

KIRKLEES AIR QUALITY ACTION PLAN

WHAT ARE THE KEY POINTS?

The Kirklees Air Quality Strategy was approved by Cabinet in May 2007. It incorporates the detailed action plan below to achieve its aims.

KIRKLEES AIR QUALITY STRATEGY ACTION PLAN

1. GENERAL and REPORTING

- 1.1 Air quality assessment across the whole area of Kirklees will be carried out on an ongoing basis and an annual report made to Cabinet. In addition to reporting on air quality monitoring results the report will include information described under the headings below.
- 1.2 Assessment of air quality impacts of new developments will focus on:
 - the mitigation of new sources of pollution on air quality
 - the reduction of exposure of residents to levels of poorer air quality

2. PLANNING

2.1 Local Development Framework (LDF)/Local Development Scheme (LDS)

- Establish an appropriate planning response to air quality as part of the strategy of the LDF by September 2009
- Produce detailed guidance on air quality matters to be applied in the planning application process
 - in the interim period before the adoption of the LDS
 - and subsequent to the adoption of the LDS

2.2 Development Control

Examine all planning applications and determine if air quality is a material consideration in that application

An annual report on the number of applications where air quality was determined to be a material consideration

Report the number of applications where air quality recommendations were made by Environmental Services to Planning Services as part of the Planning consultation process

Develop robust advice that can be given to developers and planners in relation to air quality and which can be applied in the planning decision making process by September 2009. Report on the ongoing review of this advice.

3. HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

3.1 Local Transport Plan (LTP)

Annual reports will be made of the following pollution levels:

Report on the traffic related nitrogen oxide emissions on the primary road network in the air quality “Areas of Concern” and any Air Quality Management Areas that are declared

Report on the traffic related carbon dioxide emissions on the primary road network in the air quality “Areas of Concern” and any Air Quality Management Areas that are declared

Report on the background levels of nitrogen dioxide across Kirklees.

Report on the background levels of small particulates (PM10) across Kirklees.

These reports will be carried out in conjunction with the regional reporting requirements of the LTP.

3.2 Transport assessments

Transport Assessments are sometimes required as part of a planning application.

Where a Transport Assessment is required for a development in an air quality “Area of Concern” or any Air Quality Management Area then an air quality assessment will be required, as a matter of course, as part of that Transport Assessment.

Report the number of transport assessments where air quality assessed

Report the number of applications where air quality related recommendations were made by Environmental Services to Highways and Transportation as part of the Transport Assessment process.

3.3 Demand management of traffic

The effect of demand management schemes on air quality levels will be assessed at the proposal stage, and where demand management schemes are implemented in air quality “Areas of Concern” or any Air Quality Management Area reports of their effectiveness will be incorporated into the annual report on air quality.

4. REGENERATION

4.1 Proposals for regeneration projects or schemes will include air quality impact assessments and air quality mitigation measures.

4.2 Annual reports will be made on these assessments and mitigation measures.

5. HIGHWAYS AGENCY

5.1 Partnership working with the Highways Agency on air quality matters will be developed. (At present the Highways Agency has co-funded one M62 continuous air quality monitoring station, and information has been shared with them from two other stations). Proposals for development of this partnership working will be made each year in consultation with Kirklees Highways and Transportation Service.

5.2 The effect of M62 developments on air quality on Kirklees for residents will be evaluated and reported on from the planning stage through to post implementation.

- 5.3 A representative of the Highways Agency has begun to attend the Local Transport Plan regional air quality group (West Yorkshire Transport Emissions Group). A summary will be compiled of the Highways Agency input into this Group.
- 5.4 An annual report will be made to Cabinet of the information in 5.1, 5.2 & 5.3. A copy of this report will be subsequently forwarded to the Highways Agency.

6. INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION CONTROL

- 6.1 All new or altered industrial processes regulated under the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2008 will be assessed for their impact on local air quality.
- 6.2 Where the process is regulated by the Environment Agency appropriate recommendations will be made for the mitigation of the impacts on local air quality.

7 CLIMATE CHANGE

- 7.1 The Clean Air Act requires local authority approval of new or altered combustion plant above a certain power rating (where it is outside the regime of industrial pollution control).
- 7.2 Where these locations are in or near air quality "Areas of Concern" or Air Quality Management Areas, Kirklees may require appropriate particulate arrestment plant - normally where gas is not the fuel and notably in solid fuel boilers/furnaces.