Air Quality Action Plan Review

Non-Technical Summary



Background



Air Quality in King's Lynn 1/3

- Councils have legal duty to review and assess air quality under Part 4 Environment Act 1995
- DEFRA set legal air quality standards & objectives
- The borough council follow DEFRA's policy & technical guidance
- The borough council produce Annual Status Report
- ASR appraised by Norfolk Public Health and submitted to DEFRA for approval



Air Quality in King's Lynn 2/3

- Officers use a mix of screening tools, modelling and monitoring to assess air quality against the National Air Quality Objectives
- There are two Air Quality Monitoring stations measuring nitrogen dioxide (NO₂)
- There are 4 Dust Screening Units which measure PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} (particles measuring 10 or 2.5 microns)
- There are 72 Diffusion Tubes locations measuring NO₂
- https://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/info/20137/air_quality/171/air_pollution_levels

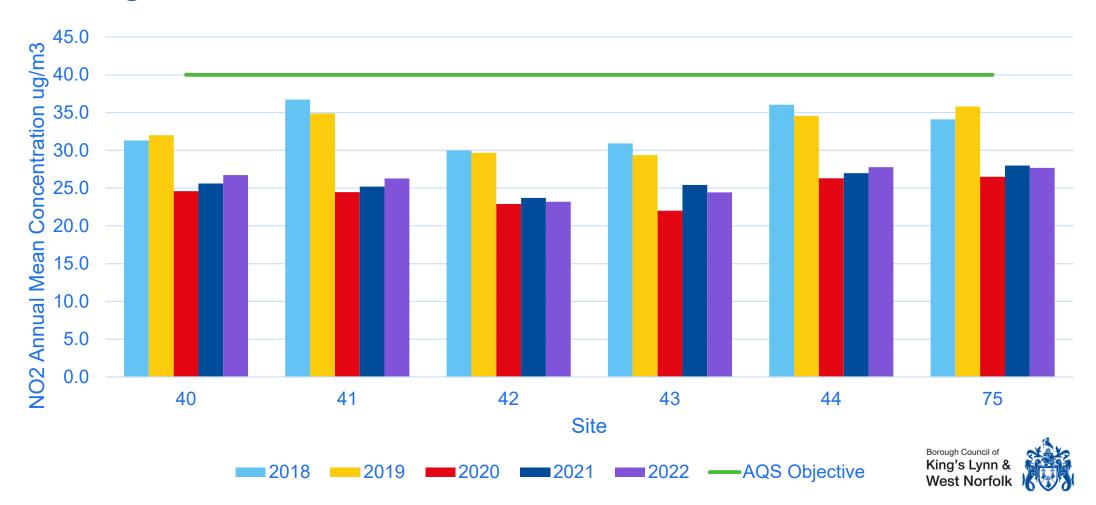


Air Quality in King's Lynn 3/3

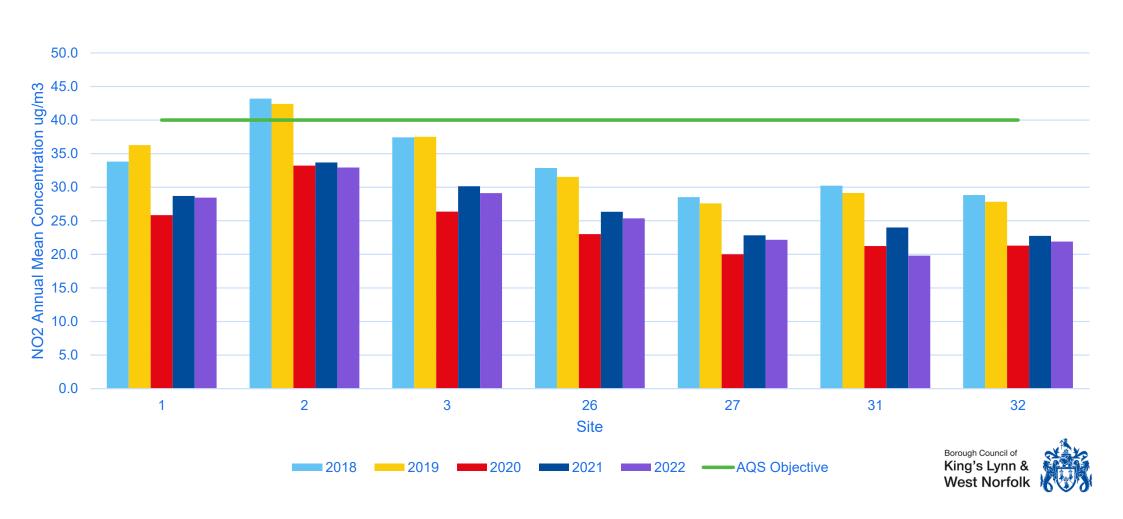
- The National Air Quality Objective for Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) is not to exceed an annual average of 40μg/m3
- µg/m3 = micrograms of pollutant per cubic metre of air
- The objective was not exceeded during 2022 in either of the Air Quality Management Areas
- This is the third year running where results have shown no exceedances for the Town Centre AQMA and over 5 years for Gaywood Clock AQMA
- The annual average concentrations have remained relatively constant with results less than 36µg/m³ for the last 3 years. No post Covid increase noted to date



Gaywood Clock AQMA Results



Town Centre AQMA Results



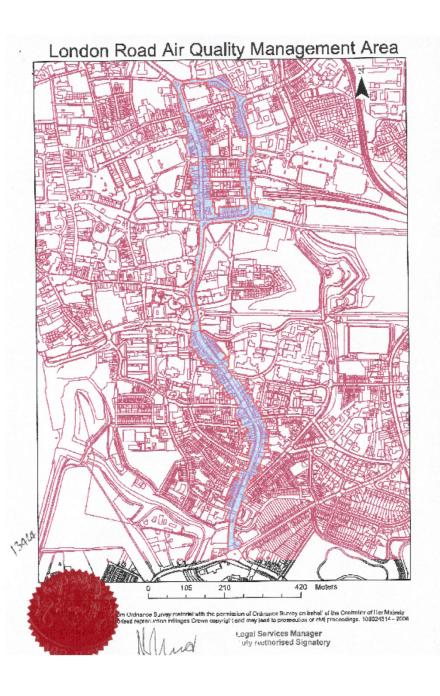
Air Quality Management Areas



Air Quality Management Areas

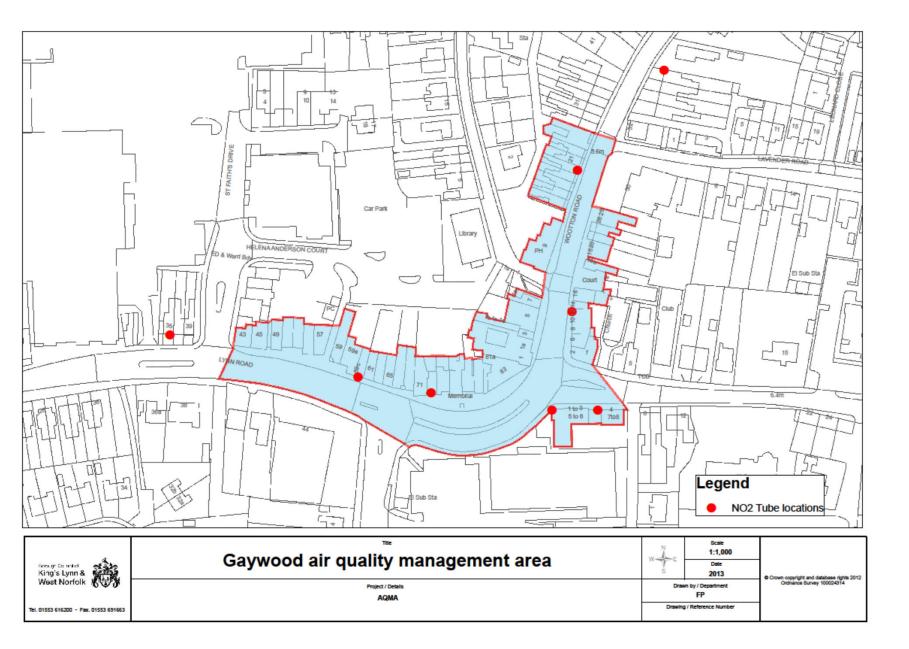
- Where monitoring shows an exceedance of an air quality objective, the Local Authority must declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)
- There are two AQMAs, both located in King's Lynn
- Both were declared because NO₂ was measured in the past above the annual mean of 40ug/m³
- The main source for both is from road traffic





The Town Centre Air Quality
Management Area extended a previous
AQMA which included only part of
Railway Road. It includes the whole
gyratory (one way road system) and
London Road







Air Quality Action Plan



AQAP background

- When a council declares an AQMA they must write and adopt an Air Quality Action Plan
- The Action Plan adopted in 2015 needs updating
- The Action Plan contains measures to reduce the pollution by targeting the sources of NO₂
- Road transport has been identified as the main source of nitrogen dioxide pollution
- Draft Measures in the Action Plan are proportionate to the current NO₂ levels



Progress to Date

- Previous update to Council Management Team
- Internal workshop to review and update the previous Action Plan measures
- Consultation with Norfolk County Council
- Consultation with Portfolio Holder
- Cabinet Briefing



AQAP Draft Measures 1/3

| Priority & Measure No. | Measure | Category | Classification | Start Year | End Year | Agencies |
|------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|---------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| 1.1 | Improve active travel promotion to schools | Promoting Travel Alternatives | School Travel Plans | 2024 | On-going | NCC Schools |
| 1.2 | Review & update BCKLWN Travel Plan | Promoting Travel Alternatives | Workplace Travel Planning | 2024 | On-going | BCKLWN Sustrans |
| 1.3 | Development of other workplace / business travel plans | Promoting Travel Alternatives | Encourage / Facilitate homeworking | 2024 | On-going | BCKLWN Private businesses |
| 1.4 | Development of Active Travel Hubs | Transport Planning and Infrastructure | Intensive active travel campaign & infrastructure | 2024 | On-going | BCKLWN NCC |
| 1.5 | Implement local cycling and walking infrastructure plan (LCWIP) | Promoting Travel Alternatives | Intensive active travel campaign & infrastructure | 2024 | On-going | NCC BCKLWN |
| 1.6 | Support Use of West Lynn Ferry | Promoting Travel Alternatives | Promote use of rail and inland waterways | 2024 | On-going | BCKLWN NCC |



AQAP Draft Measures 2/3

| Priority & Measure No. | Measure | Category | Classification | Start Year | End Year | Agencies |
|------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2.1 | Work with Norfolk County Council to help deliver their Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) | Transport Planning and Infrastructure | Public transport improvements-interchanges stations and services | 2024 | On-going | NCC BCKLWN Bus Operators |
| 2.2 | Help to deliver the roll out of Low NOx Buses in King's Lynn | Promoting Low Emission Transport | Public Vehicle Procurement - Prioritising uptake of low emission vehicles | 2024 | On-going | NCC BCKLWN Bus Operator |
| 3.1 | Review changes to the road system within the King's Lynn Town Centre gyratory system (Railway Rd AQMA). | Traffic Management | UTC, Congestion management, traffic reduction | 2024 | 2030 (Medium Term Plan) | NCC BCKLWN |
| 3.2 | Review traffic related changes as part of the Southgate's Masterplan | Traffic Management | UTC, Congestion management, traffic reduction | LTP4 Medium Term Scheme 2024 | LTP4 Medium Term Scheme 2030 | NCC BCKLWN |
| 3.3 | Develop and Implement a comprehensive Car-Parking Strategy for King's Lynn | Traffic Management | UTC, Congestion management, traffic reduction | Scheme 2024 | On-going | BCKLWN NCC |

AQAP Draft Measures 3/3

| Priority & Measure No. | Measure | Category | Classification | Start Year | End Year | Agencies |
|------------------------|--|---|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 3.4 | Review measures to improve traffic flows through Gaywood Clock AQMA | Traffic Management | UTC, Congestion management, traffic reduction | LTP4 Medium Term Scheme 2024 | LTP4 Medium Term Scheme 2030 | NCC BCKLWN |
| 4.1 | To consider air quality from new developments and secure mitigation | Policy Guidance and Development Control | Air Quality Planning and Policy Guidance | Revised procedure 2022 | On-going | BCKLWN |
| 5.1 | Promote behaviour change from individuals and employers | Public Information | Via the Internet | 2024 | On-going | NCC Public Health BCKLWN |
| 5.2 | Improve Public Awareness (Air Quality Monitoring and Information) | Public Information | Via the Internet | 2024 | On-going | BCKLWN Public Health NCC |
| 6.1 | To develop an Air Quality Project to review the impact of PM10/PM2.5 across District | Public Information | Via the Internet | 2024 | On-going | NCC Public Health BCKLWN |

Timeline

- Draft copy has already been submitted to DEFRA for their initial approval
- Environment & Community Panel update planned for 3rd January 2024
- Start Public Consultation January/ February 2024
- Review Public Consultation March/ April 2024
- Prepare Cabinet Report May/ June 2024
- Submit final draft to DEFRA for approval



Consultation



Have your say: -

- We would welcome your comments on the draft air quality action plan
- Please complete the online form
- Your comments will be considered and form part of the consultation summary



Next Steps

- Once the consultation period has finished, we will review the comments
- We also await feedback from DEFRA and will consider their comments before completing a final draft
- We expect to complete the final draft during summer 2024

