

REPORT TO: HOUSING, DUNDEE CONTRACT SERVICES & ENVIRONMENT SERVICES
COMMITTEE (9TH JUNE 2008)

REPORT ON: AIR QUALITY PROGRESS REPORT 2007

REPORT BY: HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & TRADING STANDARDS

REPORT NO: 222-2008

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Committee of the contents of the 2007 Air Quality Progress Report for Dundee. Copies of the report have been passed to Group Leaders and Bailie Borthwick.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee:-

- (i) notes the principal findings of the Local Air Quality Progress Report 2007 and its submission to the statutory consultees, the Scottish Government and Scottish Environment Protection Agency;
- (ii) notes that the findings reconfirm the need for the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) for Nitrogen Dioxide at locations identified in previous reports (Reference Reports 190-2005, 600-2005 and 115-2007) and in two new areas of potential exceedence of the annual mean objective;
- (iii) notes the findings in relation to fine particles (PM₁₀) where it predicts that the 2010 PM₁₀ annual mean objective will be exceeded in several locations. It would be prudent therefore to undertake a Detailed Assessment of PM₁₀ to determine the need for the declaration of an Air Quality Management Area for PM₁₀;
- (iv) approves the appointment of a specialist consultant to assist the Council in undertaking the Detailed Assessment of PM₁₀, and
- (v) notes the impact on air quality of the removal of the tolls from the Tay Road Bridge has not yet been maximised because of restrictions on the south bound carriageway. It is anticipated, however, that the removal of the tolls will have a positive long term effect on Nitrogen Dioxide levels in the city centre.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The expenditure required for the financial year 2008/2009 can be met from the Environmental Health and Trading Standards Department's revenue budget.

4.0 MAIN TEXT

- 4.1 Part IV of the Environmental Act 1995 and subsequent Regulations places a statutory duty on local authorities to periodically review and assess the air quality within their area.
- 4.2 Each local authority is required to prepare a progress report in the years when they are not carrying out their three yearly Updating and Screening Assessment (USA) or carrying out a Detailed Assessment. The report focuses on each of the pollutants listed in the Air Quality Regulations that were monitored in Dundee during 2006, namely nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide and PM₁₀ (fine particulate matter).

- 4.3 The Progress Report concentrates primarily on new monitoring data and new developments that have the potential to affect local air quality. It also provides information to assist in other policy areas such as transport, land use planning and climate change within the Council.
- 4.4 Each pollutant was assessed in conjunction with the relevant guidance and the following conclusions were reached:
- Nitrogen dioxide - analysis of the 2006 data for nitrogen dioxide reconfirms the need for the AQMA at locations identified in previous reports (Reference Reports 190-2005, 600-2005 and 115-2007) and in two new areas of potential exceedence of the annual mean.
 - Particulates (PM₁₀) - monitoring results for 2006 indicate that the 2010 annual mean objective may be exceeded in several locations. As a consequence, therefore, the Council should undertake a Detailed Assessment of PM₁₀ to determine the need for the declaration of an Air Quality Management Area.
 - Sulphur dioxide - the monitoring results for 2006 indicate that all the National Air Quality Standards were met at monitoring locations in Dundee. Consequently a detailed assessment is not currently required for the pollutant.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management.

The major issues identified are:

5.1 Sustainability

5.1.1 The sustainability policy principles that are addressed in this report are -

- ensure compliance with relevant environmental legislation and related policy guidance
- minimise the impact of Council activities on air and water quality and adopt measures to reduce noise intrusion.

5.1.2 The acceptance of the contents of this report will assist the Council in meeting its statutory obligations in relation to the review and assessment of air quality within the city.

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 The Chief Executive
Depute Chief Executive (Support Services)
Depute Chief Executive (Finance)
Head of Finance
Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning)
Director of Planning and Transportation

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 **None**

Albert Oswald
Head of Environmental Health & Trading Standards

May 2008