# Chichester District Council Environmental Protection Team Air Quality (November 2020)

**Annual Status Report Summary for Elected Members**

**Background:**

CDC has statutory duties with regards to air quality. These include making a statutory Annual Status Report (ASR) return to DEFRA. This paper is by way of a precis of the full ASR (2020) to appraise elected members of the main issues and conclusions of the full report which is available here: https://www.chichester.gov.uk/pollutioncontrolairquality. The related work stream will manifest several papers to Cabinet in 2020-2021 and beyond.

The ASR reports CDC’s activities with regard to air quality monitoring and delivering actions that are designed to tackle local air pollution. CDC has a significant programme of air quality monitoring and the data is presented in the report. The data enables judgements as to whether air quality fails the health based National Air Quality Objectives NAQOs for nitrogen dioxide (NO2) and particles (PM10).

Where air quality fails – or is likely to fail – a NAQO then it is a statutory obligation to declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and adopt an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP). CDC has declared four AQMAs (Orchard Street, St Pancras and Stockbridge roundabout A27, Chichester and Rumbolds Hill, Midhurst) and is currently updating its AQAP (which is being presented to Cabinet in October for public consultation thereafter).

# 2019-2020 ASR summary:

* None of the four air quality monitoring stations recorded exceedances of the National air quality Objectives (NAQO) for particles (PM10) or nitrogen dioxide (NO2).
* Two locations monitored using diffusion tubes1 recorded exceedances of the NAQO (annual mean) for NO2. The locations are St Pancras, Chichester and Rumbolds Hill, Midhurst.
* There appears to be a long-term decline in concentrations of NO2 2.
* The Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) was declared in Rumbolds Hill, Midhurst in January 2020.
* Monitoring data indicates the possibility of un-declaring the AQMA in Orchard Street, Chichester.
* CDC has reviewed the computer modelling of the air quality in areas of Chichester and Midhurst and the outcomes of this work have been used to develop the revised AQAP.
* CDC commissioned consultants to produce a Chichester City Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) and the draft document will be consulted upon during September/October 2020.

1 A simpler/cheaper screening method of monitoring air quality.

2 ie a small improvement in line with National predictions.

* Under the current AQAP the following activities were delivered in 2019-20:
  + Installation of EV charging infrastructure at 18 locations across the district including Chichester, Midhurst, Petworth, Bosham, East Wittering and Selsey.
  + Letting a contract for the production of a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) – draft report available and due to be presented to Cabinet in January 2021.
  + Worked with CDC Planning Policy colleagues to design air quality policy in the emerging Revised Local Plan.
  + Actively participated in the writing of a revised planning guidance document to provide clarity on the approach for considering air quality in the development management process.
  + Liaison with WSCC on a number of schemes due to be delivered through WSCC’s strategic and local transport investment projects.
  + Attendance at the Chichester and District Cycle Forum.
  + Carried out an extensive programme of air quality monitoring.

# Intended activity for 2020-2021:

* Delivery and adoption of the LCWIP for Chichester.
* Expansion of the Chichester car club fleet.
* Continuation of the air quality monitoring programme.
* Updating and re-adoption of the statutory Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP).
* Production of the statutory ASR.

# Further information:

This briefing paper is deliberately brief. If you require any additional information then please do not hesitate to email Simon Ballard or Kate Simons as detailed below:

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