

**Wiltshire Council**

**Cabinet**

**14 July 2020**

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**Statement from Nadia Evans about the Westbury Gasification Plant**

**Agenda Item 5 – Public Participation**

**To Cllr Toby Sturgis Cabinet Member for Spatial Planning, Development  
Management and Property**

**Statement**

In November 2001 Wiltshire Council declared Westbury as one of eight Air Quality Management Areas in Wiltshire.

Since then the volume of traffic through the town has increased and several large housing estates have been built, more are being built and given planning permission.

Recently the closure of a bridge in Bath is diverting traffic onto the A350 through Westbury and the Bath Clean Air Zone coming into operation this Autumn will further increase the number of mainly HGVs through our town in order to avoid the fee for travelling through Bath. All of this is worsening the quality of our environment.

And the latest hit is Hills with Bioenergy Infrastructure announcing the third plan for their Northacre site, this time a Conventional Incinerator, the biggest and dirtiest of their three, with capacity of 243 000t per annum (Westbury's residual non recyclable waste estimated at 6 000tpa) burning Commercial, Industrial and Municipal waste.

At least 200 000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, with numerous other poisonous gasses coming out of the chimney would be in direct contradiction to Wiltshire Council's declaration, as stated on the front page of their website, of a Climate Emergency. It would also set back Westbury's situation regarding AQMA.