

ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

2ND JULY 2021

AIR QUALITY DELIVERY PLAN CONSULTATION DRAFT

To consider and comment on the following issues:

That the Members of the Scrutiny Committee are updated on the work undertaken in respect of Air Quality in Carmarthenshire, and to consult on our draft Air Quality Delivery plan.

Reasons:

To ensure that progress is made in monitoring and improving air quality within the County, particularly within our 3 designated Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA's).

To be referred to the Executive Board / Council for decision: **NO – Consultation Document**

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- Cllr. P Hughes (Public Protection Portfolio Holder)

Directorate Communities Name of Head of Service: Jonathan Morgan Report Author: Lisa Jones Alun Rees	Designations: Head of Homes & Safer Communities Environmental Health Officer Pollution and Wellbeing Lead	Tel Nos. / E Mail Addresses: 01267 228960 JMorgan@carmarthenshire.gov.uk LisaJJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk AJRees@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
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- 1.1 The Environment Act 1995 places a duty on local authorities to assess and manage air quality in its area. This is achieved through the Local Air Quality Management regime. There are various pollutants that can be assessed, but local authorities are only required to monitor those that have a potential to breach the Air Quality Objectives. For Carmarthenshire, the main pollutant of concern is nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) from road traffic.
- 1.2 NO₂ is a pollutant that can affect the respiratory system. It can irritate the lungs and lower resistance to respiratory infections such as influenza. Prolonged exposure to NO₂ can be harmful, in particular to those with existing respiratory conditions, the elderly or the young.
- 1.3 The town of Llandeilo and areas of Carmarthen and Llanelli have experienced increasing levels of NO₂, to the extent that the air quality objective for NO₂ has been breached and Air Quality management Areas have been designated. Our Air Quality Delivery Plan focuses on these areas, but also highlights the need to protect good Air Quality in the rest of the County.
- 1.4 The Environment Act 1995 and associated statutory guidance specifies how Local Authorities deal with areas that fail to comply with the national air quality objectives.
- 1.5 This Air Quality Delivery plan is being presented to members as a consultation draft, and views are welcomed.
- 1.6 Our Air Quality Delivery Plan is set out in two parts. The first sets out the way in which we deal with Air Quality, and provides context as to how it sits within the legal framework and specifically, in Carmarthenshire. It outlines how the Air Quality Delivery Plan aligns with other Policies and Strategies of the Council, and it describes how poor Air Quality can adversely impact health, especially that of our most vulnerable in society. This can be seen in full in Appendix 1.
- 1.7 The second part introduces specific actions that have been identified to contribute towards improving Air Quality, both generally across the County and more specifically in individual AQMAs. Measures for assessing progress are also included in this part. This is attached as Appendix 2.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?

YES -

- Appendix 1 – Air Quality Delivery Plan 2021
- Appendix 2 – Air Quality Delivery Plan 2021 - measures

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Jonathan Morgan

Head of Homes and Safer Communities

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	YES	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

Legal

The Environment Act 1995 places a duty on local authorities to assess and manage air quality in its area.

Finance

Subject to cost/benefit analysis at the time.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Jonathan Morgan

Head of Homes and Safer Communities

1. Local Member(s) - N/A
2. Community / Town Council – N/A
3. Relevant Partners - N/A
4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations - N/A

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

THERE ARE NONE