

Appendix 1: Responses to Consultation on DA report

Zone 4/E12
Ashdown House
123 Victoria Street
London. SW1E 6DE

Telephone 020 7082 8397
Website www.defra.gov.uk

Fax 020 7082 8379
Email ekoere.deinne@defra.gsi.gov.uk



Mr Roger Pitman
Environmental Health Officer
Oxford City Council
Community Services
Ramsay House
10 St Ebbes Street
Oxford OX1 1PT

Date 24 August 2004

Dear Mr Pitman

LOCAL AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT: DETAILED ASSESSMENT

Thank you for consulting the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs on your Detailed Assessment. Please find comments on the report attached.

On the basis of the evidence provided, conclusions reached are accepted for nitrogen dioxide and PM10. However, an Air Quality Management Area will be required for nitrogen dioxide. I would remind you that Defra expects AQMAs to be declared within four months of identification of the requirement for declaration. **Please could you send us copies of the AQMA order when it becomes available.**

If you have any specific queries about the comments contained in the appraisal report, please contact the help desk funded by the Department and operated by Air Quality Consultants and the University of the West of England. Details on how to contact the help desk can be found in the appraisal report.

Yours sincerely

Eko Deinne
AIR, ENVIRONMENT QUALITY DIVISION

COMMUNITY SERVICES	
25 AUG 2004 08 SEP 2004	
REFERRED TO	DATE REPLIED



Ref: DA-077

Review & Assessment Appraisal Report

Report Prepared by: **Oxford City Council**

Date Review & Assessment Report Issued: **5 August 2004**

The Report sets out the Detailed Assessment, which forms part of the Review & Assessment process required under the Environment Act 1995 and subsequent Regulations.

It covers nitrogen dioxide and PM₁₀ and concludes that an Air Quality Management Area will be required for NO₂.

On the basis of the evidence provided by the local authority, the conclusions reached are **accepted for all pollutants**.

Ref: DA-077

Commentary

The report is well structured and provides most of the information specified in the Guidance.

The following items need to be addressed by the local authority to complete the report satisfactorily:

1. In order to ensure that all the information in this report can be interpreted by a reader the full details of the monitoring undertaken for NO₂ and PM₁₀ should be included.
2. Wolvercote, Cutteslowe and Green Road roundabouts should now be included in new AQMA declarations where public exposure exists.
3. Although there is some evidence that Banbury Rd / Marston Ferry Rd, Abingdon Road / Weirs Lane and Iffly Rd / Donnington Bridge Rd may exceed the annual NO₂ objective the case is not yet compelling. Monitoring should be conducted at these locations in areas of public exposure in order that the risk of exceedence can be determined.
4. The St Aldates AUN site exceeds the 1 hour NO₂ objective in 2003 according to the data presented in the DA. There is also evidence from the diffusion tube network to suggest that there is a risk of the 1 hour objective being exceeded in Oxford. If there is public exposure in the vicinity of the St Aldates site then an AQMA should be declared. If there is 1 hour public exposure in the existing AQMA then the 1 hour objective should be added to the AQMA declaration.

This commentary is not designed to deal with every aspect of the report. It highlights a number of issues that should help the local authority in carrying out further Review & Assessment work.

Issues can be followed up through the Review and Assessment helpdesk as follows:

Help desk telephone:	0117 328 3668
Help desk email:	aqm-review@uwe.ac.uk
Web site:	www.uwe.ac.uk/aqm/review

COMMUNITY SERVICES	
INVESTOR IN PEOPLE	
20 DEC 2004 04 JAN 2005	
REFERRED TO	DATE REPLIED

Mr John Copley
 Head of Environmental Health
 Ramsay House
 10 St Ebbes Street
 Oxford
 OX1 1PT



**OXFORDSHIRE
 COUNTY COUNCIL**
ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY
 www.oxfordshire.gov.uk

Speedwell House
 Speedwell Street, Oxford OX1 1NE
 Tel: 01865 815700
 Fax: 01865 815085

17 December, 2004

My ref: ST/AM/8.7/97

Your ref: RP/DA
 Consult

Direct line: 01865 810443

Please ask for: Samantha Tharme

e-mail:
 Samantha.tharme@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Dear Mr Copley

Oxford City – Local Air Quality Management: Detailed Assessment

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the detailed assessment. Firstly I would like to note the acknowledgement by the County Council of its role in air quality management. This was recently reinforced at the County Executive on the 7th December when considering the Environment Scrutiny Review on Air Quality.

As you are aware we have agreed to jointly developing the Air Quality Action Plan in the framework of the local Transport Plan. The Local Transport Plan will recognise that Air Quality is a 'shared priority' in terms of local and national requirements. Consultation on the Local Transport Plan will be held both with City Members and wider public, before submission to DfT in July 2005.

The additional locations put forward in the Detailed Assessment as potential Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) are already on the transport agenda to deal mainly with congestion and improve public transport reliability. We recognise that the air quality issues should also be considered in scheme development. Whilst not contesting the Air Quality thresholds which have been predicted for these locations it should be noted that the decisions for action have to be taken in the context of other criteria under consideration and priorities for action, and that any proposed measures or schemes are required to demonstrate cost effectiveness. Some work has commenced on scheme development but further detail and decisions will be in the lifetime of the next Local Transport Plan, 2006-11.

I note that a relatively cautious approach has been taken in the Detailed Assessment indicating locations that may exceed air quality objectives. I would expect that in more detailed work which may proceed if AQMAs are declared at these locations we will be able to understand better the magnitude of the problem and relevance to public exposure and therefore for both City and County Councils to agree on the appropriate level of action.

Richard Dudding – Director for Environment & Economy

David McKibbin – Head of Transport

Mr John Copley
Page 2
17 December 2004

If declaration of these areas is not included at this time I would assume that reconsideration will be given in the next round of USA and DA reporting. In the meantime it would be prudent, and expected, to consider air quality issues at the locations noted in the DA, namely Wolvercote, Cutteslowe and Green Road Roundabouts in the scheme development already in progress.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Tharme', written in a cursive style.

Samantha Tharme
Principal Transport Planner

cc. PJM, RSD, Cllr Robertson, Cllr Purse, Richard Shaw

Summary of Responses from the Area Committees

Committee	Date of Meeting	Action Sheet
NORTH EAST	16th November 2004	Noted
EAST AREA PARLIAMENT	17 November 2004	Endorsed the report and supported future work on this. Asked for further consideration to be given to adding Cowley Road, St Clements and the Donnington Bridge Road/Iffley Road junction to the air quality management area.
COWLEY	1st December 2004	Agreed to note the report
NORTH	2nd December 2004	Agreed to note the report
SOUTH EAST	6 th December 2004	Committee noted the report
CENTRAL, SOUTH AND WEST	14th December 2004	The Executive Board to be recommended to consider the development of a low emission zone in the city centre