpful for alerting people to the general scale of the problem, but obscures the fact the harmful effect of air pollution is actually experienced more widely than this.

A further approach, still based on the same evidence, is to say that long term exposure to air pollution in Nottingham City is responsible for the loss of 1559 life-years each year across the population. Framing the scale of impact in this way underpins the point that the burden of air pollution is experienced across the whole population (not just 150 individuals), i.e. there are many residents whose lives are shortened through long term exposure to air pollution.

Derivation

Recent research suggests that the effect of long-term exposure to air pollution on mortality is most closely associated with current background levels of particulate pollution (PM_{2.5}).

Public Health England, in their report “Estimating local mortality burdens associated with particulate air pollution”² sets out the estimation of the impact of man-made particulate air pollution (PM_{2.5}) on death rates and life-years lost, for local authorities across the UK.

Attributable Fraction

Definition: the proportion of deaths estimated as due to long-term exposure to anthropogenic particulate air pollution.

Using research on the increased risk of mortality due to particulate air pollution, and the estimated background concentrations of man-made PM_{2.5} in local areas, this measure gives the percentage of all deaths for that area that are attributable to long-term exposure to current levels of man-made particulate air pollution.

Attributable deaths

Definition: long-term exposure to anthropogenic particulate air pollution is estimated to have an effect on mortality risks equivalent to the number of attributable deaths.

We can quantify the impact of air pollution by considering the number of deaths that would occur in an area if air pollution were the sole cause of death. Measured in this way, the impact on death rates is equivalent to 150 deaths in Nottingham City and 430 deaths in Nottinghamshire County in 2010.

In reality, air pollution is likely to be a contributory factor to the deaths of a larger number of individuals exposed to the pollution over the long term, rather than being solely responsible for a death.

Associated life-years lost

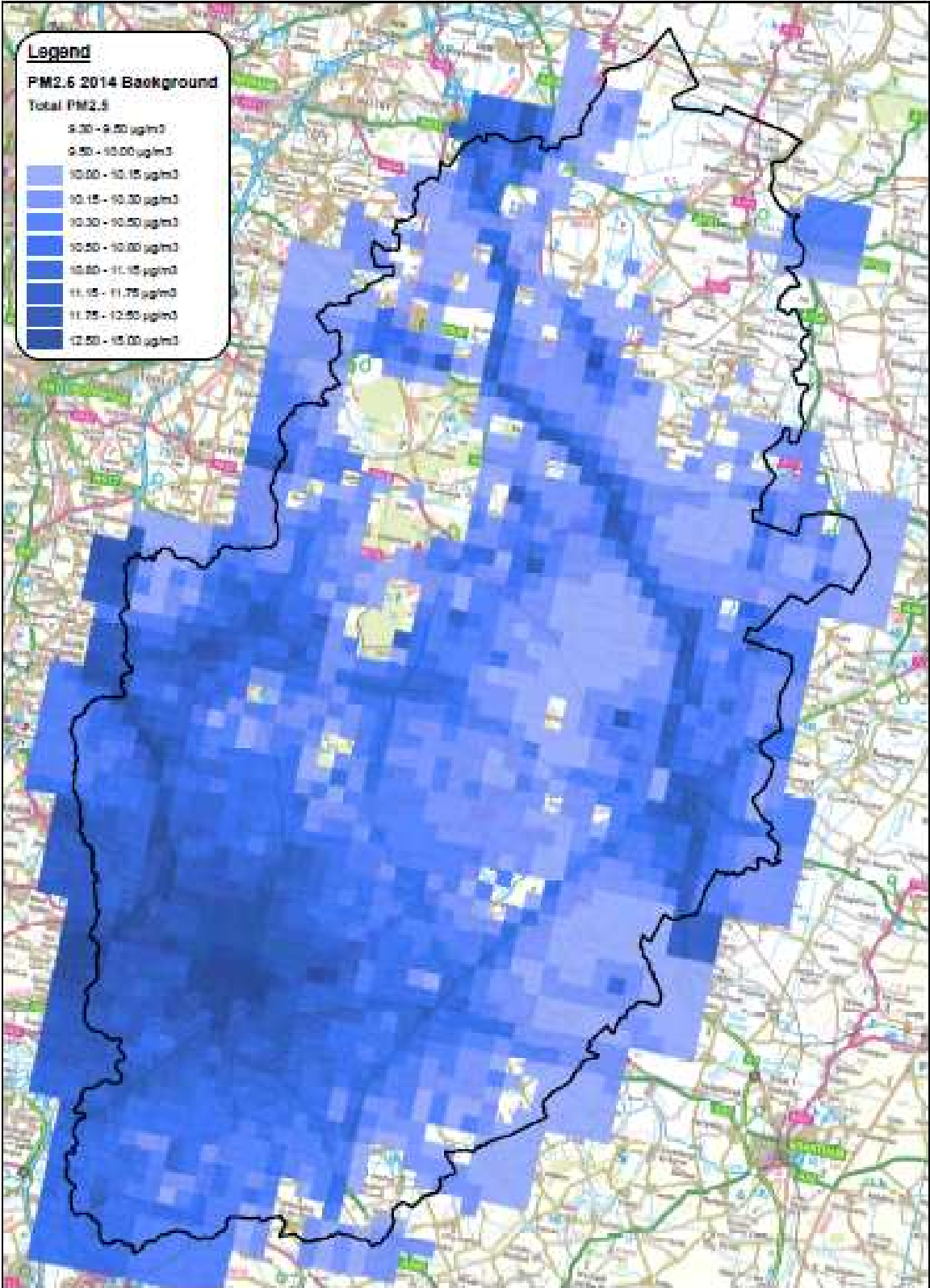
² <http://www.hpa.org.uk/Publications/Environment/PHECRCEReportSeries/PHECRCE010/>

Definition: the years of life lost to the population due to increased mortality risk attributable to long term exposure to particulate air pollution.

Another way to quantify the impact is in terms of the total number of years of life that are lost across the local population each year through people dying early due to air pollution.

This measure gives an estimate of how many more years of life would have been lived by the population if air pollution had not been present. For Nottinghamshire County there were an estimated 4,270 life years lost and for Nottingham City, an estimated 1,559 life years lost in 2010.

APPENDIX 2: 2014 PM_{2.5} Background Concentrations above the WHO limit value, Nottinghamshire County & Nottingham City.



2014 PM_{2.5} Background Concentrations above WHO limit value (scaled from 10µg/m³ to 15µg/m³)

Scale 1:200,000

APPENDIX 3: Local Air Quality Management

The Environment Act 1995 Part IV introduced the requirement for a National Air Quality Strategy (NAQS) and the concept of Local Air Quality Management (LAQM). The Strategy has to include statements on “standards relating to the quality of air” and “objectives for the restriction of the levels at which particular substances are present in the air”.

Section 82 of the Environment Act 1995 requires Local Authorities (District Councils and Unitary Authorities, but not County Councils) to review the air quality in their area and assess whether prescribed Air Quality Objectives (AQOs) will be achieved by the specified attainment dates for each pollutant of concern. The objectives are stated in the NAQS and enacted through the Air Quality (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended).

Excerpt from the National Air Quality Objectives detailing the common pollutants

Pollutant	Applies to	Objective	Concentration measured as	Date to be achieved by and maintained thereafter
Nitrogen dioxide	UK	200 µg/m ³ not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	1 hour mean	31 December 2005
	UK	40 µg/m ³	annual mean	31 December 2005
PM₁₀	UK	50 µg/m ³ not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	24 hour mean	31 December 2004
	UK	40 µg/m ³	annual mean	31st December 2004
PM_{2.5}	UK (except Scotland)	25 µg/m ³ (target)	annual mean	2020
	Scotland	12 µg/m ³ (limit)	annual mean	2020
Sulphur dioxide	UK	125 µg/m ³ not to be exceeded more than 3 times a year	24 hr mean	31 December 2004
	UK	350 µg/m ³ not to be exceeded more than 24 times a year	1 hr mean	31 December 2004
	UK	266 µg/m ³ not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	15 min mean	31 December 2005

The 2000 Regulations provide that ‘achievement or likely achievement of the Air Quality Objectives is to be determined by reference to the quality of the air at locations which are situated outside of buildings... .. and where members of the public are regularly present.’

The Strategy requires that ‘... Local Authorities should have regard to those locations where members of the public are likely to be regularly present and are likely to be exposed over the averaging period of the objective.’

Examples of where the Air Quality Objectives should/should not apply.

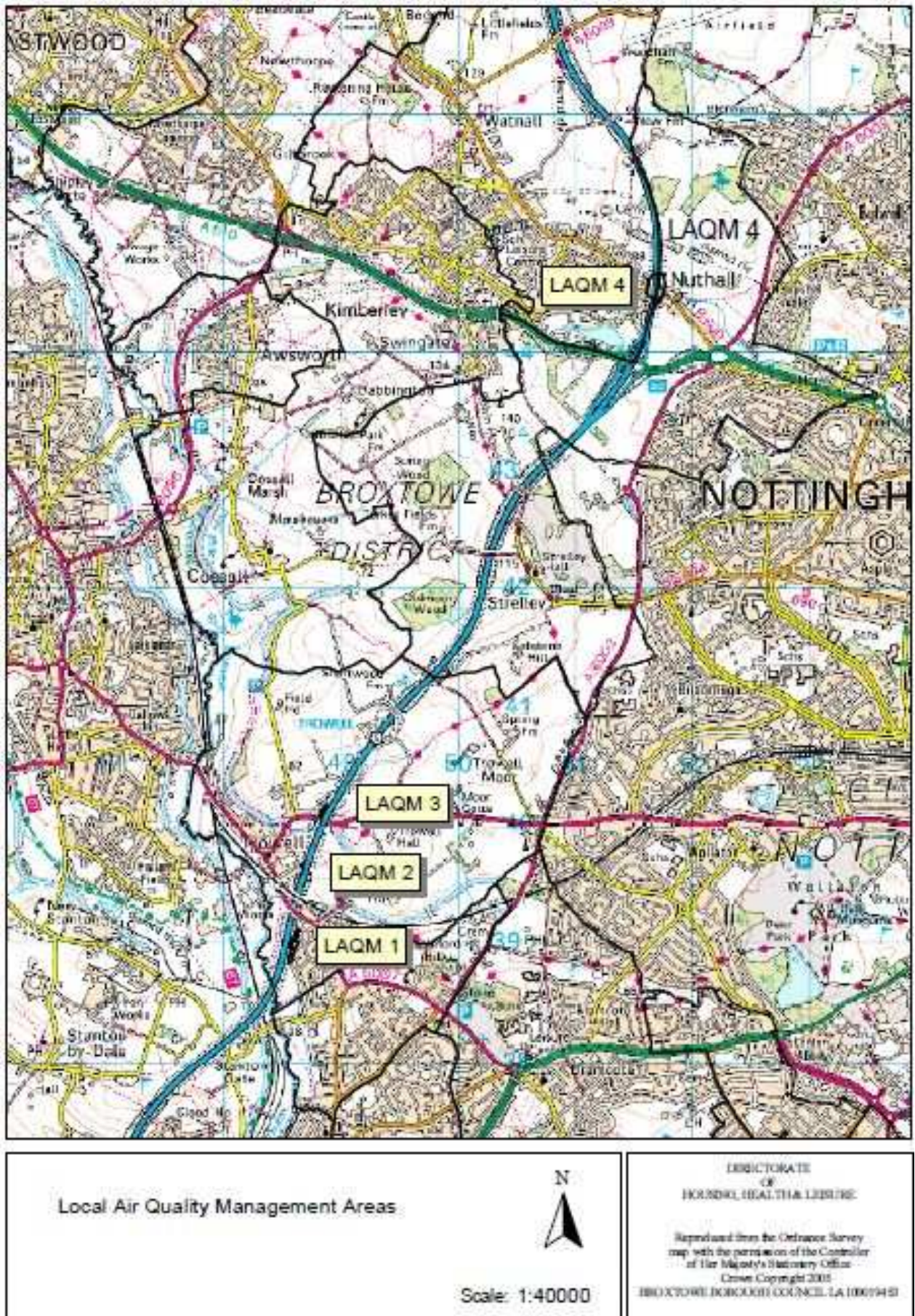
<i>Averaging Period</i>	<i>Objectives should apply at</i>	<i>Objectives should generally not apply at</i>
Annual mean	All locations where members of the public might be regularly exposed. Facades of residential properties, schools, hospitals, libraries	Building facades of offices or other places of work. Gardens of residential properties. Kerbside sites or locations where public exposure is likely to be short term.
24-hour mean, 8-hour mean	All locations where the annual mean objective would apply. Gardens of residential properties.	Kerbside sites or any other location where public exposure is expected to be short term.
1-hour mean	All locations where the annual mean and 24 and 8-hour mean objectives apply. Kerbside sites (e.g. pavements of busy shopping streets). Those parts of car parks, bus stations and railway stations etc. which are not fully enclosed, where the public might reasonably be expected to spend 1-hour or more. Any outdoor locations to which the public might reasonably be expected to spend 1-hour or longer.	Kerbside sites where the public would not be expected to have regular access.
15-mean	All locations where members of the public might reasonably be exposed for a period of 15 minutes or longer	

Air Quality Management Areas

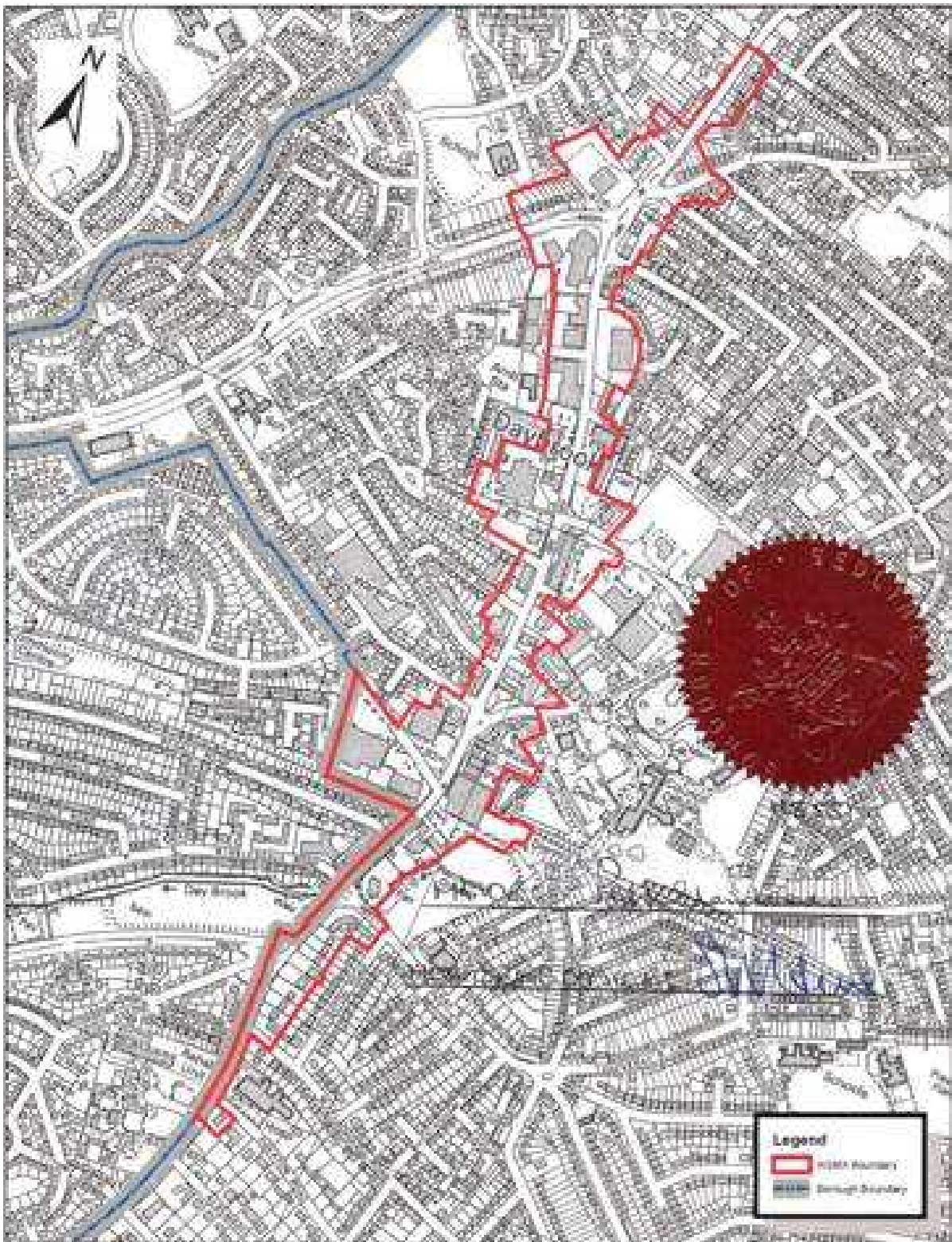
Where it is determined that an Air Quality Objective will not be achieved by the specified date (or where after the given date an AQO is not being achieved), Section 83 of the Environment Act 1995 requires Local Authorities to designate Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) by order and; to formulate and publish corresponding Air Quality Action Plans (AQAPs).

There are currently 10 designated Air Quality Management Areas in Nottinghamshire. All the areas arise due to nitrogen dioxide from road traffic and thus occur at the City and County's major roads and junctions.

Broxtowe Borough Council Air Quality Management Areas



Gedling Borough Council Air Quality Management Areas



P. Bagley BA(Hons), M.C.S., M.B.U.S.
 Head of Planning and Environment
 Civic Centre, Wood Hill Park, Aylestone
 Nottingham NG4 6LL

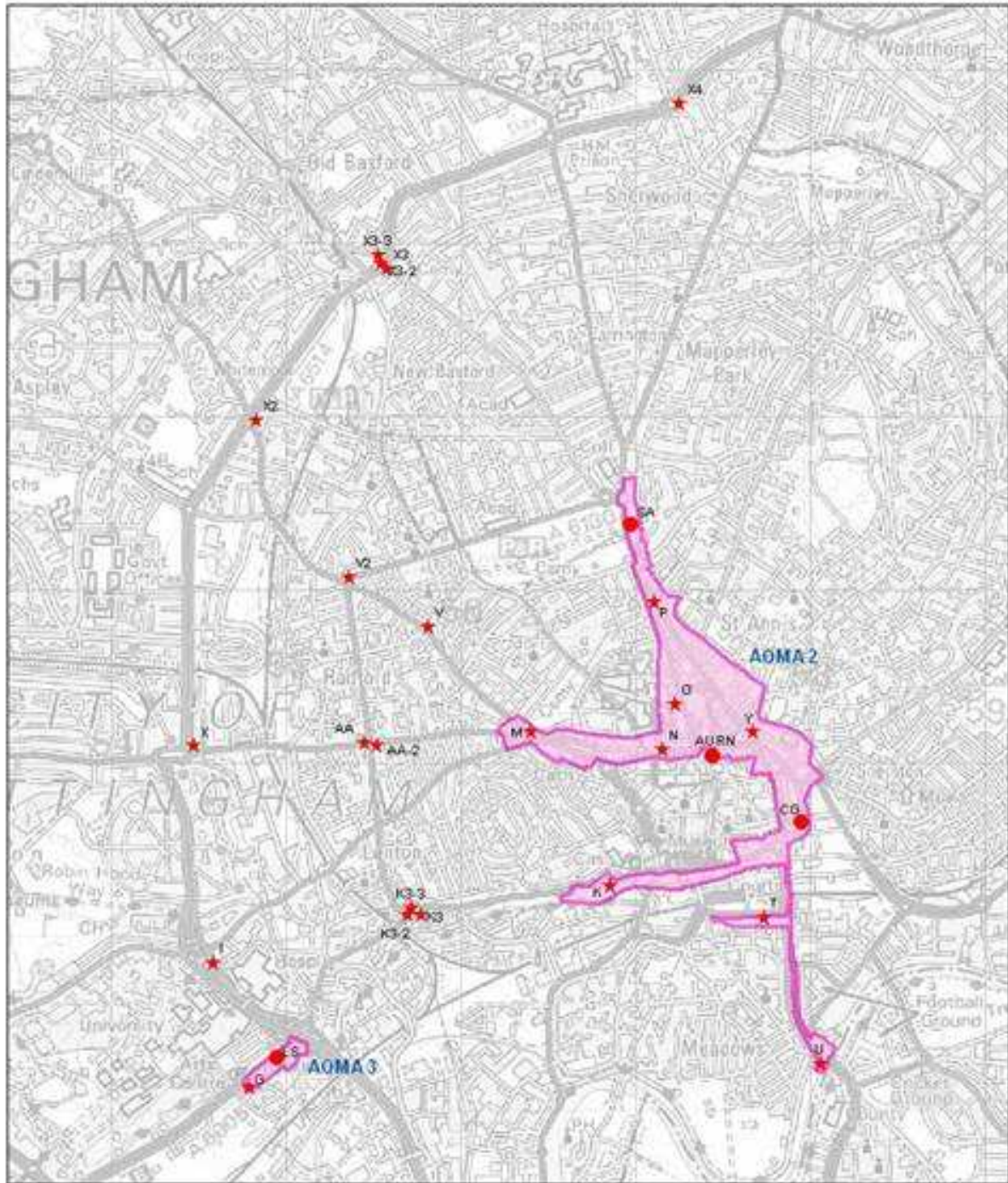
Map referred to in the
 Gedling No. 2 Air Quality Management Order 2011
 (Nitrogen Dioxide)

Date April 2011
 Scale 1:7,500

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Nottingham City Council Air Quality Management Areas

Air Quality Management Areas and monitoring sites 2011



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0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Kilometers

- CONTINUOUS MONITORING
- ★ DIFFUSION TUBE
- AQMA2
- AQMA3

 Environmental Health Noise & Pollution Control Team		Scale = 1:30,000
		Drawn: GES Date: 13/6/2012

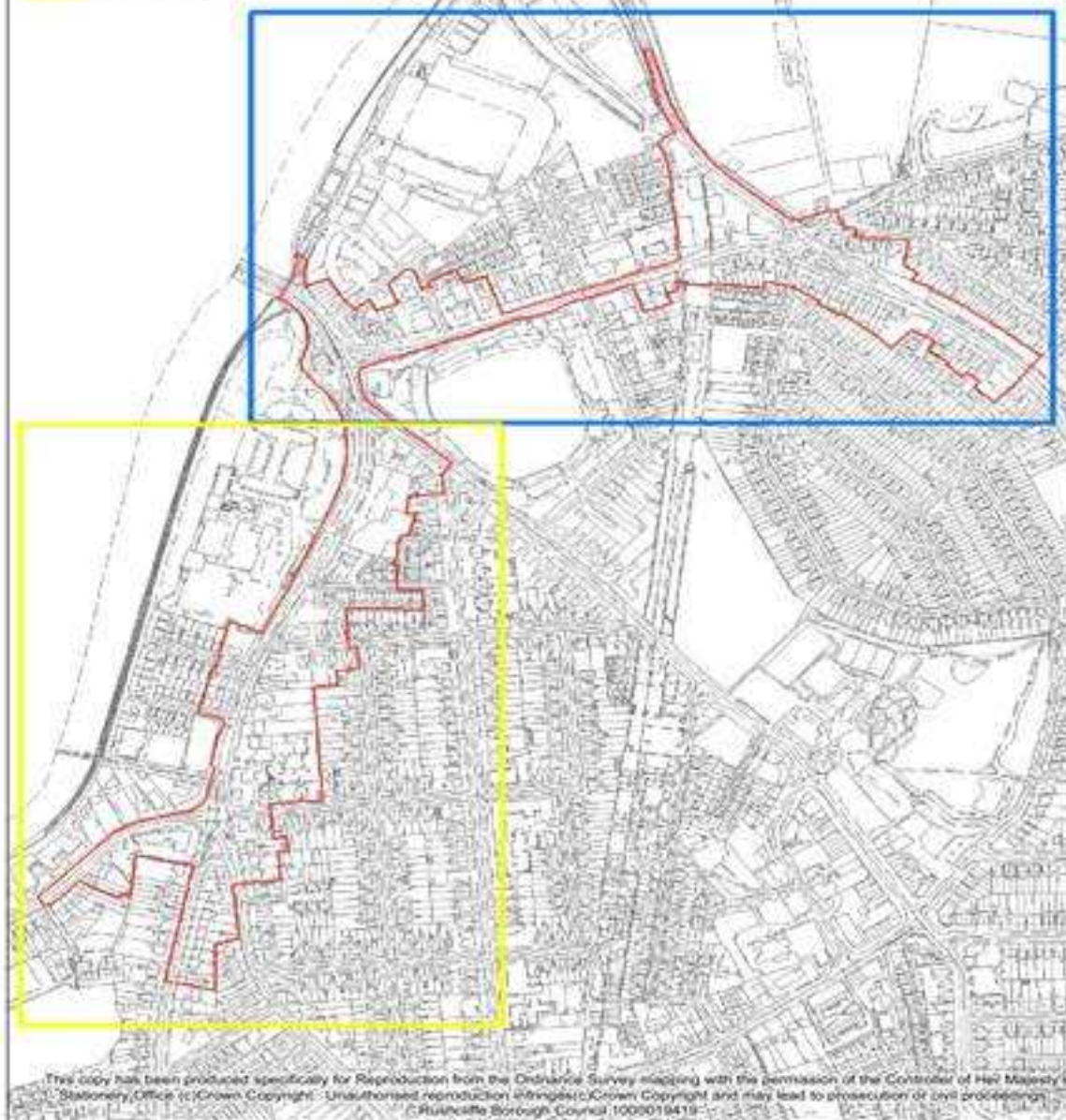
Rushcliffe Borough Council Air Quality Management Areas (less Stragglethorpe jcntr)

Map Reference AQMA 1

Air Quality Management Area 1



-  AQMA boundary
-  Subsection A
-  Subsection B



Air Quality Action Plans

Throughout the LAQM Review and Assessment process, local road traffic has been identified as the major source of the measured/predicted exceedences of the nitrogen dioxide annual mean AQO.

Consequently the Air Quality Action Plans (AQAP) have been incorporated into the Local Transport Plan (LTP). The aim of AQAP is to improve air quality and reduce areas of exceedence. It contains a description of measures to be taken and dates by which it is hoped they will be achieved.

The AQAP relating to the current AQMAs were produced in June 2010 and are part of the current LTP – ‘Nottingham City Council’s Local Transport Plan 3: 2011 – 2026 Strategy’ (LTP 3).

Nottingham City Council’s Local Transport Plan can be found at the following web address which also has links to associated documents and pages:

www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/transportstrategies

Nottinghamshire County Council’s Local Transport Plan can be found at the following web address which also has links to associated documents and pages

<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/travelling/travel/plansstrategiesandtenders/local-transport-plan/ltp3/>

Air Quality Strategy

Whilst only four local authorities have declared Air Quality Management Areas, local authorities are keen to ensure that they work together in a co-ordinated manner to manage and, where possible, improve local air quality. Furthermore, government guidance recommends all local authorities whether or not they have any AQMAs within their area, to devise local air quality strategies to improve air quality and minimise the effects of global warming and climate change.

With this in mind the emission inventory and results of a survey undertaken across Nottinghamshire of attitudes and what people and businesses might be prepared to do to improve air quality were used to help establish an air quality framework agreed by all the local authorities and partner organisations (the Environment Agency, the Health Protection Agency and Primary Care Trusts) in Nottinghamshire to ensure effective consultation and co-operation.

Recent developments in the evidence and other technological advances, together with recent organisational changes to the former HPA and PCTs, mean that the strategy now requires revision. The current Nottinghamshire’s Air Quality Improvement Strategy ‘A breath of fresh air’ may be found in the download section at:-

<http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/article/23015/Air-Quality>

APPENDIX 4: Current Activities to address Air Quality, Incorporated into the Local Transport Plan

Nottingham City: Current sustainable transport activities to improve Air Quality by supporting modal shift to sustainable alternatives:

At a strategic level:

- Development of an integrated public transport network through the delivery of NET Phase 2 providing Lines 2 and 3 of the tram with associated park and ride due to open in late 2014 along the the south and south-west corridors of the conurbation serving key destinations including NUHT QMC campus, University of Nottingham and NG2 Business Park.
- Implementation of the UK's first Workplace Parking Levy for businesses with 11 or more parking spaces which encourages businesses and commuters to adopt more sustainable travel options.
- Delivery of £15million Local Sustainable Transport Fund programme across the Nottingham urban area

The Nottingham urban area Local Sustainable Transport Fund programme 2011/12 – 2014/15 comprises 4 areas of activity:

A: Smartcard development and integrated ticketing: Establishment of a smartcard retail network across the conurbation is on track for completion in 2014 including a network of onstreet ticket vending machines located at NET stops, city centre bus stops, local centres and key locations across the conurbation along with a network of Payzone outlets at 175 shops and improved Kangaroo website. Also providing funding for half price travel deal for job seekers and access to college.

B: Community Smarter Travel Hubs and liveable neighbourhoods: Community Smarter Travel Hubs offer new way of engaging with local people, community groups and businesses to promote travel options. A network of five Community Smarter Travel Hubs has been established with dedicated Travel Coordinators to directly engage with communities to respond to barriers to travel and providing advice on smarter choices, e.g. how to save money on travel, save time, get healthy, learn new skills including volunteering opportunities and gain employment. This project is a joint venture with Nottingham City Public Health part funding the Travel Coordinator posts. A programme of 20mph limits is being implemented across the City to create a network of low speed residential roads more conducive to walking and cycling along with safer routes to school schemes;

C: Creating a low carbon transport network including WorkSmart sustainable travel business support programme through the GNTP Business Club services: EcoStars accreditation scheme (see below); investment in electric local ink buses (see below); cycle infrastructure development; Citycard Cycle Club (see below); and City Car Club (launched this month);

D: Active Travel Partnerships to deliver a community-wide walking and cycling programme to encourage uptake of walking and cycling - see below.

Specific transport projects which are directly improving air quality:

- Roll out of EcoStars programme with employers in the Nottingham urban area to promote eco-driving and greener fleets, has supported over 50 organisations (LSTF funding)

- Electric link bus network – 8 currently in service, a further 20 buses to be launched in June 2014. By end of 2015 will have 56 EVs in the locallink fleet = largest electric bus fleet in Europe (LSTF, LTP, and Green Bus Funding)
- Kick-starting investment in EV infrastructure by providing a network of EV charging points at park and ride sites and rail station and working with the Plugged in Midlands partnership to encourage employers to install EV charging points at their worksites – (LTP and Plugged in Midlands funding)

Examples of Local Sustainable Transport Fund initiatives to increase active travel

- Established a network of Citycard Cycle and Cycle Hubs: 12 Citycard cycle hubs have been introduced at all Park and Ride sites, bus and rail stations and key points across the city centre. Citycard holders can access these secure own bike parking facilities for free using their Citycard. The Citycard Cycle Hire scheme provides 400 hire bikes and docking stations providing to promote sustainable travel for residents, commuters and tourists. Improvements to the hire scheme using mobile phone bookings are now being rolled out.
- Community-wide cycling programme to encourage uptake of cycling by providing a programme of events, support, advice and training through Smarter Travel Hubs, schools, colleges, universities workplaces including:
 - free one to one and group cycle training;
 - a programme of community rides;
 - regular Cycle Centres providing a range of cycle services in communities;
 - high profile annual active travel events calendar (attended by over 12,000 people in 2013) including Light Night, Cycle Live, Milk race and European Mobility Week;
 - Bikeability, Lifecycle and active travel programmes in primary and secondary schools; and
 - continuation of the Ucycle programme in universities and FE colleges.

Future activities – include delivery of Cycle City Ambition Plan including package of infrastructure improvements to deliver a transformational change in the way citizens are able to travel around the City by bike comprising:

- North – south and east - west cross city cycle corridors
- A network of cross city centre cycle routes
- Investment in off road routes through parks and green spaces including River Leen corridor
- Investment in our neighbourhood cycle facilities

(This is subject to capital funding bid through the D2N2 Strategic Economic Plan)

A bid for £1.180 million has also been submitted to the Department for Transport for continuation of Local Sustainable Transport Fund activities working with communities and the business sector with a focus on access to employment for 2015/16 complemented by a £1million bid for capital funding for small-scale sustainable travel infrastructure through the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership. The outcome of these funding bids is expected in July 2014.

1. Background

The County Council Highways division undertakes a variety of programmes that encourage more healthy, active travel including an annual programme of 'smarter choices' activities as well as infrastructure improvements. These programmes aim to reduce congestion by encouraging people to travel sustainably through:

- Promotion of active and sustainable travel (e.g. production of cycling leaflets and acting as a signpost to local, regional and national walking and cycling travel planning websites)
- Travel planning (e.g. residential travel plans as part of new developments, workplace and school travel plans)
- Grants for small scale capital projects for businesses that develop voluntary travel plans
- Development control (e.g. working with planning authorities to minimise the impacts of development and ensure that walking and cycling facilities are provided)
- Infrastructure improvements to improve access to local services on foot and bicycle (e.g. crossing facilities, footway improvements, cycle routes and safety improvements to encourage walking and cycling such as 20mph speed limits outside schools).

In addition to the above, in 2013/14 the County Council also set up two enhanced pilot programmes aimed at reducing congestion through encouraging more walking, cycling (and bus use) which are detailed below.

2. Enhanced targeted travel planning

A programme of County Council funded personalised and workplace travel planning was undertaken during 2013/14. The objective of the travel planning was to reduce car use for short, local, journeys (up to five miles) by promoting awareness of sustainable travel options, such as walking, cycling and passenger transport. The travel planning was undertaken in the Mansfield, Sutton in Ashfield and Worksop areas. These locations were selected due to the fact that they have:

- High levels of people travelling short distances to work by car
- Congestion hotspots on the local road network
- Higher than average levels of obesity and poor health
- High frequency bus services
- Existing good pedestrian access to local services/workplaces
- Existing under-used cycle facilities.

2.1 Workplace travel planning

Workplace travel planning was undertaken at ten business parks (encompassing over 200 businesses) in the Mansfield and Worksop areas. The project included meetings with management to ensure corporate 'buy-in' and established travel planning forums/clubs on each of the business parks to help ensure the work is sustained beyond the life of the initial project. Information on walking, cycling and bus facilities was provided to all staff; followed by travel clinics at each business park delivering individually tailored travel advice, cycle maintenance sessions, the offer of training, and incentives such as subsidised bus tickets.

Walking, cycling and bus infrastructure improvements on routes to the business parks have been identified and, where possible, will be delivered during 2014/15 to encourage sustainable journeys.

Existing travel habits have been surveyed and post-project surveys will be undertaken later in 2014 which will be used to evaluate the success of the project.

2.2 Personalised travel planning

Personalised travel planning was undertaken with approximately 12,000 households in the Mansfield Woodhouse, Sutton in Ashfield and Worksop areas (approximately 5,000 in Mansfield Woodhouse; 3,000 in Sutton in Ashfield; and 4,000 in Worksop). The project included introductory written information on the programme to all the households followed shortly by a visit from a travel advisor to discuss existing travel habits, the different travel options available (and their benefits) and to discuss what travel information on these options the household may like to receive. A tailored travel information pack with the requested details, along with travel incentives such as subsidised bus tickets, was then provided to each household.

A full evaluation of the project was undertaken with participants including travel behaviour surveys before and after the programme was undertaken. Whilst the data is still being analysed the results show that the personalised travel planning was very successful in reducing single occupancy car trips on both work and shopping trips.

Amongst those who participated:

- Single occupancy car journeys to work decreased by 18% (from 68% to 50% of all trips).
- Walking journeys to work increased by 2% (from 11% to 13% of all trips)
- Cycling journeys to work increased by 3% (from 2% to 5% of all trips)
- Bus journeys to work increased by 7% (from 6% to 13% of all trips)
- Train journeys to work increased by 1% (from 1% to 2% of all trips)
- Car sharing journeys to work increased by 6% (from 7% to 13% of all trips)

At a more local level:

- In Mansfield Woodhouse walking journeys to work increased by 3% but cycling journeys to work decreased by 1%
- In Sutton in Ashfield walking journeys to work increased by 2% and cycling journeys to work increased by 5%
- In Worksop walking journeys to work increased by 4% and cycling journeys to work increased by 7%.

2.3 Future programmes

Given the success of the programmes in reducing single occupancy car use it is planned to undertake personalised travel planning in the Gedling area (locations to be determined) during the 2014/15 financial year. This is to complement the work being undertaken to address the Air Quality Management Area along the A60 in Daybrook.

A Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) bid has also been made to extend the personalised and workplace travel planning undertaken in Mansfield and Worksop to a further 40,000 households and approximately 29,000 employees. A decision on the bid will be made in July 2014 and if the bid is successful the programme would be delivered in 2015/16.

3. Smarter travel co-ordinators

In 2012 the County Council submitted a successful joint Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) bid with Nottingham City Council for the Greater Nottingham area. The LSTF bid aims to improve the local economy whilst reducing carbon emissions (e.g. by reducing congestion and improving access to work by increasing the numbers of journeys made on foot, cycle and bus).

The County Council has facilitated the employment of smarter travel co-ordinators in the Broxtowe and Gedling districts to support the Greater Nottingham LSTF activities by working with local communities to encourage more walking and cycling, particularly on work journeys. The co-ordinators brief includes the development and management of an annual programme of events and interventions, marketing campaigns, and developing a network of local volunteer smarter travel champions to help ensure the project is sustained in the longer term.

The two posts are being funded from local developer contributions secured through the planning process. The Broxtowe co-ordinator is provisionally contracted for one year (with the possibility of extending it to March 2015 if Broxtowe Borough Council can secure additional funding), whilst the Gedling co-ordinator is contracted up to the end of March 2015.

END OF APPENDICES