

Air Quality Action Plan Rotherham MBC

Annual Progress Report 2006-07



**Rotherham MBC
Neighbourhood Services**

April 2007

***The National Air Quality Strategy- Air Quality Action Plan Annual
Progress Report for Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council***

**Rotherham MBC
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IMPLEMENTATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF ROTHERHAM MBC'S AIR QUALITY ACTION PLANS

The progress made on implementing the measures contained within the revised Rotherham Air Quality Action Plan –M1 (2006-2011) is listed below using the method recommended in LAQM.PRG(03), chapter 3.02.

The first Rotherham M1 Air Quality Action Plan was finalised in 2003, after a 2 year consultation process, taking account of measures within the first South Yorkshire Local Transport Plan (2001-2006). The Rotherham Air Quality Action Plan was fully revised during 2006 to reflect the Local Transport Planning process, proposed new developments, current guidance, air quality monitoring results and the second South Yorkshire Local Transport Plan (SYLTP2 2006-2011). The Rotherham Air Quality Action Plan (M1) 2006-2011 has been submitted to defra.

The Council declared four AQMAs for three major town centre routes during 2004. Further Assessment work found that the declaration was justified and initial work has been done on the formulation of an Action Plan for these routes which will be integrated into the South Yorkshire Local transport Plan (2006-2011) with the first LTP2 Annual Progress Report due in the summer of 2008. A prioritisation exercise was carried out during 2006-7 by Faber Maunsell on behalf of the South Yorkshire Authorities and South Yorkshire PTE to develop a programme of measures with the aim of improving air quality on the town centre routes.

Progress is detailed in the table below.

Table 1 progress 2006-2007

Action	Original Timescale	Progress with measure	Comments
Package 1 Improving Public Transport			
Quality Bus Corridors/ Partnerships	LTP 2006-2011	£2.5m was spent on developing and delivering 9 QBCs, forming the single largest aspect of the first South Yorkshire LTP Programme. Rotherham to M1 QBC – further work completed included new bus shelters. Rotherham to Dearne QBC: north bound- completed 2006. South bound – works programmed to commence 2007. A feasibility study is being carried out to determine the possibilities of a number of short right turn lanes on this route to reduce congestion. Rotherham-Thrybergh – Phase 1 completed 05/06. Phase 2 roundabout improvements due for completion May 2007.	The first two years of SYLTP2 (2006-2011) will see measures from LTP1 being completed.
South Yorkshire Car Club	2006-7 - First South Yorkshire Car Club	Sheffield Car Club: The Sheffield Car Club, operated by WhizzGo, was launched in 2007.	It is hoped that the Car Club can be extended to the rest of South Yorkshire.
Extension to Supertram	Aspirational long term project – Major Scheme in South Yorkshire LTP 2	Following an initial Annex E funding submission to DfT, a number of issues raised by were raised by DfT, including further work on alternative bus based proposals that could address some of the scheme's objectives (albeit less comprehensibly) and a supplementary report was submitted. The scheme has not received approval from DfT.	In relation to the M1 corridor, Supertram extensions would contribute to the goals of accessibility, integration and environment, while providing economic benefits by aiding the unlocking of a number of development sites. Supertram helps portray a modern positive image for the region.
Package 2 Campaigns			
South Yorkshire Care4air Campaign	(Care4Air) was initiated during 2004 and is on-going 2006-2011	A South Yorkshire media campaign. The campaign has now gained a commitment to funding from the South Yorkshire Second Local Transport Plan partners The South Yorkshire Care4air campaign has had success getting coverage in a range of local media. Major issues covered during 2006-07 are Eco-driving and web site development included a Young People's Section.	Care4air messages have been featured on BBC local news programmes (TV and radio) and widely in the local and regional written press.

Action	Original Timescale	Progress with measure	Comments
Package 3 Planning			
Travel Plans (3a)	2007-2011	Further work has been commissioned by the Highways Agency in partnership with the Local Authorities on the development of an Area Travel Plan for the Lower Don Valley. This includes Templeborough and Centurion Business Park, which has the potential to impact on to the M1 AQMA in Rotherham.	
Planning and Air Quality Guidance (3b)	2007	New air quality guidance will be developed as part of the Local Development Framework for Rotherham.	
Assess proposed major schemes for air quality impact (3c)	2007-2011	Major schemes with the potential to impact on air quality within the M1 AQMA are assessed by Neighbourhood Services. On-going	
Package 4 – Options Specific to Reducing Emissions from the M1 and Traffic Using the Motorway			
Mitigation measures (4a)	2011	The Highways Agency is working on proposals to widen the M1 motorway including the stretch from J32-J35 through Rotherham. Air Quality Assessment will be part of the work for the expected Public Enquiry. Mitigation measures could include speed restrictions. Ramp-metering has been introduced at some M1 junctions e.g. J34, within the M1 AQMA.	Rotherham MBC is participating in the HA monitoring survey along the M1 corridor. Rotherham MBC Officers attend meetings with HA as appropriate.

Action	Original Timescale	Progress with measure	Comments
Package 5 – European/National measures			
New Euro Standards V/VI (5a)		EU measure	
Programme of incentives to increase the penetration of low emission vehicles (5b)	2007-2011	Central Government measure	
National road pricing scheme (5c)	No timescale	Central Government measure	