

## WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

Calne AREA BOARD  
30 August 2016

### Calne Air Quality Action Plan

#### 1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. To ask Members to review progress on the 2015/16 Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP).
- 1.2. To adopt this latest version of the 2015/16 action plan as the ongoing 2016/17 Calne Air Quality Action Plan.

#### 2. Background

- 2.1. As traffic volumes have increased, the effects of pollution can be seen in the damage and erosion to the buildings and infrastructure of our town. At the same time there has been a decrease in air quality. Levels of nitrogen dioxide are measured as an indication of local air quality. In Calne, levels of nitrogen dioxide pollution exceed the UK annual objective of 40 micrograms per cubic metre of air.
- 2.2. Wiltshire Council monitored Air Quality in Calne for 3 years by means of diffusion tubes placed across the main roads. This showed that there were 3 areas where pollution exceeds accepted levels. These areas are Oxford Road/ Curzon Street and New Road/ London Road.
- 2.3. As a result, an Air Quality Management Area was designated and more detailed monitoring continues. This has included a 'real time' monitoring station on New Road, to measure nitrogen dioxide and particulates. (Particulates are the tiny particles of dust that are known to stick to lungs and internal organs).
- 2.4. Air quality has been identified as a significant local concern. To address the aspirations and concerns of members of the local community an Air Quality Working Group (AQWG) was set up by the Area Board, its current terms of reference were approved by the area board in October 2014.
- 2.5. The objectives of this group are to work together with local people, groups and organisations to raise awareness of air quality in Calne, to encourage local action and to work with Wiltshire Council to bring the level of pollutants (nitrogen dioxide and particulates) into line with national air quality objectives.
- 2.6. More specifically the group aims to:

- Raise public awareness of the risks posed by poor air quality and the opportunities to reduce risk through local action.
- Raise awareness of health and general wellbeing through the promotion of exercise, health and wellbeing and improvements to air quality.
- Work within and complement existing national and local policies (e.g. UK climate change strategy, Wiltshire Air Quality strategy, Local Transport Plan, Wiltshire Core Strategy etc.) supported by Wiltshire Council officers.
- Encourage local projects, explore funding opportunities and recommend decisions to the area board.
- Establish links with similar groups in Wiltshire to share experience, ideas and good practice.

2.7. The group has worked together to develop a local air quality action plan through which it hopes to achieve and evaluate its aims.

2.8. This is a living document which is updated at each meeting of the Air Quality Working Group and reported to each area board meeting.

2.9. The Area Board is asked to review and report on progress on this action plan on an annual basis and confirm it as the ongoing adopted action plan.

### 3. Main Considerations

3.1.



## Calne Community Air Quality Action Plan 2015/16

In developing its local Action Plan, the Calne Air Quality Working Group recognises that polluting gas nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub> or NO<sub>x</sub>) is emitted by engines burning fossil fuels.

Within the Calne Air Quality Management Area there are three points where NO<sub>x</sub> levels exceed government limits and the group understands that these exceedences are due to motor vehicles. It is also understood that HGVs are far more polluting than cars.

Therefore the top priority for the group is to reduce the number of motor vehicles, especially HGVs, which pass through the Calne Air Quality Management Area wherever possible. This would also have the effect of reducing pollution caused by microscopic particles, which are also emitted by vehicles.

The action plan will also focus attention on actions that will improve the flow of traffic through the Air Quality Management Area, encourage local people to reduce the use of private cars and to reduce the current impact of pollution.

The following table shows the priority actions identified by the working group (highlighted in green) and those action points currently identified and/or acted upon (actions described in light grey text have been completed).

The action plan is a living document and will be updated at each group meeting as projects and actions emerge and are completed. These will be reported to each area board along with any recommendations for local decision making.

The Area Board will be asked to review and report progress made implementing their action plan on an annual basis.

Priority	Projects	Progress, Action, Comments	Project Lead	Costs	Milestones, comments
Seek to reduce the number of motor vehicles that pass through the Calne Air Quality Management Area.					
	Assess/Review classification of the A4 through Calne.	Clarify the criteria required for the A4 as an alternative route to the M4.	Calne Area Transport		
To consider traffic flow with regard to road safety and air pollution through the Calne Air Quality Management Area					
	White Hart Roundabout alterations	Ask CATG (Cllr. Crisp) to consider traffic flow when it conducts feasibility studies.	GA/AH		
Promote awareness in the Calne community area.	'Love calne, love clean air'				
	School Poster Design	Liaise with schools	GA		Completed at Area Board – October 2013

	AQ themed Area Board		GA/JV		Held in October 2013.
	Create promotional materials and Campaign identity.	Liaise with Comms, 'brand' created.	RK/GA/JV		November 2014
		Seek funds/support to promote brand.	Group		
Promote Clean Vehicle Use in the Community Area					
	EV point - roll out.	Initial EV point at a location in the Centre of Calne.			
	Encourage sustainable transport from all new estates.				
	Encourage low emission public transport.				
Promote walking for local journeys to school/work					
	Walk to school activity: Swipe a Tree (Beat the Street)	Identify project, undertake feasibility	All		Beat the Street identified
		Identify funding for Beat the Street Project.	JV/RK/GA		Funded by Public Health grant Autumn/Winter 2014
		Group to develop and plan project with Devizes AQ management group.	JV/RK/GA and Intelligent Health		Completed June 2015
		Promote/ encourage engagement	JV/RK/GA		Completed June 2015
		Identify local sponsorship/prizes	All group		Local business support and Area Board donation of book tokens each day for school children.

		Celebration/prize giving	JV/RK/GA		Held at St Edmunds – 26 June 2015
		Evaluation/feedback	All/Intelligent Health		Ran Beat the Street Project in May/June 2015. (24% of the population engaged in the project).
		Report/Analysis	Beat the Street		Intelligent Health Report - March 2016
	Walking Bus	Engage with local schools	GA		
	Encourage School Transport Plans	Work with School travel planner.	Group		
	Collect data on how people get to school/work	Calne Area Transport Travel Survey	Anne Henshaw		
	Develop a walk to work project/incentive		All		
	Road to Rio	Find out information about the project	JV		Information provided Feb 2016
		Promote locally and through OCM, and social media.	All		Completed – August 2016
Encouraging/enabling cycling in the Calne community area.					
	Bobbies on Bicycles (purchase of branded bikes for the local NPT)	Liaise with local NPT Sergeant/Inspector	GA/JV		
		Identify Funding	GA/JV	£1,000	Funded by the Area Board October 2014
		Promotion	All		Included at Area Board Comm. Safety Fair Feb 2015
	Bike Stands at GP surgeries	Contact/liaise with GPs	JV		Positive responses received

					from Northlands and Beversbrook Surgeries
		Identify funding	GA/JV	£1,000	Funded by the Area Board February 2015
		Work with Highways/GPs to implement	GA/JV		
	Bike and Hike Families' event and young people cycle event.	Investigate running another event (link with Chippenham)	AH?		
		Liaise with Chippenham CEM	JV		
Encouraging/enabling walking in the Calne community area					
	Free guided walks	Local volunteers provide guided walks for local people to discover their local area	Env.Network (Peter Knight /Sue Wallace)		Fri 15 Aug 2014 - St Mary's & The Green (in assoc. with Calne Library). Meet 2.00pm in Calne Library for intro. Sun 7 Sep 2014 - Cherhill White Horse & its landscape. Meet at Noon outside the Divine Café, Cherhill.
	Get Wiltshire Walking	Get Wiltshire Walking group	Led by volunteer and Wiltshire Council		ongoing
	Heritage week walks		Sue Wallace		September 2015
	Enhance the local area to make walking more attractive	Map the local area for 'grot spots'			

Tree Planting Schemes in the Calne Air Quality Management Area					
	Plant Silver Birch trees in the Air Quality Management Area	Achieve funding for trees	GA/JV	£2,000	Funded by Area Board Feb 2015
		Identify planting locations	GA/JV/CB/AH		Completed Sept 2015
		Work with Town Council, Calne Environmental Network and Young People's Magna Carta Group to plant and promote.	GA/JV		1st Phase completed April 2016 – Calne Town Gardens – reported in Gazette and Herald, Twitter, Facebook and OCM.  2nd Phase - Awaiting confirmation from Town Council re. planting at New Road Roundabout.
	2 <sup>nd</sup> tree planting scheme High Street containers	Identify funding			
	3 <sup>rd</sup> tree planting scheme, trees to residents in AQ area.	Identify funding			



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3.2. This action plan will form the local section of the Wiltshire-wide Air Quality Action Plan.

3.3. Upon the approval of the Area Board it will be used to inform Wiltshire Council's submission to DEFRA.

#### **4. Recommendation**

It is recommended that:

1. The Area Board notes progress made during 2015/16
2. The Area Board adopts this document and refers to it with regards to Air Quality priorities.

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