

2013 Air Quality Progress Report

Executive Summary

This Progress Report on air quality within South Gloucestershire provides an update on monitoring data and an assessment of any new developments which might have an impact on air quality, as well as providing some context in relation to wider policies and processes being used to improve air quality. The report also updates on the progress made in implementing the Air Quality Action Plan for Kingswood and Staple Hill.

On comparison of the 2012 monitoring results with national air quality objectives, the report has concluded the following:

- For nitrogen dioxide, there are exceedences of the annual mean objective. The majority of these are within the Kingswood and Staple Hill air quality management areas (AQMAs), confirming they are still required. However, there are seven exceeding sites outside of the AQMAs.
- A Detailed Assessment is already underway in respect of one of these sites in Warmley High Street to confirm the exceedence and the extent of the potential air quality problem in this area.
- At the other six exceeding sites outside of the AQMAs, relevant exposure is set back from the monitoring sites. When the results were adjusted to reflect the distance to the closest relevant receptor, concentrations were predicted to be below the annual mean objective in relation to four of the sites.
- For the remaining two sites; site 52 (Hambrook - A4174 Ring Road) and site 127 (Soundwell at the Soundwell Road/Downend Road/Syston Way junction), exceedences were still predicted following distance adjustment of the results. However, further monitoring has been introduced at the façade of the closest relevant receptor to site 52, which showed concentrations to be below the annual mean objective, so no further action is required in respect of this site.
- For site 127, it is proposed to set up an additional monitoring site at the façade of the nearest residential property to better represent relevant exposure. Should any exceedences be identified at the new monitoring site or at the other

monitoring sites around this junction in subsequent review and assessment reports, a Detailed Assessment will be undertaken.

- The review of 2012 monitoring results for the Cribbs Causeway AQMA show nitrogen dioxide concentrations are below the annual mean objective at the façade of the only residential property within the AQMA. However, the AQMA will be retained pending further monitoring results before a decision is made as to whether to revoke it or not.
- For all other pollutants monitored, there are no exceedences of the objectives.

In relation to new developments that may impact on air quality, a proposed biomass boiler has been identified at Warmley Park School. A detailed dispersion modelling assessment will be carried out for this boiler and any necessary measures will be taken to ensure the boiler does not impact on local air quality prior to the boiler becoming operational.

In addition, there are a number of large scale developments coming forward, including several major housing developments and a proposed new gas fired power station (Seabank 3). These will continue to be assessed and where relevant monitored, with updates given in subsequent review and assessment reports.

Good progress is being made in the implementation of the Air Quality Action Plan for Kingswood and Staple Hill with progress made against all of the short and medium term actions and some of the long-term actions in both areas. Work will continue to implement the action plan measures and future progress will be reported in subsequent review and assessment reports.

Proposed Actions

The next course of action will be to complete the Detailed Assessment for nitrogen dioxide in Warmley High Street with a view to submitting the report to Defra by the end of April 2014 following a year of monitoring.

The 2014 Progress Report will also be completed as part of the review and assessment reporting cycle. This report will include the 2013 monitoring results, an update on new local developments, including an update on the Warmley Park school biomass boiler; and progress on the implementation of the Air Quality Action Plan for Kingswood and Staple Hill.