

**Report for:** Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel – 18<sup>th</sup>  
December 2018

**Title:** Air Quality Update

**Report authorised by :** David Murray  
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Neighbourhoods

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**Ward(s) affected:** All

**Report for Key/  
Non Key Decision:** Non Key Decision

## **1 Describe the Issues under Consideration**

- 1.1 This report gives an overview on the current and draft proposed future actions concerning air quality.
- 1.2 In addition, this report also updates on the following:
  - (a) How Air Quality is monitored,
  - (b) What the approach is to working with other stakeholders,
  - (c) How we engage with the local community and voluntary sector,
  - (d) How we are using the funding streams available through the London Mayor.

## **2 Cabinet Member Introduction**

- 2.1 This report is about the council's current and future ambition to reduce pollution. As with much of London, improving air quality is a key priority in Haringey because of the terrible effect it has on our residents, particularly older, disabled people and our children. We are committed to ensuring that our residents' health is protected.
- 2.2 Our work on these issues affects all aspects of the Council's work, and goes hand in hand with our commitments to combatting Climate Change, developing and extending walking, cycling and the wider use of public transport, and discouraging use of cars except where this is an access solution to older and disabled people. We have already taken steps to improve air quality in Haringey, and are specifically targeting the air quality around schools with our healthy schools initiatives. We will continue to work together with our partners to reduce the exposure of people in Haringey to poor air quality.
- 2.3 I encourage everyone to have their say on the draft Air Quality Action plan via our public consultation. Your feedback will inform the final plan, which is due to be go to Cabinet later in 2019.

## **3 Recommendations**

- 3.1 The Panel is asked to note the contents of the report and current Draft Air Quality Action Plan, (which is subject to change). Any comments from the panel will be feed into the development of the draft plan as part of the consultation process.

## **4 Reasons for decision**

- 4.1 Not applicable

## **5 Alternative options considered**

- 5.1 There is no alternative options, as under Part IV of the Environment Act 1995, Haringey is required to review and assess air quality.

## **6 Background Information**

### **6.1 Air Quality Structures**

- 6.1.1 Haringey has a duty to manage local air quality, in accordance with guidance issued by the Mayor under London Local Air Quality Management.
- 6.1.2 Where standard are being exceeded then, we are required to designate the areas as an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and draw up and implement an action plan aimed at reducing levels of pollutant.
- 6.1.3 Two of the nationally set standards are for Nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and Particulate Matter.

- Nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>): At high concentrations, NO<sub>2</sub> causes inflammation of the airways. Breathing in high levels of NO<sub>2</sub> over a long period of time is associated with an increase in symptoms of bronchitis in asthmatic children and reduced lung development and function
- Particulate matter (PM): Breathing in high levels of PM over a long period contributes to the risk of developing cardiovascular and respiratory diseases, including lung cancer. Research shows that small particles (those with a diameter of 10 microns and smaller) – PM<sub>10</sub> – are likely to be inhaled deep into the respiratory tract. The health impacts of the smallest particles (those with a diameter of 2.5 microns or smaller) – PM<sub>2.5</sub> – are especially significant, as smaller particles can penetrate even deeper

6.1.4 Air quality monitoring results have shown that Haringey is exceeding EU limits for the gas Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) in parts of the borough, the main areas of concern being main roads.

## 6.2 Current Air Quality Action Plan

6.2.1 Haringey's Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) 2010 – 2018 (see appendix 1) has been tackling emissions from roads in particular and other sources of pollution in general to improve the overall Air Quality. Some of the successful projects delivered through the current action plan include:

- Employment of an Air Quality Apprentice to deliver awareness raising exercises and smarter travel initiatives in schools,
- Employment of a shared Non-Road Mobile Machinery (NRMM) enforcement officer to enforce planning conditions
- Delivery of internal and public workshops to increase knowledge about the causes and effects of air quality and actions to improve it.
- Work with Development management to ensure that the air quality impacts upon new developments are appropriately assessed and mitigated.

6.2.2 In addition, public transport improvements and cycling/walking infrastructure continue to be delivered via the Local Implementation Plan (LIP).

6.2.3 In recognition of the work carried out towards improving air quality, Haringey Council has been awarded the accreditation of 'Cleaner Air Borough Status' by the Mayor of London. Set by the GLA, the Council has met the six criteria required for Clean Air Borough Accreditation: political leadership; taking action; leading by example; using the planning system; informing the public and integrating air quality into the public health system.

## 6.3 Draft AQAP 2018 - 22

6.3.1 The proposed draft AQAP outlines the action that we will take to improve air quality in Haringey between 2018 - 2022. The draft AQAP presents 25 actions that are being considered for implementation in partnership with

different services within Haringey Council, neighbouring authorities and external organisations such as GLA and TFL.

6.3.2 The new draft AQAP has been developed using a format produced by the Greater London Authority. The main body of the plan takes the form of a table of measures, (See Appendix 2 - Draft table of measures), with actions identified under six broad topics:

- Emissions from developments and buildings: emissions from buildings account for about 15% of the nitrogen oxides (NOX) emissions across London so are important in affecting NO2 concentrations;
- Public health and awareness raising: increasing awareness can drive behavioural change to lower emissions as well as to reduce exposure to air pollution;
- Delivery servicing and freight: vehicles delivering goods and services are usually light and heavy duty diesel-fuelled vehicles with high primary NO2 emissions;
- Borough fleet actions: our fleet includes light and heavy duty diesel-fuelled vehicles such as maintenance vans and parks vehicles with high primary NO2 emissions. Tackling our own fleet means we will be leading by example;
- Localised solutions: these seek to improve the environment of neighbourhoods through a combination of measures; and
- Cleaner transport: road transport is the main source of air pollution in London. We need to incentivise a change to walking, cycling, public transport and ultra-low emission vehicles (such as electric) as far as possible.

6.3.3 Statutory Consultation is required with the Secretary of State, Environment Agency, Transport for London and Mayor of London – joint response, Neighbouring Local Authorities, Bodies representing local businesses and other local organisations and the Local community.

6.3.4 The consultation will be fully accessible and will take the form of a short on line survey, paper surveys in key locations, communications strategy to encourage participation, a minimum of 2 community events.

6.3.5 The timetable for the draft plan is:

- Officers to agree outline plan with key stakeholders and lead member. Send draft plan for comments to the GLA by 31st December 2018.
- Submission to Corporate Board for comments February 2019.
- Cabinet approval to consult on draft plan April 2019.
- 10 weeks public consultation May – mid July 2019.
- Cabinet consideration and approval of final plan November 2019.

## **6.4 Air Quality Monitoring**

- 6.4.1 All air quality monitoring is undertaken in accordance to the Local Air Quality Management Technical Guidance (TG16) published by Defra in 2016.
- 6.4.2 Monitoring of NO<sub>2</sub> across the borough is carried out through a combination of highly accurate continuous (or automatic) monitoring stations at two locations and indicative low-cost diffusion tubes at 13 locations.
- 6.4.3 The two automatic monitoring stations are representative of public exposure are in Tottenham High Road giving typical roadside exposure and Priory Park Hornsey giving the urban background.

## **6.5 Our approach to join-up with other stakeholders,**

6.5.1 The AQAP is coordinated by the Pollution team, but delivered in partnership with a number of key internal and external stakeholders.

6.5.2 Our main internal stakeholders include:

- Development Management,
- Procurement,
- Public Health,
- Transport Planning,
- Carbon Management,
- Active Communities etc.

6.5.3 A group of representatives from these services meet on a monthly basis to consider new projects and to update the action plan.

6.5.4 Last year we delivered eight AQ workshops for council officers across a range of service areas, including councillors. Feedback from these workshops were incorporated into the new draft AQAP.

6.5.5 Our external stakeholders (excluding voluntary sector) include:

- Neighbouring authorities who form the North London Cluster Group,
- London Pollution Study Group, organised by the Association of London Environmental Health Managers (ALEHM).
- The Greater London Authority (GLA),
- DEFRA, and
- Transport for London.

6.5.6 As the council has an AQMA and an AQAP, it is obligated to report annually to DEFRA and the GLA on air quality in its area. The following documents have been submitted to both DEFRA and the GLA to fulfil the requirements of Part IV of the Environment Act 2005:

- An Air Quality Annual Report 2017
- Annual Summary Status Report 2017
- Updating and Screening Assessment 2014;

## **6.6 Engagement with the Community and Voluntary Sector**

6.6.1 In 2017-18, we delivered an Air Quality Health Engagement project consisting of:

- Four public information AQ stands at various locations around the borough i.e. Wood Green shopping area, Crouch End and Tottenham Green.
- Three AQ presentation to Health groups in Haringey (2 x Breathe Easy Groups and 1 x Stroke group), including promoting Air text and providing Walk it leaflets and information.
- Two community workshops for local residents and one public meeting. The community workshops and public meeting was specifically to capture ideas and public opinions. This included representatives of Friends of the Earth, Woodland trust, Sustrans, UK100, Business Improvement District, Living Streets, Haringey Cycling and British Lung Foundation GLA and TFL.
- The production of 2000 postcards designed and printed to promote Airtext & Haringey's air monsters, these were distributed to all 9 libraries in Haringey as well as being handed out at the AQ stands and the Health Group seminars.
- Delivered an Air Quality Action Day promoting no idling to raise awareness of car exhaust fumes outside the school gates. The schools involved were Seven Sisters Primary school (am) and Harris Academy (pm), where officers handed out leaflets and gave advice to parents/carers dropping and picking up their children.
- Delivered of an Air Quality business engagement project in Crouch End looking at ways that businesses can reduce emissions i.e. Alternative delivery transportation/methods, alternate staff commuting methods i.e. car sharing and energy audits for the larger businesses.

6.6.2 The feedback during these workshops were used to update the Council's air quality action plan. The draft plan will also be accessible for public consultation in early 2019.

## **6.7 How we are using the funding streams available through the London Mayor**

6.7.1 Haringey was successful in its bid for funding from the recent Mayor's Air Quality Fund [MAQF]. We received a total of £202,800 to deliver a range of projects over a three-year period. The following projects have been delivered to schools in or adjacent to hotspot areas:

- Tri-borough Partnership - Air Quality School Engagement project – In partnership with Hackney and Islington, an air quality awareness-raising project was delivered to 3 schools from each borough.

- An Air Quality Apprentice in the Smarter Travel Team collaborated with the school travel plan officer promoting awareness of air pollution, alternative modes of transport and associated health impacts to pupils in all Haringey schools, starting with those in or adjacent hotspot areas.
- Installation of green screens to the perimeters of school playgrounds to lessen the air pollution impact on pupils, improve the playground environment and increase awareness of air pollution.
- Science based classroom lessons about air pollution plus a trip to the Urban Cities Sustainable Future exhibition, The Crystal Building that features a range of issues including air pollution and the urban environment.

6.7.2 In February 2016 Haringey was successful in its 'No 2 NO<sub>2</sub>' programme bid to the MAQF to carry out a range of projects to raise awareness of air pollution across the borough including:

- Personal Travel Planning for parents of pupils at schools, and for residents, in NO<sub>2</sub> affected areas. Tools will be used to target schools demonstrating high car use;
- Setting up school walking zones for schools that have high car use and are near NO<sub>2</sub> affected areas. A walking zone aims to discourage cars in favour of travel by foot leading to a reduction in the number of cars at the school, reduced air pollution, improved road safety and health benefits;
- Continuation of the work undertaken by the air quality apprentice;
- Delivery of 3 Cycle Maintenance & training courses;
- The North London Cluster group shared Enforcement officer responsible for undertaking reactive and proactive visits to building sites across the four boroughs to undertake the duties imposed by the GLA's NRMM requirements.
- Seminars / Workshops held for a range of council service areas and councillors to increase knowledge of air pollution and engender a collective approach to tackling poor air quality, reducing emissions and raise awareness with council staff. The feedback from these workshops were used to assist in developing the council's updated action plan.

6.7.3 Mayor's Air Quality Fund (MAQF) Round 3 2019 – 2022, was launched in November 2018. Haringey is expected to provide match funding which will be one of the key assessment criteria for the applications.

6.7.4 The fund invites London Boroughs to apply for grants to undertake/participate in the following projects:

- a pan-London anti-idling project, to include on street enforcement against idling
- a pan-London project to inspect construction sites to ensure that they are only using approved and lower-pollution machinery. Construction

machinery is currently the third largest contributor to air pollution in the capital

- Low Emission Neighbourhoods (LENs) – They are funding up to 4 new LENs with up to £500,000 each. This builds on the 5 borough-led LENs and six business-led LENs we have already funded
- pedestrianisation, road closures and car-free schemes in partnership with local communities
- supporting the uptake of low-emission vehicles and supporting businesses to reduce emissions
- exceptional projects –exceptional ideas which fall outside of the above categories

6.7.5 A Working group of internal stakeholders was formed to scope possible projects for which we could apply for funding.

Timescales/Deadlines for final submissions is 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and the outcomes are expected in April 2019.

6.8 This year the Mayor also funded air quality audits at three schools in Haringey. The audits identified a combination of hard-hitting measures and quick-win solutions to:

- Reduce the sources of harmful emissions
- Reduce exposure to harmful emissions; and to
- Establish a robust process and toolkit of measures to be rolled out across London by boroughs and primary schools

6.8.1 The schools selected using Greater London Authority's set criteria were:

- Lordship Primary School
- Welbourne Primary
- Holy Trinity Church of England School



## **7 Contribution to Strategic Outcomes**

7.1 This work will implement Mayor of London's, London Local Air Quality Management system (LAQM); contribute to the Draft Clean Air Strategy 2018 and Haringey's Corporate Plan Priorities 1, 2 and 3. It will also help to shape Haringey's forthcoming new Borough Plan 2019 - 2023

## **8 Equalities**

8.1 The Council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not
- Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

8.2 The three parts of the duty applies to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty.

8.3 Air pollution is associated with a number of adverse health impacts and it is recognised as a contributing factor in the onset of heart disease and cancer. There is a strong association between air pollution and equalities issues. It particularly affects the most vulnerable in society, including children and older people, and those with long-term health conditions. Moreover, areas with poor air quality are also often the less affluent areas, in which BAME communities constitute a relatively high proportion of the resident population

8.4 The Air Quality Action Plan will improve outcomes for individuals and groups who share protected characteristics including age, race and ethnicity, and disability. By taking action to mitigate the effects of air pollution, the Council is working to address a known inequality in terms of environmental quality.

8.5 A full EQIA is being considered in support of the new Draft AQAP.

## **9 Use of Appendices**

- Air Quality Action Plan 2010 – 2018
- Draft Air Quality Plan table of measures 2018 - 2023

## **10 Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

N/A