

Appendix A

Air Quality Annual Status Report - Supporting Information

Reports submission:

Air quality monitoring and improvement contributes to a number of principal priorities of the PPP, and in particular is identified in the 2019-2020 PPP priorities work plan. It also interrelates with the cross cutting themes of Climate change and Environmental Protection. In Summer 2019 all PPP local authorities made commitments with respect to climate change, and air quality continues to be regularly in the news, alongside, the cross cutting climate change theme.

The three Annual Status Reports were completed in-house by the then, Environmental Quality Team, and well in advance of the deadline. The reports were submitted as follows;

Bracknell Forest	13 th June 2019
Wokingham	13 th June 2019
West Berkshire	14 th June 2019

The results for the 3 local authorities continue to show trends of a reduction of air pollution levels and a summary can be found in the Executive Summary at the beginning of each report.

The reports are currently available on the Public Protection Partnership website.

Report appraisals and next steps:

There was a considerable delay in the return of the appraisals from DEFRA. In 2018, this was under 1 month from submission, and in 2019 it was up to nearly 5 months from submission. A number of follow up contacts were made to ascertain progress.

The appraisals were provided as follows;

Bracknell Forest	6 th November 2019
Wokingham	6 th November 2019
West Berkshire	21 st October 2019

The reports and conclusions have been accepted as detailed below – and the full appraisals are attached.

Bracknell Forest

“On the basis of the evidence provided by the local authority the conclusions reached are acceptable for all sources and pollutants. Following the completion of this report, Bracknell Forest Borough Council should submit an Annual Status Report in 2020”

It is of note that the commentary concludes that

“Overall the report is highly detailed, satisfies the criteria of relevant standards, and is a good source for members of the Public to find out about air quality in their area. The Council should continue their good work and submit an Annual Status Report in 2020”.

Other commentary points will be considered in the next ASR.

Wokingham

“On the basis of the evidence provided by the local authority the conclusions reached are acceptable for all sources and pollutants, with the provisos listed in the commentary below. The Council should continue to implement their air quality strategy, and continue monitoring. Following the completion of this report, Wokingham Borough Council should submit an Annual Status Report in 2020”.

It is of note that the commentary concludes that

“Overall the report is highly detailed and satisfies the criteria of relevant standards The Council should continue their good work and submit an Annual Status Report in 2020”.

It is however, of concern, that the Appraisal incorrectly states that monitoring was only undertaken during 2018 via diffusion tubes, and *“The Council have no continuous monitors”*.

The continuous monitor in Peach Street, Wokingham, operated throughout 2018, and the ASR refers to its operation and results. The ASR also identifies that another continuous monitor was being commissioned in Twyford, and this unit ‘is currently collecting data for the 2019 reporting period.

As a significant inaccuracy, this is being raised with DEFRA, prior to submission of the next ASR.

Other commentary points will be considered in the next ASR.

West Berkshire

“On the basis of the evidence provided by the local authority the conclusions reached are acceptable for all sources. Following the completion of this report, West Berkshire Council should submit an Annual Status Report in 2020”

It is of note that the commentary states that;

“The report is well structured, detailed, and provides the information specified in the Guidance”

Other commentary points will be considered in the next ASR.

Other air quality related matters of note

A grant bid was submitted to DEFRA on 8th November 2019 for funding to support a project of launching anti-idling campaigns in the three local authorities, with the emphasis on behavioural change. The outcome of the bid is due in February/March 2020.

A business plan, also in anti-idling has been drafted, and reports based on this plan are currently being circulated with the individual local authorities, for consideration by their respective boards and/or Council. This includes a variety of targeted campaigns to be explored, having regard to the particular local issues of each LA. Generic elements, such as preparatory work to adopt Idling enforcement provisions, are proposed to be progressed by the PPP on behalf of all of the local authorities.

Equality Impact Assessment – Stage One

Please complete the following questions to determine whether a full Stage Two, Equality Impact Assessment is required.

What is the proposed decision that you are asking the Committee to make:	Air Quality Annual Status Reports
Summary of relevant legislation:	
Does the proposed decision conflict with any of the partnerships key objectives?	No
Name of assessor:	Sean Murphy
Date of assessment:	21/1/2020

Is this a:		Is this:	
Policy		New or proposed	✓
Strategy	✓	Already exists and is being reviewed	
Function		Is changing	
Service			

1. What are the main aims, objectives and intended outcomes of the proposed decision and who is likely to benefit from it?	
Aims:	To supply the Joint Public Protection Committee with information that would allow for a policy decision to inform the Joint Public Protection Committee of the submission of the annual air quality reports for the 3 local authorities. These reports are for the monitoring data and action plan progress for the calendar year 2018.
Objectives:	As set out in the report
Outcomes:	As set out in the report
Benefits:	The delivery of the key PPP priorities of: Community Protection and in particular the protection of the vulnerable Protecting and Improving Health Protection of the Environment

2. Note which groups may be affected by the proposed decision. Consider how they may be affected, whether it is positively or negatively and what sources

of information have been used to determine this.		
(Please demonstrate consideration of all strands – Age, Disability, Gender Reassignment, Marriage and Civil Partnership, Pregnancy and Maternity, Race, Religion or Belief, Sex and Sexual Orientation.)		
Group Affected	What might be the effect?	Information to support this
Age		
Disability		
Gender Reassignment		
Marriage and Civil Partnership		
Pregnancy and Maternity		
Race		
Religion or Belief		
Sex		
Sexual Orientation		
Further Comments relating to the item:		
No specific groups are affected by the contents of these proposals. Air quality can be particularly harmful to the young, elderly, pregnant and those suffering ill health. Consideration to all these matters are given in this report and appendices and / or the national clean air strategy.		

3. Result	
Are there any aspects of the proposed decision, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could contribute to inequality?	No
Please provide an explanation for your answer: The premises are accessibility compliant.	
Will the proposed decision have an adverse impact upon the lives of people, including employees and service users?	No

4. Identify next steps as appropriate:	
Stage Two required	No
Owner of Stage Two assessment:	
Timescale for Stage Two assessment:	

Name: Sean Murphy

Date: 21/1/2020