

Combined 2015 Updating and Screening Assessment & 2014 Air Quality Progress Report - Executive Summary

This Updating and Screening Assessment has been carried out in fulfilment of Part IV of the Environment Act 1995 which requires local authorities to review and assess air quality within their administrative area. This report also incorporates the 2014 Air Quality Progress Report to complete South Gloucestershire's review and assessment reporting duties.

This combined report includes a review of monitoring data for 2013 and 2014, where the results are compared with national air quality objectives, and screens for various potential sources of pollution within South Gloucestershire in accordance with the Local Air Quality Management Technical Guidance 2009 (LAQM.TG(09)).

The report has concluded the following:

- For nitrogen dioxide, there are exceedences of the annual mean objective. The majority of these occurred at monitoring sites within the Staple Hill and the recently extended Kingswood - Warmley Air Quality Management Areas, confirming the AQMAs are required. However, one monitoring site on the Kingswood/ Soundwell border (site 147) is outside of an AQMA. Triplicate diffusion tube monitoring will be set up at this site to determine whether there is a confirmed exceedence at this location.
- While the 2013 and 2014 monitoring results for the Cribbs Causeway AQMA show nitrogen dioxide concentrations are below the annual mean objective, the AQMA will be retained as a precaution in light of the major development planned in the Cribbs Causeway/Patchway area.
- For all other pollutants monitored; particulate matter (PM₁₀), benzene and heavy metals, namely lead, there are no exceedences of the relevant objectives.
- There are no potential pollution sources of concern in respect of the following; road transport sources, other transport sources (airports, railways and shipping), industrial sources, other commercial and domestic sources and fugitive or uncontrolled sources, and therefore, no detailed assessments are required.

- Good progress is continuing to be made in the implementation of the Air Quality Action Plan for Kingswood and Staple Hill with some short, medium and long-term actions completed and progress made against all of the short and medium term actions and some of the long-term actions in both areas.

Proposed Actions

South Gloucestershire Council will complete and submit a 2016 Air Quality Report (likely to be referred to as an Annual Status Report) by the end of June 2016 in line with any revised guidelines from Defra following the Local Air Quality Management review.

Current monitoring will continue across the district at sites of relevant exposure and be reviewed as necessary, to ensure that the sites represent worse-case exposure wherever possible. The next monitoring results for 2015 are due to be reported in the 2016 Air Quality Report.

Following the declaration of the Kingswood – Warmley AQMA in December 2015, the adopted 2012 Air Quality Action Plan for Kingswood and Staple Hill is being reviewed and updated. Additional actions will be identified, as necessary, to cover the new extent of the AQMA. The updated Action Plan is anticipated to be completed within 12 -18 months. In the meantime, progress on the implementation of the adopted Action Plan will continue to be provided and will be next reported in the 2016 Air Quality Report.