# NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL CABINET – TUESDAY, 8 JUNE 2021



Title of Report	UPDATE ON AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREAS & SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL STATUS REPORT		
Presented by	Andrew Woodman Community Services Portfolio Holder		
Background Papers	December 2020 Cabinet minutes	Public Report: Yes	
		Key Decision: Yes	
Financial Implications	None Signed off by the Section 151 Officer: Yes		
Legal Implications	None Signed off by the Monitoring Officer: Yes		
Staffing and Corporate	None		
Implications	Signed off by the Deputy Head of Paid Service: Yes		
Purpose of Report	To ask cabinet to consider the annual status report for submission to DEFRA and to make decisions regarding the AQMAs. To approve the Air Quality Action Plan for Castle Donington for submission to DEFRA.		
Reason for Decision	Compliance with Part IV of the Environmental Protection Act 1995		
Recommendations	THAT CABINET:		
	<ol> <li>APPROVES THE ANNUAL STATUS REPORT FOR SUBMISSION TO DEFRA</li> <li>APPROVES THE REVOCATION OF THE DERBY ROAD/LONDON ROAD, KEGWORTH AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA</li> <li>APPROVES THE REVOCATION OF THE BROOMLEYS/STEPHENSON WAY JUNCTION, COALVILLE AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA</li> <li>APPROVES THE AIR QUALITY ACTION PLAN FOR CASTLE DONINGTON FOR SUBMISSION TO DEFRA</li> </ol>		

#### 1.0 BACKGROUND

- **1.1** Following the air quality Cabinet report in December 2020, the Environmental Protection Team has implemented a number of actions.
- **1.2** The Air Quality Delivery Plan has been updated and is attached at **Appendix 1**.

- 1.3 A working group has been established with key stakeholders and partners to develop the Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) for Castle Donington Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). Although this is an AQMA for Castle Donington it does contain broader actions for the whole of the district.
- **1.4** The Air Quality Action Plan is attached at **Appendix 2.**
- 1.5 One of the actions within the delivery plan was to develop a supplementary planning document to provide guidance about dealing with air quality issues as part of proposed developments as it is a material planning consideration. The council's Planning Policy team has commenced work on this area and are looking at best practice to consider how to take this action forward.
- 1.6 North West Leicestershire has been working collaboratively with Leicestershire County Council on air quality. This has included the joint drafting of the air quality action plan for Castle Donington. This document not only looks at improving air quality within Castle Donington but will also have a positive impact on air quality across the whole of the district. Work has also continued on the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA).
- 1.7 In order to meet the 6 objectives on the air quality chapter of the JSNA a working group called Air Quality and Health Partnership has been set up. The group meets every six weeks. There are also some task and finish groups that have been set up to achieve the actions. The Environmental Protection Team Manager is part of the Air Quality & Health Engagement task & finish group. This group will be tackling health inequalities through communication, understanding the barriers to behaviours change to air quality and seeking the views of those who live near to AQMA's.
- 1.8 As part of the delivery plan approved in 2020, a monitoring regime has been drafted to detail how and where the zephyr monitoring equipment will be used/installed. As locations include installation onto lampposts, permission has to be granted from Leicestershire County Council (LCC). An application for permission has been submitted and is awaiting approval. Once received the monitoring plan will be implemented.
- 1.9 In addition to the delivery plan, Coalville Special Expenses Working Party (CSEWP) requested additional monitoring in the Coalville area. The Environmental Protection Team has been working with CSEWP to consider the monitoring regime. At the CSEWP meeting on 20 April 2021 a monitoring plan and funding was agreed. This is also on the agenda this evening for the CSEWP minutes for approval.

#### 2.0 ANNUAL STATUS REPORT

- 2.1 The district council has a duty to monitor Nitrogen Dioxide. This is monitored using diffusions tubes. There are 35 tubes around the district. A map of these locations can be found at **Appendix 3**.
- 2.2 To meet these responsibilities the council has a published Air Quality Strategy and as a result of assessing these pollutants there are currently 4 declared AQMAs for the exceedance of NO<sub>2</sub>.
- 2.3 All AQMA's are declared for exceeding the annual mean air quality standard for NO<sub>2</sub>:
  - Derby Road/London Road, Kegworth

- This applies to domestic properties along Derby Road and London Road
- Bondgate, Castle Donington
  - o This applies to domestic properties along Bondgate
- Copt Oak
  - This applies to 4 domestic properties at Corner Farm.
- Broomleys Road/Stephenson Way junction, Coalville
  - This applies to 4 domestic properties and pedestrians walking through the junction
- **2.4** The ASR is a standard DEFRA template and is attached at **Appendix 4**. There have been changes this year to take account of Covid and the effects on traffic movements.

#### 3.0 DERBY ROAD/LONDON ROAD, KEGWORTH AQMA

- **3.1** There are 7 diffusion tube locations with the AQMA and 1 location outside of the AQMA.
- **3.2** Since 2014, results at these locations have been below the objective. There was a further reduction at two sites in 2018/2019 and this coincides with the opening of the Kegworth bypass at the end of 2018.
- **3.3** It is therefore recommended that this AQMA is revoked.

#### 4.0 BONDGATE, CASTLE DONINGTON AQMA

- **4.1** There are 3 diffusion tube locations within the AQMA and 6 other nearby locations.
- **4.2** A relief road was opened in 2020 which will likely divert traffic away from the AQMA.
- **4.3** Although the annual mean objective was met in 2020 it is not clear at this stage if this is as a result of Covid-19 restrictions on movement or the relief road.
- **4.4** It is recommended that the proposed AQAP is approved for submission to DEFRA to further improve air quality in this area.

#### 5.0 COPT OAK AQMA

- 5.1 There is 1 diffusion tube location within the AQMA and 2 locations outside the AQMA.
- **5.2** All receptor locations were substantially lower than the standard.
- **5.3** A location on the kerb of the M1 was exceeded but there are no relevant receptors linked to this location.
- **5.4** Following a review of the monitoring locations, one of the diffusion tubes has recently been re positioned to the façade of the nearest residential property.

### 6.0 BROOMLEYS/STEPHENSON WAY JUNCTION, COALVILLE AQMA

- **6.1** There are 4 diffusion tube locations within the AQMA and 2 locations nearby.
- **6.2** All locations have been below the objective since 2013.

**6.3** It is therefore recommended that this AQMA is revoked.

## 7.0 NEXT STEPS

**7.1** Lead officers will continue to monitor progress against the delivery plan and AQAP.

Policies and other considerations, as appropriate			
Council Priorities:	- Developing a clean and green district		
Policy Considerations:	None		
Safeguarding:	None		
Equalities/Diversity:	None		
Customer Impact:	None		
Economic and Social Impact:	None		
Environment and Climate Change:	Actions to reduce CO2 emissions will help improve air quality		
Consultation/Community Engagement:	None		
Risks:	None		
Officer Contact	Paul Sanders Head of Community Services Paul.Sanders@nwleicestershire.gov.uk		