

MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 25 NOVEMBER 2020

ADDITIONAL PAPERS

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Officer Response to Task and Finish Group Recommendations

To assist with Community Scrutiny Committee discussions, Officer's and our specialist air quality consultant Clare Beattie have provided advice, guidance and their expert opinion in relation to the recommendations from the Community Scrutiny task & finish group in **Table 1** below.

A summary of the AQC report written by Clare Beattie was presented by Clare Beattie at the first task and finish group in the form of a PowerPoint presentation. The full report is presented to Community Scrutiny in appendix 1 of the main papers to ensure members are furnished with the detailed information. Officers procured this external resource to provide capacity for the team and the cost of the report was £2,360.00.

Officers appreciate that Community Scrutiny will wish to debate and formulate their own recommendations to Cabinet on 8 December 2020. However, Officers felt that their advice and guidance would assist with a focus for these discussions.

Table 1

Recommendation		Officer Response
1	Produces a supplementary planning document to clarify the processes for Air Quality Management	Agree. Suggest an initial action of a workshop for development control planners ahead of the SPD to increase knowledge of air quality issues within planning.
2	Undertakes a review of Local Plan to include improved Air Quality standards	Agree, within timescales of Local Plan revision
3	Responds to DEFRA consultations on Air Quality	Agree.
4	<p>Undertakes a strategic and costed plan, ensuring all the District's monitoring meets the DEFRA guidelines and that the district is screened for poor air quality and not just existing sites. The monitoring of Air Quality is to be to a standard consistent with the Institute of Air Quality Management focusing on areas considered to be at risk from modelling evidence or as a response to community concern including:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The re-instatement of the chemiluminescent instrument at the Broom Leys junction, Coalville to monitor NO₂. If that is now unavailable, install a Zephyr NO₂ sensor; • The installation of a Zephyr PM_{2.5} sensor at the Bardon Road, Birch Tree roundabout, Coalville • The installation of a Zephyr NO₂ or PM_{2.5} sensor at the Tesco A511 Roundabout, Ashby de la Zouch • The installation of a Zephyr NO₂ sensor in High Street, Castle Donington 	<p>Agree that monitoring should meet Defra guidelines and that a strategic view should be taken on monitoring. To note that the whole district is screened for statutory pollutants, and for any non-statutory work a strategic approach in line with County is also suggested (see recommendation 6).</p> <p>The specific sites mentioned in this recommendation, Officer's cannot support or agree to this recommendation. For Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) our reasoning is:</p> <p>Broom Leys Road: The LAQM process assesses air quality against objectives which apply at certain locations. In this case, the annual mean objective applies at residential properties on Broom Leys Road junction. There are already 2 long term diffusion tubes monitoring annual mean NO₂ at this location, which are closer to the road than the residential properties, which have been below the objective since 2013. It is the officers view that further monitoring is not required at this location.</p> <p>Bardon Road; Birch Tree Roundabout – there are no relevant receptors for either hourly, 24</p>

		<p>hour or annual air quality objectives at this location, therefore air quality objectives are not applicable. Monitoring for LAQM is not required at this location.</p> <p>Tesco Roundabout in Ashby de la Zouch - as for the Birch Tree Roundabout, there are no relevant receptors for either hourly, 24 hour or annual objectives. Monitoring for LAQM is not required at this location.</p> <p>Castle Donington – already has a network of monitoring covering the AQMA and outside of the AQMA. The purpose of additional monitoring needs to be considered. It is the officers view that further monitoring is not required at this location.</p> <p>For non LAQM pollutants (ie PM_{2.5}), further work is required before a monitoring strategy/ locations are agreed on. This is covered in the Officer's recommendations within the scrutiny report.</p>
5	Continues to monitor Kegworth AQMA with diffusion tubes until it shows no exceedences	Agree that some diffusion tubes should be continued in Kegworth at worst case locations. It should be noted that there has not been any exceedences of the annual mean nitrogen dioxide objective since 2014.
6	Compiles a costed Plan to collaborate with County Public Health on the Air Quality JSNA	Agree. The costs of these are included in the financial implications section of Community Scrutiny report.
7	Provides an annual report on air quality across the whole District to the relevant scrutiny with factual data from all the AQMA machines and other measurement sites so elected members can scrutinise and provide further supported recommendations if needed	NW Leicestershire already report annually to Defra through the LAQM process. This report is published on the NW Leicestershire Council website. Any amendments to AQMA's are presented to cabinet.
8	Allocates funding from the General Fund or the Zero Carbon reserve, as necessary, to enable the above actions to be carried out	Any additional air quality work identified within the delivery plan will require additional budget/resource identified in the financial implications section of Community Scrutiny report.