

Bradford on Avon Area Board, 21 November 2012

Chairman's Announcement

Progress since approval of the Air Quality Action Plan in September

Bradford on Avon Air Quality Alliance

To drive forward the agreed action plan it will be important to carry the support of all key stakeholders responsible for air quality, public health and traffic management in the town.

The Bradford on Avon Area Board at its meeting on 19 September agreed to establish an Air Quality Partnership or 'Alliance'.

The Bradford on Avon Town Council at its meeting on 30 October agreed to join the Alliance.

It is proposed to call a first meeting of the Alliance in the coming weeks and to secure the attendance of Maggie Rae (Director of Public Health), Allan Creedy (Head of Sustainable Transport) and other senior officers in recognition of the gravity of the air quality issue in the town.

Origin and Destination Survey

A proposal for a numberplate recognition survey (NPR) has been prepared by the Bradford on Avon Preservation Trust and is to be considered on this agenda for Community Area Grant funding, under Item 6.

This survey will distinguish traffic passing through the town; originating and finishing in the town; and internal to the town. A NPR survey using volunteers will allow more detailed observation of traffic than a Road Side Survey and would be significantly less expensive.

It has not been possible to date to discuss this proposal in any detail with highways officers. Their support will be important in scoping the technical and operational details of the O&D survey to ensure that robust outcomes and value for money is achieved by the project.

Health Survey

The survey has attracted a very good response and the findings are currently being collated and evaluated by Martin Valatin and Rosemary Brown.

Air Quality Monitor – report from Peter Nobes, Senior Public Protection Officer

"My contact at Wheelers, with whom I had met several times on both sites and had left to prepare the detailed quote required, went quiet. After a couple of weeks, I rang to find out that he had 'left the company' and that the chap taking on his work had no knowledge

whatsoever of the proposed work, our meetings, the drawings made and so on. We basically had to start again.

Since then we have received and accepted the quote from Wheelers and I am hoping to confirm shortly the contract with Centrica to disconnect the Electricity Meter at the analyser in Westbury. They will then commission the removal of the wiring (this has to be done by ANOTHER company and has to be ordered by Centrica). Once this is done and Wheelers confirm the site in Bradford is ready – they suggested 3-4 weeks from our order made on 12 November - we can engage Enviro-Technology to move and set up the equipment in Bradford.

It's been a long and very frustrating process but I am more than hopeful that it will be up and running for 2013.”

Electric Vehicles

Platinum Renault Trowbridge has agreed to donate a Renault Kangoo ZE electric van to Climate Friendly BOA for the whole month of December 2012, and to put their logo on the side. Richard Craft will explain to the meeting how the group hope to use the opportunity to promote the use of electric vehicles as part of the 'Clean Air Town' initiative.

It has been confirmed that, as part of the Local Sustainable Transport Fund, Wiltshire Council is looking to install two electric vehicle charging points at Bradford on Avon railway station (as well as at Chippenham, Salisbury and Trowbridge railway stations). At this stage the Council is in the early stages of procuring a relevant supplier and will need to agree an easy accessible location with the station manager. All being well, the Council hopes to have the charging points installed by the end of this financial year.

Discussions continue with Ian White, Head of Passenger Transport at Wiltshire Council, regarding a possible bid to the Government's Green Bus Fund for an electric bus for the town as a demonstration project to the rest of Wiltshire.

Air Quality Egg

Jim Lynch and Dr. Jeremy Bunting, both of BoACAN, have been following the development of a low-cost pollution monitoring device, commonly known as 'The Egg', which is currently being tested in Bristol. It enables real-time, web-based monitoring of air quality and is attracting worldwide attention. They are liaising with Climate Friendly Bradford and will publicise details shortly.

Peter Dunford, November 2012