

Erewash Borough Council

Local Air Quality Management Air Quality Action Plan Progress Report 2008

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Executive Summary

Part IV of the Environment Act 1995 places a statutory duty on Local Authorities to review and assess the air quality within their area and take account of Government guidance when undertaking such work. This Action Plan Progress Report is a requirement of the third round of review and assessment (the 'Third Round') for local authorities. Bureau Veritas has been commissioned by Erewash Borough Council to prepare their Air Quality Action Plan Progress Report 2008.

The Progress Report provides an update in relation to the progress of the measures proposed in the Erewash Air Quality Action Plan. The final Action Plan was produced in February 2007 following the declaration of two Air Quality Management Areas for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) in residential areas near the M1 motorway. This Report has been undertaken in accordance with the Progress Report Guidance LAQM.PRG(03)¹.

In total 23 measures have been considered within this report out of which one has been completed, work has been ongoing on fifteen and progress has been made on these measures, and seven measures have not been implemented yet mainly due to capacity issues. One of the main proposed measures, the widening of the M1 to four lanes is currently in progress.

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Defra (2003) Progress Report Guidance LAQM.PRG(03) Part IV of the Environment Act 1995, Local Air Quality Management, The Stationery Office



Introduction

1.1 Project Background

Part IV of the Environment Act, 1995, places a statutory duty on local authorities to periodically review and assess the air quality within their area. The Progress Report is a requirement of the third round of Review and Assessment of air quality, as part of the Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) regime.

Bureau Veritas has been commissioned by Erewash Borough Council (EBC) to undertake the Air Quality Action Plan Progress Report for 2008. This report focuses on the review and assessment of the progress made in relation to the measures proposed in the Action Plan.

Erewash declared two Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) in residential areas near the M1 motorway in 2005, following exceedences of the annual mean Air Quality Strategy objective for this pollutant.

Following the declaration of an AQMA, local authorities are required to prepare an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) as part of their duties under the Environment Act 1995. The Action Plan must present the most adequate measures to improve air quality within an AQMA, including associated funding and the methods to assess the efficiency of these measures. EBC produced their final Action Plan in February 2007, following consultation with stakeholders and residents of the Borough.

1.2 Summary of Review and Assessment in the Borough of Erewash

1.2.1 The first and second rounds of Review and Assessment

Following the first and second rounds of Review and Assessment, EBC has declared two AQMAs for NO₂, encompassing residential properties close to the eastern carriageway of the M1 at Sandiacre and at Long Eaton, north and south of the M1 Junction 25, respectively.

1.2.2 The third round of Review and Assessment

EBC commenced the third round of review and assessment process in May 2006. The Updating and Screening Assessment (2006) concluded that the AQMAs previously declared should be retained and that the current monitoring program should be continued.

1.3 Scope and Methodology of the Action Plan Progress Report

Following the adoption of an Action Plan, Local Authorities are required to produce annual Progress Reports to review and assess the progress made in relation to the proposed measures. As described in LAQM.PRG(03), the Progress Report lists the measures detailed within the action plan and provides an update on progress in terms of their implementation.



2 Action Planning

The Action Plan proposes a number of measures to tackle air pollution in the AQMAs in Erewash. As detailed in the Action Plan itself, a full list of possible measures for inclusion in the final document were considered. However, only the most feasible and cost effective measures were selected and implemented as part of the Erewash Action Plan. These measures are summarised in the following table, together with an update on the progress made towards achieving each measure and the relevant outcomes.



Table 1 Progress on Adopted Action Plan Measures

Option Ref	Action plan measure	Progress with measure	Outcome to date
6	Participate in energy efficiency campaigns to encourage industry, businesses and residents when replacing equipment to use low emission technology and provide information on granting schemes where appropriate	Ongoing	Over the past year 2007/08 working in partnership with Warmfront nearly £1m of energy efficiency works have been undertaken in Erewash Direct energy efficiency advice has been given to 291 households Mail-outs of energy efficiency calendar to all households in the Borough Undertook partnership event with Derbyshire PCT and Amber Valley Borough Council Establish partnership working with Derbyshire PCT, Community Concern Erewash, Erewash CVS and Surestart Undertook two drop-in events in partnership with Warmfront
8-15	Liaise with the Highways Agency on the proposed scheme to widen the M1 motorway to four lanes, and on the M1 (J19-J30) Route Management Strategy	Ongoing	Participation in the Highways Agency Technical Liaison Committee is ongoing as is operation of the HA Diffusion tube Survey. Works on widening the motorway has commenced
18	Act as a point of information for businesses and major fleet operators, individuals and other stakeholders in Erewash for cleaner vehicle technologies, national	Not implemented	No action on this due to capacity issues



Option Ref	Action plan measure	Progress with measure	Outcome to date
	schemes and grant systems for the use of alternative fuels		
21	Provide training to local authority drivers to minimise emissions	Not implemented	No training undertaken at present
22	Act as a coordinator/facilitator to encourage local businesses to sign up to a Clean Vehicle Programme	Not implemented	No action on this due to capacity issues
24	Seek Freight Quality Partnerships to include reduction of air quality impact of freight as one of their key objectives	Ongoing	Derbyshire County Council adopted a Derby and Derbyshire Transport Strategy in 2003. As part of this strategy DCC are targeting haulage facilities
26	Act as a facilitator to freight and public transport operators to encourage maximum take-up of measures in national programmes for improving fleet emissions	Ongoing	Key aim of Derbyshire Transport Strategy
29	Act as a facilitator to car owners to encourage scrappage of older cars and take-up of measures in national programmes for improving fleet emissions	Not implemented	No action on this due to capacity issues
30	Complete the survey of Council employee travel patterns and implement a Council Green Travel Plan to maximise opportunities for pedestrian cycling, public transport and multiple occupancy journeys	Not implemented	Not implemented due to capacity issues



Option Ref	Action plan measure	Progress with measure	Outcome to date
32	Raise public and business awareness of existing transport choices and links to health through regular participation in campaigns/events	Ongoing	Information available on DCC website ²
33	Maximise access to and quality of road travel and public transport information	Ongoing	Information available on DCC website ²
34	Extend Green Travel Plan support to all stakeholders	Ongoing	Derbyshire County Council are currently developing a sustainable school transport plan
43	Maximise possibilities for non-road transport modes for freight (e.g. rail)	Ongoing	Key aim of Derbyshire Transport Strategy across Derbyshire to gather data on number of vehicles, parking problems or difficulties with misleading signs. Overall the project aims to: Raise education and awareness of freight issues; Reduce the environmental impact of freight movements; Increase the amount of freight moved by rail; Manage the movement of freight by road; Influence land use planning

² www.derbyshire.gov.uk/transport_roads



Option Ref	Action plan measure	Progress with measure	Outcome to date
46a	Develop an air quality strategy for Erewash Borough to assist corporate adoption of air quality issues as a priority, to foster cross-departmental working on air quality, and to act as a vehicle for dialogue and collaboration with organisations external to EBC	Ongoing	Strategy currently out for public consultation
46b	Develop an integrated assessment tool for the region to allow the air quality impact of transport and landuse developments to be made. Use this tool in the planning process where significant changes in emissions are proposed	Ongoing	DCC have access to PTOLEMY (Planning TranspOrt and Land use for the East Midlands economY)
47	Integrate the Air Quality Action Plan into the Local Transport Plan	Completed	Completed
48	Integrate the AQAP into the Unitary Development Plan, Land Use Plan and Community Plan	Ongoing	Erewash Air Quality Strategy currently under development
49	Ensure continued use of existing mechanisms including supplementary planning guidance and Section 106 agreements to manage air quality by assessing impacts of new developments and building best practice materials and techniques and mitigation into the design	Ongoing	Source of exceedence is not directly affected by developments. Nevertheless the use of section 106 agreements to ease or prevent transport problems is pursued where appropriate



Option Ref	Action plan measure	Progress with measure	Outcome to date
50	Extend Green Travel Plan support to cover the public and private sector operating in the Borough and region	Not Implemented	No action on this due to capacity issues. Some assistance is available from DCC
53	Participate in energy efficiency campaigns, encouraging effective insulation and the use of renewable energy	Ongoing	Over the past year 2007/08 working in partnership with Warmfront, nearly £1m of energy efficiency works have been undertaken in Erewash. • Direct energy efficiency advice has been given to 291 households, • Mail-outs of energy efficiency calendar to all households in the Borough, • Undertook partnership event with Derbyshire PCT and Amber Valley Borough Council, • Established partnership working with Derbyshire PCT, Community Concern Erewash, Erewash CVS and Surestart, • Undertook two drop-in events in partnership with Warmfront
54	Raise awareness of sustainable waste management practices for use by residents and businesses within the Borough	Ongoing	Erewash operates a green bin and a brown bin scheme to separate recyclables and compostables from the waste stream. Combined recycling performance for 2007/08 was 41% which exceeds the government target
55	Taking steps to accelerate the take- up of cleaner vehicles	Not Implemented	No action on this issue due to capacity shortfall
56	Further prioritising air quality as a key objective by which Highways Agency success is measured where there are AQMAs	Ongoing	Erewash Air Quality Strategy is currently under development



The summary of the status of measures considered within this Progress Report is provided below

Measures	Number
Total number of measures considered within the report	23
Number of completed measures	1
Number of ongoing measures – some progress has been made	15
Number of measures not implemented	7 (6 due to capacity issues and one due to training needs)



3 Conclusion and Recommendations

Following exceedences of the nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) annual mean Air Quality Strategy objective, Erewash Borough Council declared two Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) in residential areas along the M1 motorway in 2005.

In February 2007, the Council finalised their Air Quality Action Plan presenting the most adequate measures to improve air quality within the AQMAs, including associated funding and methods to assess the efficiency of these measures.

The Progress Report has provided an update on the implementation of the Action Plan in accordance with the Guidance LAQM.PRG(03). Erewash Borough Council have started the implementation of their Air Quality Action Plan in 2007/2008 and have made significant progress with a number of measures designed to improve air quality such as the preparation of an Air Quality Strategy, which is currently out for public consultation, and the active participation in energy efficiency campaigns to encourage the use of low emission technology.

In total progress has been reported for 23 measures out of which one has been completed, work has been ongoing on fifteen and progress has been made on these measures, and seven measures have not been implemented yet mainly due to capacity issues.

One of the main proposed measures, the widening of the M1 motorway to four lanes, has started and work is currently ongoing. The Council will continue to liaise with the Highways Agency through the Highways Agency Technical Liaison Committee and will provide assistance with the operation of the HA Diffusion Tube Survey.

The Council have also worked with Derbyshire County Council to provide and facilitate access to transport information through DCC's website and work is currently ongoing to develop a sustainable school transport plan. The Derbyshire Transport Strategy should also encourage the shift of freight to non-road transport modes.