

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

SALISBURY AREA BOARD
9th March 2017

SALISBURY'S AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT GROUP UPDATE

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. To update the board on matters debated and progressed by the Air Quality Management Group in 2016/17

2. Background

- 2.1 Local authorities have a duty to monitor air quality within their areas having regard to national air quality objectives and standards and report this information to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) on an annual basis. There are seven pollutants which we are required to consider under European and UK Law, these include lead, benzene and sulphur dioxide. Air quality in Wiltshire is predominantly good with the majority of the county having clean, unpolluted air. There are however a small number of locations (including Salisbury) where the combination of traffic, road layout and geography has resulted in exceedences of the annual average for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and fine particulates (PM₁₀).
- 2.2 Community involvement in air quality has been key to producing the Wiltshire Air Quality Action Plan. As part of this process Area Boards with an air quality management area have been tasked through whatever means they feel suitable to produce a plan of actions to help with the improvement of air quality in their area which is community lead. The plans form part of the Wiltshire wide air quality action plan. The community action plans and projects are continuously evolving; therefore each group has their own page to detail their work. - See more at: <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/env-health-air-quality#sthash.kyDF5kS9.dpuf>
- 2.3 In Salisbury, Wilton Road, Devizes Road and London Road are each the subject of an air quality management area.

3. Progress update

- 3.1. The main issues that have been debated and progressed by the Salisbury AQMG in 2016/17 are:

- (a) Improving air quality on the A36 – working in partnership with Highways England (HE), with the intention of influencing the next HE Road Investment Strategy for 2020
- (b) Results from air quality monitoring, which have flagged up increases in NO2 on South Western Rd, Wilton Rd, Devizes Rd, and Exeter St, London Rd (St Mark's roundabout)
- (c) The links of early death with poor air quality
- (d) The development of a Mobile App to provide real-time air quality readings
- (e) The mapping of walking and cycling routes which require improved connectivity, especially between housing developments. This will be assisted by the imminent Salisbury Sustainable Transport Strategy review, changes to the strategic housing sites, to Highway's England's new transport funding model, and to Salisbury's new flood plan. This will feed into the group's aspiration for a supplementary planning guidance paper on green infrastructure and connectivity.
- (f) Tree planting (at Skew Bridge, UTC, watercourse along Waitrose, Fountains Way) (potential to fund new trees for Southampton roundabout by the Friary)
- (g) Promotion of green tourism
- (h) Success in securing £7500 of Community Infrastructure Levy from the new Salisbury ASDA development for green infrastructure
- (i) Work continues to encourage more cycling and walking, and to reduce reliance on the car (30 members now signed up to the car-share club)
- (j) Potential for a neighbourhood plan for the city
- (k) Potential for Salisbury to have a ['clean air zone'](#)
- (l) Clean Bus technology solutions for Salisbury
- (m) Pursuing greater use of electric vehicles
- (n) Pursuing options to provide a bus service to Five Rivers Health & Wellbeing Centre

4. Recommendation

4.1 That the board notes this progress update.