

Air Quality Action Plan for Wiltshire

Draft Consultation

October 2014





Foreword

Wiltshire is characterised by extensive areas of unspoilt countryside and enjoys very good air quality, giving rise to a high quality environment for residents, visitors and businesses. There are, however, a few specific areas in our market towns that have issues with air quality.

Given that the primary source of the pollutants is vehicle emissions, finding solutions is a challenge for us all to rise to.

We fundamentally believe that the needs of the local community are at the heart of what we do at Wiltshire Council. It is our objective to work together with communities to solve problems locally and participate in decisions that affect them and as a result build stronger more resilient communities.

An improvement to air quality requires an integrated approach on the part of agencies, partners and communities. We must, therefore, adopt more innovative ways of working to improve the air quality in those areas that require action.

In developing this action plan, the Area Boards have been key in establishing air quality working groups to formulate community air quality action plans. Building on this in developing this air quality action plan for Wiltshire we have taken an innovative and inclusive approach. The plan has been structured to incorporate both thematic county wide strategic actions and locally generated actions which will be in the ownership of the relevant Area Board.

Work on community action plans has only been possible as a result of our well established partnership working with those who live in and know the local area well. Together we have the local data and knowledge that will help us work towards making community areas in Wiltshire better places to live, work in and to visit.

On behalf of Wiltshire Council we would like to thank everyone who has been involved in the development of each of the community action plans. These will identify local priorities, deliver improved outcomes and make a real difference to the lives of local people. Thank you to the Public Health and Protection Team: Frances Chinemana, Gary Tomsett, Rachel Kent; to the Scrutiny Panel members and the Community Area Board Managers.



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Executive Summary

Local authorities have a duty to produce an air quality action plan where an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) has been declared. The purpose of the air quality action plan is, on the evidence available, to set out the strategic and locally generated actions that will be implemented to improve air quality and work towards meeting the air quality objectives.

The primary source of pollutants in the Wiltshire AQMAs is produced by vehicle emissions. It is recognised that improving air quality in these specific locations is difficult due to the increased use and reliance on private motor vehicles. Finding solutions is, therefore, a challenge for us all to rise to. For action planning to realise its full potential it is important to work with local communities to generate and implement or influence local solutions.

The profile of air quality and health has been rising, both nationally and locally. Consequently, Wiltshire has come a long way in recent years in working towards ways of improving and maintaining good air quality in the County.

We have achieved a significant amount of progress under the auspices of the Air Quality Strategy:

- We have recognised the importance of planning for the future in ensuring we protect air quality. To ensure air quality is considered at the early stages of development we have developed an air quality policy (Core Policy 55) for inclusion in the Wiltshire Core Strategy. This is supported by draft Supplementary Planning Document and guidance toolkit for developers. We have given evidence in support of the policy at the public hearings into the core strategy and this is now moving toward adoption
- The local Area Boards with AQMAs have provided the ideal platform for creating local community groups with an interest in improving air quality within their area. We have put in considerable work into founding and supporting the community action plan working groups. Projects such as tree planting, business and school travel planning, increasing the profile of cycling and traffic surveys have been initiated as a result of their work. These are captured in their individual action plans.
- We have commissioned a website which will provide access to data from our real time air quality monitoring equipment. The site will contain health information and a text alert system called “Know and Respond” which will help those with respiratory conditions plan their time and safeguard their health when air quality is poor.
- Air quality has been identified by some communities as one of their priorities and is reflected in their Community Joint Strategic Assessments and in the State of Environment Report 2013.

This plan now carries forward the AQS in developing further the actions and community involvement.



Many different agencies, services and communities have contributed to the production of this Action Plan, as improvements to air quality can only be achieved by taking an integrated, collaborative approach.

The plan details 17 strategic actions, the implementation of which, will work towards achieving the objective for nitrogen dioxide and small particulates. These actions share synergies with many other council policies and strategies notably the Local Transport plan and Climate Change Strategy.

There will be six community air quality action planning working groups. These groups share two common actions;

- To produce a community action plan
- The area board is to report annually in January on progress made with implementing their action plan.

An annual progress report will then be submitted to DEFRA; The action plan as a whole will be reviewed within 5 years.

A summary of all the actions contained within this plan is available in the appendix.



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Introduction

This plan has been produced by Wiltshire Council and constitutes the Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) designed to address the air quality problems identified within the 8 air quality management areas (AQMAs) declared in Wiltshire. It is a statutory duty for Wiltshire Council to develop an AQAP following the declaration of an air quality management area in response to identified exceedence of one or more of the air quality objectives. The purpose of the AQAP is, on the evidence available, to set out the strategic and locally generated actions that will be implemented to improve air quality and work towards meeting the air quality objectives.

In developing this new AQAP we have taken forward the thematic approach used in our Air Quality Strategy and many of the other strategies produced within the Council. This approach allows us to clearly identify linkages between the key strategic documents and the requirements of the air quality strategy and the AQAP. Key drivers of the plan are the community action plan groups that have been set up in the towns with AQMAs. The groups will take forward local initiatives and promote the importance of clean air in their area.

Part IV of The Environment Act 1995, introduced a national framework for air quality management whereby all local authorities are required to annually review the air quality within their boundaries. Following the review they must assess the air quality against the objectives specified for the pollutant of concern. Where the process has indicated that the objective will not be achieved within the statutory timeframe then the local authority is required to designate an AQMA at the earliest possible date.

The objectives being breached in Wiltshire are primarily for exceedence of the annual average objective for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and in Bradford on Avon the AQMA was also declared for exceedence of the annual average particulate (PM₁₀) objective caused largely by vehicle emissions. The AQMAs declared are in the following locations:

Salisbury (3)

Bradford on Avon (1)

Westbury (1)

Devizes (1)

Marlborough (1)

Calne (1)



The AQAP has been organised as a 'framework' document made up of a suite of supporting documents reflecting the individual themes identified within the air quality strategy. Since writing the Strategy, Public Health has joined Wiltshire Council so this has now been added to the list. The themes are as follows:

- Transport
- Community Involvement
- Development Services and Spatial Planning
- Green Economy
- Public Health

This document has been organised as follows:

Chapter 1 Introduction

Chapter 2 Action Plan: a different approach

Chapter 3 Source Apportionment

Chapter 4 Community Involvement

Chapter 5 Transport

Chapter 6 Development Services & Spatial Planning

Chapter 7 Green Economy

Chapter 8 Public Health

Appendices

Appendix 1 Developing Actions

Appendix 2 Bradford on Avon

Appendix 3 Westbury

Appendix 4 Salisbury

Appendix 5 Marlborough

Appendix 6 Devizes

Appendix 7 Calne

Appendix 8 Actions brought forward from the Wiltshire Air Quality Strategy 2011-15

Appendix 9 Summary table of Actions; Wiltshire Air Quality Action Plan 2014

Wiltshire Council has recognised the importance of environmental factors on the health of its residents. The commitment to improving the environment for all residents is encapsulated within common strategic outcomes in the Council's Business Plan 2013 – 2017, the



emerging Core Strategy, Health and Wellbeing Strategy, The Local Transport Plan and The Energy Change and Opportunity Strategy and the emerging Green Infrastructure Strategy.

Strong and resilient communities can be described by six key outcomes:

- 1) People in Wiltshire have strong relationships, solve problems locally and participate in decisions that affect them
- 2) Everyone in Wiltshire lives sustainably in a high quality environment
- 3) Wiltshire has a thriving and growing local economy
- 4) Wiltshire has inclusive communities where everyone can achieve their potential
- 5) People have healthy, active and high quality lives
- 6) People feel safe and are protected from avoidable harm

This AQAP carries forward the high level Wiltshire wide actions identified within the air quality strategy and builds upon them. In addition 'local' actions which are town specific have been developed through community engagement. Through the new approach 'community air quality action plans' have been developed for each area with an AQMA. These are integral to the Action Plan but will remain as standalone documents to the Wiltshire AQAP in the appendices to enable them to be 'living' documents that can be amended and updated according to the Area Board's priorities.

The AQMAs and community air quality action plan groups are all at different stages in their action planning, therefore separating them from the main AQAP allows the flexibility required when dealing with 6 different community areas.



Action Planning

The role of Public Health and Public Protection Services in action planning

In order to effectively discharge duties under the Local Air Quality Management regime, Wiltshire Council is required to report on air quality throughout the County. This function is carried out by the Public Health and Public Protection Service.

The Public Health and Public Protection Service will continue to ensure that ambient air quality is monitored after the implementation of this AQAP. The team will report regularly on the quality of air in Wiltshire, both through the local air quality management reporting schedule to Defra and via Wiltshire Council's Environment Scrutiny Panel and relevant Area Boards.

Action Planning Process

Action planning is an essential part of the local air quality management process, providing a practical opportunity for improving air quality in areas where review and assessment has shown that national measures will be insufficient to meet one or more of the air quality objectives. An air quality action plan should include the following:

- Quantification of the source contributions to the predicted exceedence of the objectives. This allows the action plan measures to be effectively targeted.
- Evidence that all available options have been considered on the grounds of cost and feasibility.
- Identification of how Wiltshire Council will use its powers and also work together with others in pursuit of the relevant air quality objectives.
- Clear timescales within which the authority and other organisations propose to implement the measures contained in the plan.
- Quantification of the expected impacts of the proposed measures and, where possible, an indication as to whether these will be sufficient to ensure compliance with the objectives.
- Identification of how Wiltshire Council intends to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the plan.

In 2005 West Wiltshire District Council produced an AQAP to address the issues arising from nitrogen dioxide and particulates in Bradford on Avon and Westbury.



In 2003 Salisbury District Council produced an AQAP to address the issues arising from nitrogen dioxide in Salisbury. These two plans will now be replaced with this new 'Wiltshire Air Quality Action Plan for Wiltshire 2014'.

All the Actions have been developed using the methodology detailed in appendix 1.



Source Apportionment - Nitrogen Dioxide

Source apportionment is the process of identifying the contribution each source of nitrogen dioxide contributes to the overall level of nitrogen dioxide. In Wiltshire the primary source is traffic and we have analysed the contribution each type of traffic source makes to nitrogen dioxide levels.

To calculate more accurately how much improvement in air quality would be required to deliver the air quality objective within an AQMA, it is necessary first to confirm the concentration of NO₂ at specific sites.

The method of calculating the emissions incorporates many different categories in the vehicle fleet using the road, however for the purposes of understanding source contributions more straightforwardly the following groupings were applied to the sources:

- HGV (i.e. all HGVs and LGVs other than cars, taxis and motorcycles)
- Cars (including all cars, taxis and motorcycles) and
- Buses and coaches

The background source component comprises emissions from the following sectors:

- Domestic (including heating and cooking)
- Commercial/industrial (termed industrial for both gas and oil)
- Other transport sources (railways, airports and shipping)
- Industrial processes required to have an Environmental permit
- Background roads

Background measurements are obtained from national mapping carried out by DEFRA.

Source apportionment has been undertaken for each of the towns with an AQMA and the results are displayed in the summary table at the end of each of the town chapters.



Community Involvement

Corporate context

The vision of Wiltshire Council; to create stronger and resilient communities will continue to underpin our work and provide a clear focus for the actions we take. Our priorities will also focus on what we fundamentally believe to be most important.

Wiltshire Council priorities:

- To protect those who are most vulnerable
- To boost the local economy – creating and safeguarding jobs
- To support and enable communities to do more for themselves and be involved in what we do

This is all about people and places, fostering a sense of community belonging and self-sufficiency where communities can solve problems locally with our support.

We want to encourage and support local communities to get involved and work with us to strengthen their ability to deal with local challenges. We will work closely with town and parish councils, voluntary groups, local people and other public sector organisations to establish community needs and to help meet those needs in the most effective way.

Developing community led actions via Area Boards

A major driver to the new approach Wiltshire has undertaken to air quality action planning has been the development of Area Boards following the formation of Wiltshire Council.

The council recognises that by working in partnership with local communities, it can achieve so much more than it ever could on its own. The hope is that this will lead to better services, better communities and a better quality of life for everyone in Wiltshire.

Area Boards are a way of working to bring local decision making back into the heart of the community. They are a formal part of Wiltshire Council that tries to find solutions for local issues such as that of air quality. There are 18 Area Boards in Wiltshire. People who work



with the Area Boards include councillors, community area managers, democratic service officers together with one member of the council's top decision making committee, the cabinet. It also includes the local NHS, fire and emergency services, police, town and parish councils, community area partnerships and many other groups.

The local Area Boards with AQMAs have provided the ideal platform for creating local community groups with an interest in improving air quality within their area.

Each Area Board with an AQMA has created or will be creating a specific group to generate a community air quality action plan. The plans feed into the Wiltshire AQAP and are detailed in the individual town appendix. They will remain standalone documents to allow for flexibility in timescales and reprioritisation of identified actions depending upon local circumstances.

The air quality groups have created their own terms of reference and membership. Composition of the groups varies according to the aspirations of each of the community areas. Approaches taken to producing the community air quality action plans have varied considerably, however they all have the common goal of improving air quality and health outcomes.

The air quality groups report directly to the Area Board. It is envisaged that progress on the community air quality action plans will be reported annually to the Area Board and then to the Public Health and Public Protection Service for inclusion in the annual action plan progress report for Defra and updates for Cabinet and the Environment Scrutiny Panel.

Transport groups

To consider highway requests and identify priorities for transport investment, Community Area Transport Groups (CATGs) have been set up in each board area. One of the roles of the CATGs is to make recommendations to the respective Area Board on the priority schemes to be funded from the Discretionary Highways Budget; a funding allocation distributed amongst are boards to fund highway improvements in the community areas.

Community Area Partnerships – A Wiltshire Air Quality Alliance

Community Area Partnerships (CAPs) are strong independent networks working with the local Area Board and the local community to identify priorities and promote action and projects. CAPs are central to Wiltshire Council's community governance proposals and help



form the foundation of strong, resilient, empowered communities. CAPs ensure local people are fully informed about and involved in the decisions that affect them; encourage active and sustained participation by all sections of the community in the civic life of the area; develop new ways of addressing local priorities in collaboration with Wiltshire's public services and partners at local level; ensure that public funding and services are focused more accurately on priority needs in the community area.

With Air Quality being recognised as a priority in six of the county's community areas (Bradford on Avon, Calne, Devizes, Marlborough, Salisbury & Westbury) it is recognised that there are considerable benefits to having a working relationship between these areas and a platform for sharing information, ideas and best practice. The Wiltshire Forum of Community Area Partnerships (WFCAP) exists to support, promote and represent Community Area Partnerships and act as an advocate for community-led-planning in Wiltshire. Through this role WFCAP convenes meetings directed to specific themes or projects to enable CAPs to learn from other initiatives and provide useful signposting or mentoring to each other. This collaboration provides a more efficient, informed way of working and can overcome some of the issues of working within such a large rural county. The CAPs are an effective delivery vehicle for strategic outcomes and joint working can increase both the capacity and influence of a project as well as potentially being able to leverage in financial support due to strength in scale.

On the air quality issue the CAPs have met for an initial information sharing session to be aware of past, current and planned work programmes in the other areas; consider whether their own area could benefit from carrying out similar work and agree the value in maintaining that connection as the air quality work moves forward.

The following actions have developed:



Action CI01

Engage with local communities which have an AQMA through local Area Boards. Establish air quality sub groups to look at ways of improving air quality in their local area and formulate a community air quality action plan.

Outline

Wiltshire Council's business plan seeks to help communities help themselves, by empowering Area Boards to engage with local communities to develop solutions supported by the local community.

Cost Benefit Summary

Air Quality	Public Health	Climate/ Sustainability	Transport	Sustainable Development	Community	Rating
x	x		x	x	x	5

Low cost, high benefit. Local decisions are being made at a local level

Ownership: Public Health & Public Protection Service and Area Board

Partners: Local community groups

Smart Target

Specific	All Area Boards with an AQMA have been contacted to establish working groups for air quality. Air quality community action plans are being formulated for: Bradford on Avon Area Board, Calne Area Board, Devizes Area Board, Marlborough Area Board, Salisbury Area Board and Westbury Area Board
Measurable	Annual progress report to be provided to the Area Board from the air quality sub group. Data will be collated by Public Protection from the Area Boards and submitted to DEFRA in the annual action plan progress report.
Achievable	All community air quality action plans will be scrutinised by the Area Boards and will be audited by Public Protection for practicality, cost benefit analysis and impact on local air quality.
Relevant	Actions will be audited against likely improvements in air quality and relevant strategic objectives (as set out in the Wiltshire Air Quality Strategy)
Timely	Set up air quality working groups in Area Boards as AQMAs are declared.



Action CI02

The Area Board shall report annually in January on the progress made against the community air quality action plan and priority actions.

Outline

Public Protection will provide a template for reporting purposes. This shall be completed by the Area Board Manager and agreed by the Area Board.

Cost Benefit Summary

Air Quality	Public Health	Climate/ Sustainability	Transport	Sustainable Development	Community	Rating
x	x		x	x	x	5

Low cost, high benefit. Local decisions are being made at a local level.

Ownership: Area Boards

Partners: Public Health & Public Protection Services

Smart Target

Specific	All Area Boards with an AQMA will provide annual progress reports on 31st January of each year of progress made against the community air quality action plans and priority actions. The Area Boards are as follows: Bradford On Avon Area Board, Calne Area Board, Devizes Area Board, Marlborough Area Board, Salisbury Area Board and Westbury Area Board
Measurable	Annual progress report to be provided from the Area Board to Public Protection.
Achievable	Public Protection will collate all Progress Reports from the Area Boards.
Relevant	Actions will be audited against likely improvements in air quality and relevant strategic objectives (as set out in the Wiltshire Air Quality Strategy) <i>SO1, SO4, SO7, SO8, SO10</i>
Timely	Area Boards will provide annual progress on the community air quality action plans (31 st January – annually) Public Protection will provide an overall Progress Report on the Wiltshire Air Quality Action Plan to DEFRA (31 st April – annually)



Action CI03

Provide air quality data and information to Area Boards to help with the production of Community AQAPs and Community Neighbourhood Plans.

Outline

Each Area Board develops its own neighbourhood plans. We will provide data and advice for incorporation into Community AQAPs and where requested by Area Boards for the development of neighbourhood plans.

Cost Benefit Summary

Air Quality	Public Health	Climate/ Sustainability	Transport	Sustainable Development	Community	Rating
x					x	2

Low cost, medium benefit.

Ownership: Area Boards & Public Protection

Partners

Smart Target

Specific	Meet with Area Boards where AQMAs are present: Bradford On Avon Area Board Calne Area Board Devizes Area Board Marlborough Area Board Salisbury Area Board Westbury Area Board
Measurable	Provide specific air quality information relevant to the Area Board
Achievable	Contributed since 2012.
Relevant	Assisting communities to identify actions to improve air quality and help with prioritising air quality issues.
Timely	Annually in April



Action CI04

Wiltshire Forum Community Area Partnerships (WFCAP) to facilitate the dissemination of good practice of air quality projects across the County through an annual meeting of the community action plan groups.

Outline

To facilitate the sharing of good practice, experience, knowledge gained by groups.

Cost Benefit Summary

Air Quality	Public Health	Climate/ Sustainability	Transport	Sustainable Development	Community	Rating
x	x	x	x	x	x	6

Low cost, high benefit

Ownership

WFCAP and Area Board

Partners

Public Health & Public Protection Services

Smart Target

Specific	Encourage co-ordination and create a focus for the dissemination of good practice on air quality action planning.
Measurable	Number of information sharing seminars.
Achievable	Yes – lead by the community’s desire for information and good practice exchange.
Relevant	Assisting communities in addressing air quality issues and share good practice.
Timely	Annual



Transport

Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP3)

Wiltshire Council is now working to LTP3 covering the period from 2011 - 2026.

Local Transport Plans (LTP's) steer the implementation of national transport policies at the local level. As a strategic document, the LTP does not contain details of schemes; rather, it sets out a long-term transport strategy, a shorter-term implementation plan and a number of supporting strategies.

Transport needs to be 'joined up' with wider economic, social and environmental objectives. The LTP3 has therefore been developed within the context provided by a range of policy documents.

The long term transport strategy vision is:

To develop a transport system which helps support economic growth across Wiltshire's communities, giving choice and opportunity for people to safely access essential services. Transport solutions will be sensitive to the built and natural environment, with a particular emphasis on the need to reduce carbon emissions.

The Wiltshire LTP3 is made up of:

- A long-term transport strategy that seeks to:
 - support economic growth;
 - reduce carbon emissions;
 - contribute to better safety, security and health;
 - promote equality of opportunity; and
 - improve quality of life and promote a healthy natural environment.
- A shorter-term implementation plan based on a realistic assessment of available funding.
- A number of supporting strategies and technical documents.



In addition, the LTP provides the framework for all other organisations with a direct or indirect involvement in transport in Wiltshire and a range of strategic transport options have been generated to help meet the LTP3 goals and objectives. These include:

Freight

- Work with freight operators and businesses on a voluntary and ad-hoc basis to achieve shared deliveries where possible
- Develop and adopt an advisory freight network based on national, regional and county routes (or equivalent) with local routes to town centres and business/industrial estates
- Manage local freight issues through the council's freight assessment and priority mechanism
- Utilise a package of traditional (e.g. paper mapping) and electronic (e.g. interactive mapping) measures to disseminate Wiltshire specific freight information to hauliers, businesses, stakeholders and the public
- Maintain a minimum standard of lorry parking facilities on a requirement basis
- Support the development of a freight interchange facility at Westbury railway station including all necessary associated highway infrastructure

Further details are included in the LTP3 [Freight Strategy](#)

Cycling

- Provide a sympathetically designed, high quality and well maintained network of cycle routes in the market towns, and where appropriate, provide links between the market towns and to national cycle routes
- Provide high quality cycle parking at key destinations and transport interchanges, require adequate levels of high quality cycle parking in all new developments with higher levels of provision in the market towns.



The Cycling Strategy is currently being consulted on.

Walking

Provide a sympathetically designed, high quality and well maintained network of walking routes in and between significant trip origins and destinations (e.g. housing, shops, employment areas, transport interchanges, tourist attractions, etc.)

The Walking Strategy is currently being consulted on.

Public Transport

- Seek to retain overall levels of service that meets identified demand within available resources, meeting accessibility needs for those without private transport and making a contribution towards sustainable transport objectives
- Increase rail connectivity through the provision of bus-rail links and assist with the implementation of some new stations. Support the function of rail stations as transport hubs and proactively work with partners to introduce service and corridor improvements particularly between Chippenham, Salisbury and Trowbridge. Cover the administrative costs of community rail partnerships and where appropriate and necessary, safeguard and purchase land for rail improvement.

Further details are included in the LTP3 [Public Transport Strategy](#)



Smarter Choices

- Use the planning system to develop, monitor and enforce mandatory residential and business travel plans, and promote the use of voluntary travel plans by organizations generally. Require appropriate contributions to support sustainable transport measures
- Promote limited smarter choices measures in appropriate new developments and the market towns, and undertake a range of targeted smarter choices promotions.

The [Smarter Choices](#) Strategy is currently being consulted on.

Connecting Wiltshire, Travel Made Simple - Travel Portal

Connecting Wiltshire was launched at the beginning of September 2013 with the aim of making travel simple. It is a website which makes it simple to find information, simple to understand and simple to use. It helps users find ways to travel that save time or money, and improve a person's well being and local environment.

As Wiltshire is a large, rural county, it is not always easy to get around using public transport, and so cars tend to be used more than in other parts of England. As a result Wiltshire has "hot spots" of congestion and air pollution levels in certain parts of the county. Connecting Wiltshire is aiming to help alleviate those problems. The website provides transport information and services so that whether someone lives in, commutes to, or just visiting Wiltshire, information is available about alternative ways to travel. The site gives practical tips on using different ways of travelling to improve health and wellbeing, and protect the environment we all live in.

[Connecting Wiltshire](#) is funded as part of Wiltshire Council's successful bid for money from central government as part of the Local Sustainable Transport Fund. The money is being used for infrastructure and service changes and improvements, and all the information will be communicated through the website, as and when they happen.

The following action has been developed:



TP01

Action

The implementation of LTP3 and the supporting strategies to secure improvements in air quality, with particular reference to core policies 60 to 66 of the Wiltshire Core Strategy where new development is proposed.

Outline

The LTP3, strategies and technical documents provide a framework within which it is the objective to improve the quality of life and promote a healthy natural environment and contribute to better safety, security and health.

Cost Benefit Summary

Air Quality	Public Health	Climate/ Sustainability	Transport	Sustainable Development	Community	Rating
x	x	x	x	x	x	6

High cost, high benefit

Ownership: Development Control, Sustainable Transport and Highways

Partners: Balfour Beatty Living Places

Smart Target

Specific	Exceedence of nitrogen dioxide and small particulates are caused by road traffic emissions.
Measurable	LTP3 goals and strategic objectives. Backed up by monitoring of nitrogen dioxide and particulate levels
Achievable	The strategic goals will be achieved by specific projects administered by the Highways & Transport department.
Relevant	Actions will be audited against likely improvements in air quality and relevant actions (as set out in the Wiltshire Air Quality Strategy) action numbers 13, 15 and 16
Timely	Implementation period 2011 - 2026



Planning & Spatial Planning

A key principle for Wiltshire Council is to integrate air quality considerations with other policy areas, such as planning. It makes sense that every development that has the potential to emit pollution is required to mitigate or offset this, in order to help achieve an overall reduction in Wiltshire's air pollution. It is therefore important for Wiltshire to identify how we can best bring air quality considerations into the planning process at the earliest possible stage. It is no longer satisfactory to simply demonstrate that a development is no worse than the existing or previous land use on a particular site.

The Wiltshire Air Quality Strategy 2011 – 2015 contains the table of strategic actions below:

Action 3: Develop and introduce an air quality supplementary planning guidance document and developer toolkit for the production of air quality assessments.

Action 4: Develop an air quality policy for inclusion in the Wiltshire Core Strategy.

Wiltshire Core Strategy

The Wiltshire Core Strategy Submission Document was formally approved for publication by Wiltshire Council on 26 June 2012. Following this decision Wiltshire Council submitted the Wiltshire Core Strategy to the Planning Inspectorate on 10 July 2012 for the purpose of initiating an independent public examination. Since submitting the Wiltshire Core Strategy to the Planning Inspectorate a further focussed consultation has been undertaken.

In achievement of action 4 an air quality policy was formulated for inclusion in the Wiltshire Core Strategy which was then further strengthened following the inspectors examination:



Air Quality Strategy for Wiltshire

Main aim:

‘Wiltshire Council working collaboratively will seek to maintain the good air quality in the county and strive to deliver improvements in areas where air quality fails national objectives in order to protect public health and the environment’

Core Policy 55 requires that all development which either because of the size, nature or location will have the potential to exacerbate known areas of poor air quality, is required to overcome this barrier to development by demonstrating the measures they will take to help mitigate these impacts. In line with the Air Quality Strategy, additional guidance incorporating a developer’s toolkit, has been produced and consulted upon as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). This guidance document will be published as soon as practicable following the adoption of the Core Strategy. Once adopted, the SPD will give positive advice to prospective developers on how to address the issue of air quality effectively so their investment can go ahead. Development which could potentially impact upon Natura 2000 sites through contributions to aerial deposition e.g. industrial process within 10km of a Special Area Conservation will require an assessment of the likely impacts in accordance with published guidance. Where mitigation is required this may be delivered through a local emissions strategy.



Core Policy 55

Air Quality

Development proposals which by virtue of their scale, nature or location are likely to exacerbate existing areas of poor air quality, will need to demonstrate that measures can be taken to effectively mitigate emission levels in order to protect public health, environmental quality and amenity. Mitigation measures should demonstrate how they will make a positive contribution to the aims of the Air Quality Strategy for Wiltshire and, where relevant, the Wiltshire Air Quality Action Plan.

Mitigation may include:

- i. landscaping, bunding or separation to increase distance from highways and junctions
- ii. possible traffic management or highway improvements to be agreed with the local authority
- iii. abatement technology and incorporating site layout / separation and other conditions in site planning
- iv. traffic routing, site management, site layout and phasing
- v. where appropriate contributions will be sought toward the mitigation of the impact a development may have on levels of air pollutants.



Air Quality Supplementary Planning Guidance

In order to provide evidence for inclusion of Core Policy 55 in the Wiltshire Core Strategy and implement 'action 3' of the Wiltshire Air Quality Strategy, [Supplementary Planning Guidance](#) has been written. The document will help provide consistency in the way potential developments are dealt with in relation to their impact on air quality.

The document has gone through public consultation and is now being provided alongside the Wiltshire Core Strategy with a view to it being adopted as official supplementary planning guidance.

Where developments take place in an AQMA, mitigation measures must be considered as standard practice, particularly in cases where the development is new and does not replace an existing use. This is especially important where the development has provision for a large number of parking spaces, significantly increasing the number of trips, and/or heating plant. In some cases it may be necessary to recommend refusal where a development is so contrary to the objectives of the Air Quality Action Plan and Strategy.

This approach should bring health benefits to everyone - not just those living in localised areas (i.e., hotspots) where the objectives are exceeded. This is particularly important for nitrogen dioxide and small particulates, as these pollutants have a significant impact on health. In order to reduce overall exposure, background pollution will need to be reduced, so it makes sense that every development that has the potential to emit pollution must require mitigation or offsetting to help achieve an overall reduction in Wiltshire's air pollution.

Community Infrastructure Levy Bid Document (CIL) and Section 106 Agreements

Wiltshire Council seeks to work constructively with developers to foster a diverse and thriving economy and to safe guard public health.

The Community Infrastructure Levy and Section 106 agreements provide a mechanism for achieving these outcomes. Funding is sought in respect of air quality action planning to assist with improving air quality within air quality management areas and to prevent areas of elevated pollution leading to declarations of AQMAs.



Green Infrastructure

Wiltshire Council is in the process of developing a green infrastructure strategy. Working in partnership with communities and partner organisations Wiltshire Council will identify, enhance and protect a planned and managed network of high quality and highly valued multifunctional green infrastructure which will contribute to making Wiltshire a great place to live, work, invest and visit. This will help reduce Wiltshire's greenhouse gas emissions and improve local air quality by encouraging walking and cycling and promote healthy lifestyles, through exercise, leisure, play and relaxation.

Green infrastructure has an important role to play in improving local air quality and helping communities offset their carbon impact. In urban areas trees, vegetation and green space can help to absorb pollutants and improve air quality by absorbing gaseous pollutants, lowering temperatures, preventing pollutant concentration, and by producing oxygen during photosynthesis. In addition to using green infrastructure to mitigate the effects of poor air quality, opportunities exist at the community area scale to adapt our transport behaviours and utilise cycle networks and other forms of active travel around our town centres.

Minerals & Waste Strategy

Wiltshire Council adopted its current Minerals and Waste Strategies in June & July 2009, respectively, in association with Swindon Borough Council. These form part of the wider Minerals and Waste Development Framework which includes development control policies and other supporting material.

Minerals

Wiltshire Council and the Borough of Swindon cover an area of 3455 square kilometres, and have a population of around 689,200 at 2011.

The overall approach of the [Minerals and Waste Strategies](#) are to manage the availability, extraction and use of primary, secondary and recycled mineral resources whilst seeking to protect the interests of local communities and the wider environment through a number of strategic policies. However, the Strategy recognises that minerals can only be worked where they exist and therefore the choices open to the Council in terms of where new sites should be located are limited.



In April 2006 a small area of the South of Wiltshire was subsumed into the New Forest National Park and therefore it does not form part of these strategies as this work is led by Hampshire County Council. There are no AQMAs within this part of the National Park. Minerals core strategy policy 8 is particularly relevant to air quality;

MCS 8: Living with Minerals Development – Protecting Residential Amenity

To maintain an acceptable separation of residential areas from proposed minerals development within Wiltshire and Swindon, the Councils will work with local communities, landowners, the minerals and waste industries, regulatory bodies and other organisations to establish, plan and address the following matters prior to the implementation of development proposals:

- The strategic and localised phasing and duration of operations;
- The design, location and extent of screening features;
- The control of operations to minimise pollution;
- The arrangements for managing the traffic associated with the development;
- The restoration and after-use objectives of the proposed development;
- All other matters as agreed and deemed relevant by the Councils, local communities and the minerals operator.

Where appropriate, the Councils will encourage and support the establishment of Community Liaison Groups to help monitor, appraise and resolve operational matters associated with minerals sites throughout the life of the development.



Waste

The Strategy gives a summary of the characteristics of waste management activities in Wiltshire and Swindon. Important issues are identified such as the lack of waste management facilities in the Salisbury area and that non-hazardous landfill sites are concentrated in the north of the Plan area. In addition, it recognises that the management of waste is not easily reconciled based on geo-political boundaries. Relationships with neighbouring authorities both inside and outside Wiltshire need to be explored and developed to ensure that waste is managed in a sustainable manner. The Strategy identifies the need to deliver an additional:

- 54,000 tonnes per annum of treatment capacity for municipal waste management for Wiltshire and Swindon;
- Three Household Recycling Centres, a Material Recovery Facility and a Composting Facility for the management of Wiltshire's municipal waste;
- Suitable municipal waste management facilities in Swindon to achieve the target of 50% recycling and to meet the objectives of the Municipal Strategy;
- 915,870 cubic metres of void space capacity for the management of Industrial and Commercial waste;
- 250,000 tonnes per annum of treatment capacity for Industrial and commercial waste management for Wiltshire and Swindon;
- 150,000 tonnes per annum of recycling capacity for industrial and commercial waste management for Wiltshire and Swindon;
- 950,000 cubic metres of void space capacity for the management of inert waste; and 90,000 tonnes per annum of transfer capacity for the management of inert waste in Wiltshire and Swindon.



The Strategy identifies four strategic objectives, strategic objective 3, being the Environment:

The Environment

Protect and enhance the diverse and highly valued natural and historical environment of Wiltshire and Swindon, incorporating the landscape character, biodiversity and geological interests and cultural heritage. Ensure the protection of the water environment whilst minimising and mitigating flood risk.

Contribute to reducing and adapting to the impacts of climate change. Minimise the cross boundary impacts of waste management upon features of the natural and cultural environment. Options for sustainable transportation should be encouraged in order to reduce the impacts of transporting waste through Wiltshire and Swindon. Protect human health from adverse impacts. Maintain the separate identities of neighbouring communities. The sustainable construction of waste management facilities will be encouraged wherever possible.

Specific waste development control policies are also detailed. WDC2 deals directly with aspect of environmental impact of waste management activities.

Managing the Impact of Waste/ Managing Development

Protect the following subjects from impact of waste management development:

- amenity;
- visual aspects;
- noise and light emissions;
- vibration;
- air emissions and climate change;
- contaminated land; and
- agricultural land.



Both the mineral and waste strategies make reference to national guidance such as MPS 2 which has now been withdrawn. There is therefore a need for the AQAP to address this gap.

The following actions have been developed:

Action DSP01

To integrate air quality into the wider policies and strategies of Wiltshire Council through the adoption of core policy 55 in the Wiltshire Core Strategy.

Outline

The Core Strategy for Wiltshire outlines a sustainable spatial strategy for future development in the county and includes:

- key principles of development
- the location of strategic sites for new housing and employment development
- policies with which planning applications will be assessed
- a key diagram displaying the spatial aspects of the core strategy

In order to influence key policies and ensure air quality is addressed it is important to fully engage with the development process of the core strategy. Securing improvements in air quality is a long term process and the core strategy is one of the main tools to ensuring that Wiltshire Council’s planning policies have a positive impact on current and future air quality levels.

Cost Benefit Summary

Air Quality	Public Health	Climate/ Sustainability	Transport	Sustainable Development	Community	Rating
x	x	x	x	x	x	6

Low cost, high benefits. Local decisions are being made at a local level. There is an element of income being generated through this process via S106 agreements and possibly Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money for improvements to air quality.



Ownership

Public Protection Services and Spatial Planning

Partners

Development Control and Transport Planners

Smart Target

Specific	Formal adoption of core policy 55 in the Wiltshire Core Strategy
Measurable	Adoption
Achievable	The Council is committed to adoption of the Wiltshire Core Strategy.
Relevant	The policy will be used in the planning system as a means to improve air quality where AQMAs already exist and to prevent new exposure in other areas within the County.
Timely	Autumn 2014



Action DSP02

The adoption of the draft air quality supplementary planning guidance

Outline

Every development has the potential to emit pollution, therefore developers must be required to consider and put forward mitigation or offsetting to help achieve an overall reduction in Wiltshire's air pollution. Air quality assessments are a means of providing information on the impact of a development. The supplementary planning guidance is a means of providing clear concise guidance on how they should be written and consistency across the county.

Cost Benefit Summary

Air Quality	Public Health	Climate/ Sustainability	Transport	Sustainable Development	Community	Rating
x	x	x	x	x	x	6

Low cost, high benefit.

Ownership: Public Protection Services:

Partners: Development Control and Transport Planners

Smart Target

Specific	Formal adoption of the draft air quality supplementary planning guidance
Measurable	Adoption
Achievable	The Council is committed to adoption of the Wiltshire Core Strategy. The air quality supplementary planning guidance acts as evidence and interpretation to core policy 55 in the Core Strategy.
Relevant	The guidance will be used in the planning system as a means to improve air quality where AQMAs already exist and to prevent new exposure in other areas within the County.
Timely	Autumn 2014 for formal adoption. The SPD will be reviewed annually

**Action DSP03**

To integrate green infrastructure considerations into Wiltshire Council policy through the adoption of the Wiltshire Council Green Infrastructure Strategy in support Core Policy 52 of the Wiltshire Core Strategy.

Outline

The Wiltshire Council Green Infrastructure Strategy supports the use of green infrastructure to improve public health; support sustainable development and economic growth; improve the natural environment; encourage resilient communities; and to build local resilience to climate change. The Green Infrastructure Strategy contains a model for implementing green infrastructure in future developments which includes:

- improving opportunities for active travel as an alternative to car use
- use of green infrastructure for carbon capture and flood alleviation
- use of green infrastructure for urban shading and urban cooling
- use of green infrastructure to improve local air quality

The Wiltshire Green Infrastructure Strategy contains 14 Key Priorities across five themes which reflect the multifaceted benefits that green infrastructure can provide. Adoption of the strategy is a key step in ensuring both communities and the natural environment in Wiltshire benefit from well managed, multifunctional green infrastructure networks. In addition, the adopted strategy will ensure that green infrastructure becomes a key consideration in future policy, strategy and development management decisions at Wiltshire Council.



Cost Benefit Summary

Air Quality	Public Health	Climate/ Sustainability	Transport	Sustainable Development	Community	Rating
x	x	x	x	x		5

Low cost, high benefit. The Green Infrastructure Strategy Action Plan details a number of projects that improves Wiltshire's green infrastructure network. The strategy also supports the development of locally owned and managed green infrastructure projects / assets across Wiltshire. There is an element of income that may be generated through this process via S106 agreements and possibly Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money for improvements to green infrastructure.

Ownership

Green Economy Team

Partners

The strategy brings together a wide range of partners from across Wiltshire as well as neighbouring local authorities as well as other services within the council.

Smart Target

Specific	Formal adoption of the Wiltshire Council Green Infrastructure Strategy
Measurable	Formal adoption of the Wiltshire Council Green Infrastructure Strategy
Achievable	During the Wiltshire Core Strategy examination in public Wiltshire Council committed to adopting the Wiltshire Council Green Infrastructure Strategy in support of Core Policy 52 by mid 2014.
Relevant	The Wiltshire Green Infrastructure Strategy supports green infrastructure through five key themes. Within these themes 14 separate priorities are identified. The strategy supports the delivery of green infrastructure improvements through the planning system, through community empowerment and through partnership working. The strategy also contains a comprehensive Action Plan - a programme of strategic green infrastructure improvements across Wiltshire delivered in partnership with neighbouring local authorities, communities and key delivery partners.
Timely	The strategy will be adopted by Wiltshire Council in mid 2014



Action DSP04

Incorporate Minerals and Waste related matters into any revised Air Quality Supplementary Guidance document.

Outline

A substantial volume of planning policy guidance was withdrawn by the Department for Communities & local Government in 2012. Applications for minerals and waste development will need to be considered in a consistent and transparent manner. Revised SPD to supplement the existing Air Quality SPD will be formulated to provide such a framework for Wiltshire.

Cost Benefit Summary

Air Quality	Public Health	Climate/ Sustainability	Transport	Sustainable Development	Community	Rating
x		x		x		4

Low cost and medium benefit as provides a transparent framework for decisions

Ownership

Public Protection Services

Partners

Spatial Planning and Development Services

Smart Target

Specific	Development of SPD on the potential Air Quality impacts of Minerals & Waste Developments.
Measurable	Adoption of the guidance
Achievable	Any revised SPD will have to fit into the Core Strategy time table and any subsequent iteration.
Relevant	Relates to fugitive particulate emissions for mineral and waste working and road vehicle emissions generated by traffic serving these sites. It may be advisable to address noise and odour amenity issues in the same document.
Timely	2015



Action DSP05

To Secure funding for Air quality Action Planning, monitoring and to support initiatives that contribute to a reduction in nitrogen dioxide emissions directly or indirectly through S106 agreements and Community infrastructure levy.

Outline

The Core strategy for Wiltshire will see the construction of 37,000 new dwellings, infrastructure, roads and 178 hectares of employment land. In order to ensure that new development actively contributes to measures to promote the reduction in Nitrogen Dioxide and improve air quality, funding will be sought from developers to ameliorate and mitigate the impact of their developments impact and the cumulative effects of successive developments in a locality. Funding will be used for air quality action planning, action planning implementation, air quality monitoring, modelling and other matters connected with improving air quality within Wiltshire.

Cost Benefit Summary

Air Quality	Public Health	Climate/ Sustainability	Transport	Sustainable Development	Community	Rating
x	x	x	x	x	x	6

Low cost, high benefits.

Ownership: Public Protection Services and Spatial Planning

Partners: Development Control and Transport Planners, Mineral & Waste Team

Smart Target

Specific	Provides for a funding stream necessary to achieve improvements in air quality
Measurable	Funding achieved over the lifetime of the Wiltshire Core Strategy
Achievable	The Council is committed to adoption of the Wiltshire Core Strategy.
Relevant	The policy will compliment the development control mechanisms as a means to improve air quality where AQMAs already exist and to prevent new exposure in other areas within the County.
Timely	2011-2026



Completed Actions from the Air Quality Strategy 2011- 2015

Action	Air Quality Strategy	Date completed
Drafting of Wiltshire Air Quality Strategy		2010
Consulted on the Wiltshire Air Quality Strategy		July 2010
Adoption of Wiltshire Air Quality Strategy		Nov 2011
Draft Core Policy 55: Air Quality in the Emerging Wiltshire Core Strategy	Action no. 4	Dec 2011
Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance	Action no. 3	Autumn 2012
Consulted on Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance	Action no.3	Consulted on Feb 2013



Green Economy

Climate change is now widely accepted as one of the greatest challenges to our economy, environment and society. Tackling its causes and effects is an overarching priority in government strategy and policy, both nationally and locally.

Effective measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change provide clear opportunities to deliver benefits in other areas, for example environmental protection, public health, economic development, transport and resilient communities.

Road traffic is one of the major sources of both greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution. Many of the solutions, including improving sustainable transport networks and green infrastructure, encouraging cycling and walking, and using low-emission vehicles, can help to reduce carbon emissions and to improve air quality. Therefore there are clear benefits to ensuring consistency between strategies and action plans on air quality and on climate change.

Climate Change Strategy

The 2008 Climate Change Act set legally binding carbon targets and aims to cut the country's carbon emission by 34% by 2020 and 80% by 2050. One of the three overarching priorities in Wiltshire's emerging Core Strategy is "tackling the causes and effects of climate change".

Wiltshire Council has set up a Green Economy team to tackle the causes and consequences of climate change in the following ways:

- [Reducing Wiltshire's carbon foot print](#)
- [Preparing for unavoidable climate change](#)
- Preparing the council for the Carbon reduction commitment

The work in these distinct areas forms the council's climate change strategy, as outlined in the 2010 'Energy, Change and Opportunity (ECO) strategy'. In order to guide and steer the process a Climate Change Board⁰ has been set up. This board is chaired by Cabinet Portfolio holder for Waste, Property and Environment and oversees all projects pertaining to climate change.



Sustainable Community Strategy for Wiltshire

People, Places and Promises: The Wiltshire Community Plan 2011-2026 is the sustainable community strategy for Wiltshire. It sets out the council's and our partners' joint vision for the future of Wiltshire for the improvement of quality of life for all residents. It also provides a broad outline of how we could make this vision a reality. As with the emerging Core Strategy, one of the three top priorities is “tackling the causes and effects of climate change”.

Objectives to deliver this priority include:

- reducing domestic, business and transport CO₂ emissions;
- increasing renewable energy generation;
- providing a safer and more integrated transport system that achieves a major shift to sustainable transport.

These objectives are also likely to reduce emissions of local air pollutants.

Local economic development

Local economic development is now being led by the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership (SWLEP), in partnership with local authorities, chambers of commerce, businesses and others. In 2013-14 the SWLEP is developing a Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) for the county, accessing UK government and EU funding streams and channelling investment into the area. Any future proposals to implement specific initiatives to improve air quality, through AQAPs or an Air Quality Strategy should make use of the SWLEP, either for direct information or sounding boards. Financial constraints and public and business perceptions can be a major hurdle when developing specific measures to improve the local environment, and so any such proposals may stand a greater chance of implementation through the involvement of economic development and planning professionals.

Wiltshire Carbon Management Plan 2013 – 2017

Wiltshire Council is committed to moving towards a low-carbon future and the Carbon Management Plan documents the council's vision and details the means for achieving it. Wiltshire Council committed to tackling carbon emissions by signing the Nottingham Declaration in May 2009 and plans to sign up to Climate Local, the successor to the Nottingham Declaration, in 2014.



Good carbon management is important as it reduces the council's environmental impact and operating costs, allowing the council to provide better value for money in its services to taxpayers.

In 2012/13, the council's total carbon footprint was 60,436 tonnes of CO₂, arising from energy use for property, transport and street lighting. This figure includes external emissions, for example, those from some contracted services (e.g. recycling collections) as well as from in-house operations. These emissions were associated with an annual expenditure on energy and transport of around £12 million. The Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme (CRC) cost associated with this was a further £0.5 million. Through implementing a carbon management plan, there will be opportunities to both reduce the council's carbon footprint and avoid some of these considerable costs.

Wiltshire Council's low carbon **vision** is:

Wiltshire Council will embed carbon management into the delivery of all services to reduce our carbon emissions and set an example to the business sector and communities of Wiltshire. We will use the experience gained to influence and support others to reduce their carbon emissions, thereby mitigating the effects of climate change.

Our low carbon **target**:

Wiltshire Council will make a saving of 11,823 tCO₂ by end 2016/17

The **objectives** of this carbon management plan are to ensure the council:

1. Makes energy cost savings
2. Reduces the council's carbon footprint
3. Leads by example in embedding carbon management across its services and works with partners to do the same.



The Plan is also a key element in meeting our 'Climate Local' commitment, showing local leadership by example. Climate Local is a Local Government Association initiative to drive, inspire and support council action on a changing climate. It succeeds the Nottingham Declaration on climate change which the council signed in 2009. The Climate Local initiative supports councils' efforts both to reduce carbon emissions and also to improve their resilience to the effects of our changing climate and extreme weather and will be signed by Wiltshire Council in 2014.

Efforts to reduce the Councils carbon footprint will also have a positive effect on local air quality by improving its fleet, reducing business miles, improving procurement and reduced energy use.



Action GE01

Integrate wider climate change policies that share common goals on carbon and nitrogen dioxide reduction into Wiltshire strategies and policies.

Outline

Climate change policy has shared objectives of reducing carbon emissions from the combustion of fossil fuels. Nitrogen oxide the precursor to nitrogen dioxide is also produced as a result of burning these fuels. The council will therefore seek to lead by example and act as a facilitator in achieving this. E.g. reducing the carbon foot print of the council.

Cost Benefit Summary

Air Quality	Public Health	Climate/ Sustainability	Transport	Sustainable Development	Community	Rating
x	x	x	x	x	x	6

Low cost, high benefit.

Ownership: Green Economy Team

Partners: Public Protection Services, Fleet, Highways, Procurement

Smart Target

Specific	Wiltshire Council ECO policy implementation.
Measurable	Report on Wiltshire Councils usage and savings of NO _x and primary PM ₁₀ emissions in line with the Carbon Management Plan.
Achievable	Reported annually
Relevant	Reduction in fossil fuel consumption will impact on overall nitrogen dioxide levels in line with the Carbon Management Plan.
Timely	Ongoing.



Action GEO2

Exploration and identification of funding streams that have the common goals of reducing green house gases and nitrogen dioxide.

Outline

Climate change policy has shared objectives of reducing carbon emissions from the combustion of fossil fuels. Nitrogen oxide the precursor to NO₂ is also produced as a result of burning these fuels. The council will act as a facilitator in securing macro grant funding at EU Level and sign post micro funding for local communities.

Cost Benefit Summary.

Air Quality	Public Health	Climate/ Sustainability	Transport	Sustainable Development	Community	Rating
x	x	x	x	x	x	6

Medium Cost, high benefit.

Ownership: Public Health & Public Protection Services, Green Economy Team

Partners: Local Communities, Highways, Passenger Transport Unit, Fleet, Procurement

Smart Target

Specific	Owners & partners will identify funding stream opportunities for sustainability and local air quality improvement.
Measurable	Reduction in NO _x and primary PM ₁₀ emissions reported through the Councils Carbon Management Plan.
Achievable	Reported annually
Relevant	Funding will enable local community projects or wider council initiatives.
Timely	Ongoing.

Action DSP03, which relates to the Green Infrastructure Plan is also relevant to this Section.



Public Health

Since the transfer of Public Health into Wiltshire Council (April 2013) a wealth of projects and work have been undertaken across the Council with the team in relation to improving air quality.

Joint Strategic Assessment

One of the most influential projects is the production of the Joint Strategic Assessment for Wiltshire (JSA). This brought together Wiltshire's priorities into a single comprehensive and succinct report.

The JSA is an example of partnership working across Wiltshire, with contributions from each of the thematic delivery partnerships, and identifies key priorities for topics including housing, economy, health, children and young people and the environment. The JSA is intended to support commissioning decisions and the developments of strategic and local community plans.

Building on the JSA programme for Wiltshire, [new community level JSAs](#) have been produced for all of the 18 community areas. These documents set out the strategic issues for community areas based on local level data, information and knowledge and are a key step in identifying the needs of the Wiltshire population.

The first Community Area Joint Strategic Assessments were published in 2011 and marked an important milestone in the development of a JSA programme for Wiltshire. Since 2011 an updated county wide assessment was produced in 2012, which informed the council's service provision in areas such as health and wellbeing, housing, children and young people and work to boost the local economy and protect the environment. The introduction of the JSAs has provided a clearer picture of the needs of the county's population ensuring that plans and actions are evidenced based. The JSA is a key document which informed the new four year council [Business Plan 2013- 2017](#), published in July 2013. The service plans will include evidence from the JSA and the information presented here in the [community area JSAs](#). The JSAs will help to design services that take into account local priorities and plans.



Work on community area JSAs has only been possible as a result of our well established partnership working with those who live in and know the local area well, and with other partners including the newly established Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Wiltshire Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner, local voluntary and community organisations and a wide-range of other stakeholders. Together we have the local data that will help us work towards making community areas in Wiltshire, better places to live, work in and visit.

State of Environment Report

In May 2012, a [State of the Environment Report](#) was published for Wiltshire and Swindon, produced by Wiltshire Wildlife Trust in partnership with NHS Wiltshire and Wiltshire Council. It constitutes a strategic assessment for the environment as part of the suite of Joint Strategic Assessments.

The report builds on the environment chapter of the 2010/2011 Joint Strategic Assessment (JSA) for Wiltshire and forms the basis of future JSA updates. It is supported by a wealth of detailed data and resources on the Wiltshire Intelligence Network, facilitating public access to reliable and current information. The report aims to provide the evidence needed to put the environment on an equal footing with social and economic issues.

Health Improvement Partnership

The Health Improvement Partnership aims to support the people of Wiltshire to lead happy and healthy lives. This encompasses not only the individually determined factors such as genetic makeup and lifestyle but also the wider determinants such as social and community networks and general socio-economic, cultural and environmental conditions. It is an ambition of the Wiltshire Assembly that Wiltshire is the healthiest county in England by 2014.

The Health Improvement Partnership in Wiltshire is working to:

- promote health and wellbeing
- ensure quality of life is sustained for the longest time
- ensure the individual is at the heart of what we do
- promote positive personal choice and individual responsibility



Public Health Outcomes Framework

The [public health outcomes framework](#), originally published in January 2012, sets out the desired outcomes for public health and how these will be measured. The framework concentrates on two high-level outcomes that set the vision to be achieved across the public health system. These are:

- increased healthy life expectancy
- reduced differences in life expectancy and healthy life expectancy between communities

The outcomes reflect a focus not only on how long people live but on how well they live at all stages of life. The second outcome focuses attention on reducing health inequalities between people, communities and areas. Using a measure of both life expectancy and healthy life expectancy will enable the use of the most reliable information available to understand the nature of health inequalities both within areas and between areas.

A set of supporting public health indicators will help focus understanding of progress year by year nationally and locally on those things that matter most to public health.

The indicators, which cover the full spectrum of public health and what can be currently realistically measured, are grouped into four 'domains':

- improving the wider determinants of health (Domain 1)
- health improvement (Domain 2)
- health protection (Domain 3)
- healthcare public health and preventing premature mortality (Domain 4)

The significant domain in relation to improving air quality is Health Protection as air pollution is specifically listed as an indicator.



Domain 3 – Health Protection

Objective

The population's health is protected from major incidents and other threats, while reducing health inequalities.

Indicators

- Air pollution
- Chlamydia diagnosis (15 – 24 year olds)
- Population vaccination coverage
- People presenting with HIV at a late stage of infection
- Treatment completion of tuberculosis
- Public sector organisations with board-approved sustainable development management plan
- *Comprehensive, agreed inert-agency plans for responding to public health incidents (Placeholders)*

Health & Environment Group

The Health and Environment group was formed in April 2013 as a sub group of the Health and Wellbeing Board. The group is made up of representatives from Wiltshire Council, Public Health England, Environment Agency, Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and the Clinical Commissioning Group. The aim of the group is to provide a central focus for agencies in Wiltshire to discuss issues relating to environment and health, to identify threats and concerns and to mitigate them where possible. The group provides a forum for the exchange of knowledge, ideas, best practice and initiatives among the key agencies relating to environmental issues in Wiltshire and health-related factors associated with them.



Public Protection working with Public Health Wiltshire

Wiltshire Council's Public Health & Public Protection Service is developing a text alert system which will be targeted at people with respiratory health issues. The alerts will be prompted by air quality levels monitored at local monitoring stations as well as monitoring from the national network. The project will help to safe guard and protect the health & welfare of vulnerable people living in areas of poor air quality by providing targeted health information linked to real time air quality data. The project has received positive feedback from our Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) via our Health and Environment Group and is likely to be developed further to include extreme temperature and pollen alerts.

Wiltshire Council actively encourages local decision making demonstrated through the use of Area Boards and is often praised for its good practice and innovation at a national level. This project is yet another demonstration of our commitment to local people and communities in providing the information they require to then help themselves in developing local solutions.

Wiltshire Council's Business plan seeks to build resilient communities that solve problems together and participate in decisions that affect them. The project will improve access to data in order that individuals and community groups can make informed decisions about their activities and health.

This represents an early joint project and a foundation on which other joint programmes can be built to bring about improved health outcomes.

Health Impact Assessment (HIA)

The European Centre for Health Policy (1999) Gothenburg Consensus is widely accepted as the seminal definition of Health Impact Assessment and defines it as:

'A combination of procedures, methods and tools by which a policy, programme or project may be judged as to its potential effects on the health of a population, and the distribution of those effects within the population.'



HIA is a systematic, objective and yet flexible and practical way of assessing both the potential and negative impacts of a proposal on health and well-being and suggests ways in which opportunities for health gain can be maximised and risks to health minimised. HIA looks at health in its broadest sense, using the wider determinants of health as a framework. Importantly, HIA highlights the uneven way in which health impacts may be distributed across a population and seeks to address existing health inequalities as well as avoid the creation of new ones. HIA is a tool to support decision making and, as such, can inform decision makers and communities of the potential health and well-being impacts and consequences of a proposal or policy.

DRAFT



Action PH01

Wiltshire Council's Public Health & Public Protection Service is developing a text alert system which will be targeted at people with respiratory health issues.

Outline

The alerts will be prompted by air quality levels monitored at local monitoring stations as well as monitoring from the national network. The project will help to safe guard and protect the health & welfare of vulnerable people living in areas of poor air quality by providing targeted health information linked to real time air quality data.

Cost Benefit Summary

Air Quality	Public Health	Climate/ Sustainability	Transport	Sustainable Development	Community	Rating
x	x	x			x	4

Low cost and high benefit as reaching the vulnerable population

Ownership: Public Health & Public Protection Service

Partners: CCG and specific GP practices identified for trial

Smart Target

Specific	Implementation of text alert service and participation of GP practices.
Measurable	Number of text alerts sent out Feedback from users of the text alert service
Achievable	Funding has been identified.
Relevant	Protecting health. Meets objective/action in the AQS
Timely	Autumn 2014



Action PH02

Wiltshire Council's Public Health & Public Protection Service a standalone air quality website enabling access to the general public of real time air quality monitoring data.

Outline

The website will provide real time air quality data to individuals in the community and developers/consultants preparing air quality assessments. Access to such data will enable communities at first hand see the effects of their initiatives aimed at improving air quality.

Cost Benefit Summary

Air Quality	Public Health	Climate/Sustainability	Transport	Sustainable Development	Community	Rating
x	x	x	x	x	x	6

Low cost and high benefit as reaching the vulnerable population

Ownership: Public Health & Public Protection Service

Partners: Ricardo AEA

Smart Target

Specific	Launch of air quality website.
Measurable	Website usage report. Feedback from users of the website
Achievable	Funding has been identified.
Relevant	Protecting health. Meets objective/action in the AQS. Driving behaviour change in communities
Timely	September 2014



Action PH03

Public Protection are to upgrade automatic monitoring equipment to enable remote access via a website to monitoring data and expand our automatic monitoring network.

Outline

The current monitoring sites need to be upgraded to allow remote access to the automatic data.

Currently we have 4 automatic monitoring sites with a range of ageing equipment provided by different suppliers. Ideally we would like to up upgrade the equipment and have one single supplier to help with consistency of data gathering.

Cost Benefit Summary

Air Quality	Public Health	Climate/ Sustainability	Transport	Sustainable Development	Community	Rating
x	x	x	x	x	x	6

Low cost and high benefit as this action enables the website and text alert system to be run.

Ownership: Public Protection

Partners: Public Health

Smart Target

Specific	Equipment is provided to enable remote access to data. Upgrading of ageing monitoring equipment via a single supplier
Measurable	Purchase of equipment
Achievable	Funding identified from Public Health Wiltshire and annual running costs to be met from Public Protection.
Relevant	Meets objective/action in the AQS Enabling target to meet text alert and website
Timely	Summer 2014



Action PH04

Public Protection will continue to be members of the Health Protection & Environment Group and contribute to the groups work and development.

Outline

The group has developed from earlier working groups and it now reports as a sub group to the Health & Wellbeing Board. It consists of representatives from Public Health Wiltshire, Public Health England, CCG and EA.

Cost Benefit Summary

Air Quality	Public Health	Climate/ Sustainability	Transport	Sustainable Development	Community	Rating
x	x	x		x		4

Low cost, high benefit.

Ownership: Public Health

Partners: Clinical Commissioning Group, Public Health England, Environment Agency & others seconded to the group.

Smart Target

Specific	Attend, support, contribute and develop the Health & Environment group
Measurable	Quarterly meetings
Achievable	Individual projects will be identified by the group
Relevant	Supports the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and work within PPS on air quality
Timely	Quarterly



Action PH05

To provide accurate air quality data and information for the JSA and State of Environment Report for the County of Wiltshire

Outline

One of the most influential projects is the production of the Joint Strategic Assessment for Wiltshire (JSA) and Community JSAs, and The State of Environment Report. These bring together Wiltshire's priorities into single comprehensive and succinct reports with contributions from each of the thematic delivery partnerships. Key priorities are identified for topics including housing, economy, health, children and young people and the environment. The JSA is intended to support commissioning decisions and the developments of strategic and local community plans. Public Protection will provide air quality updates to this process.

Cost Benefit Summary

Air Quality	Public Health	Climate/ Sustainability	Transport	Sustainable Development	Community	Rating
x	x	x	x	x	x	6

Low cost, high benefit.

Ownership: Public Protection

Partners: Public Health Wiltshire and Wiltshire Wildlife Trust

Smart Target

Specific	Provide air quality data and information
Measurable	Provision of evidence base for air quality work
Achievable	Contributing since 2010
Relevant	Public Health Framework. Some communities priority (improving air quality)
Timely	Information for State of Environment Report annually, Data for JSA biannually and data for community JSAs biannually

**Work undertaken in the Air Quality Strategy 2011 - 2015**

Action	Air Quality Strategy	Date completed
Undertaken feasibility study for the production of a standalone air quality website.	Action number 7	Website provider has been procured and development of the site is underway.
Provided data and information for the Wiltshire Intelligence Network website on air quality	Action number 8	2013/2014
Investigated the introduction of a text alert system and have support from the CCG with a view to expansion e.g. extreme temperature warnings and pollen levels	Action number 11	Will go live in Autumn 2014 (development underway)