

Bath Air Quality Action Plan Update

March 2025



Background

- Environment Act 1995 as amended by Environment Act 2021 sets out details for reviewing and assessing Air Quality.
- Bath Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) was originally declared in 2002 (London Rd only).
 - Highest concentration in 2001 - London Road AURN - 57 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
 - Highest concentration in 2023 - Walcot Parade 2 – 35.9 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- The last Air Quality Action Plan was adopted in 2011.
- The Bath Clean Air Plan was adopted in 2020, with the CAZ introduced in 2021.

Differences between Local Air Quality Management Framework and Local NO₂ plan initiative

LAQM	Local NO ₂ Plan
Local Authority responsibility	UK Government responsibility derived from EC Directive, devolved via Ministerial Direction
Objective standard 40µg/m ³	Objective standard 40µg/m ³
Objectives apply at relevant exposure – for annual average NO ₂ this is the nearest building façade	Objectives apply anywhere there is public access e.g. footpath
All monitoring locations when annualised are adjusted to the nearest exposure	Monitoring points required to be > 25m from a major junction, >0.5m from a building or obstacle, representing 100m of road
Any actions to reduction pollution from all sources can be included	Focused on CAZ and any supplementary actions

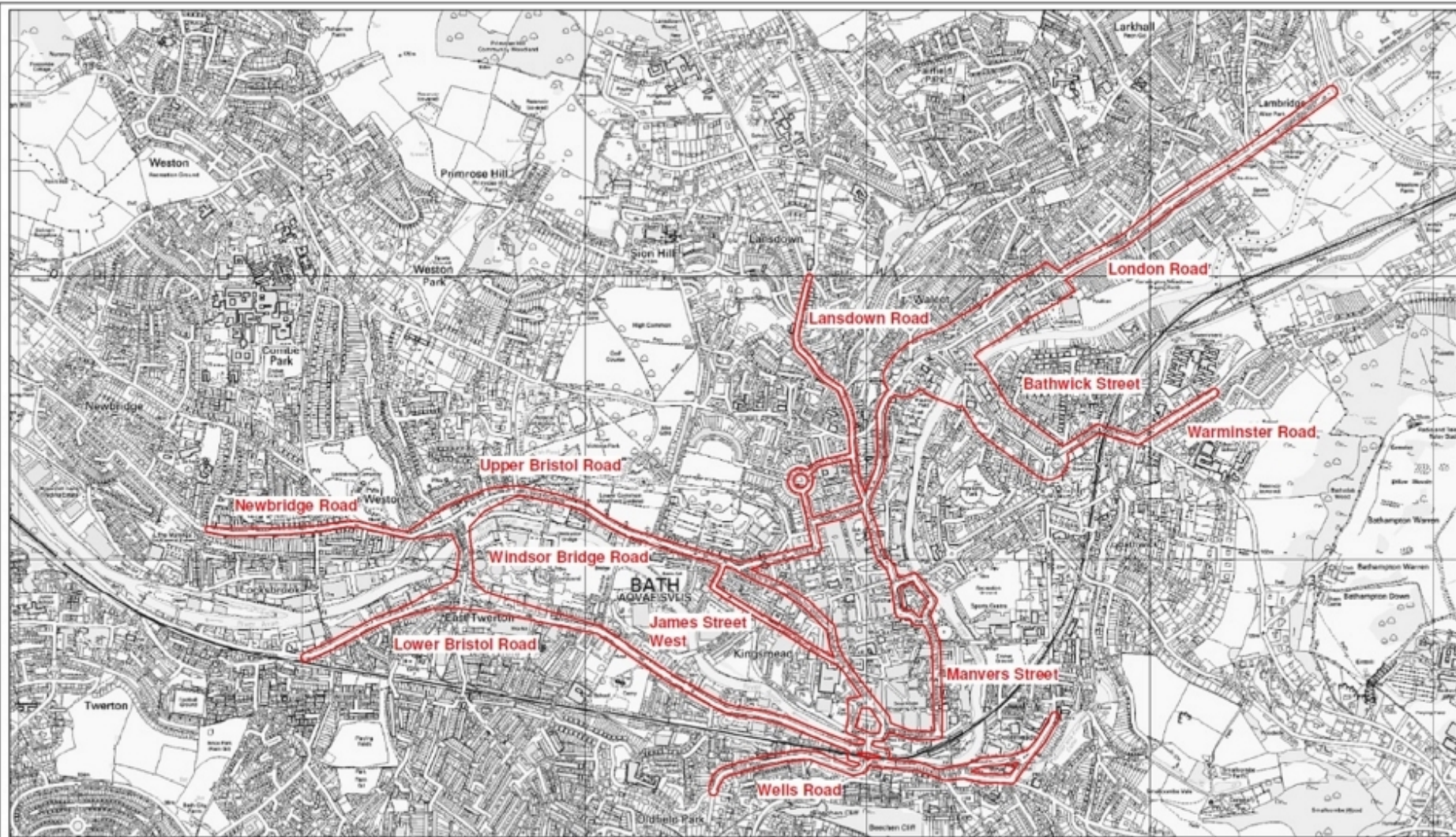
Bath Air Quality Management Area 2013

NO₂ Annual Mean and 1-hour Objectives

Compiled by N Courthold on 22 January 2013

Scale 1:13000

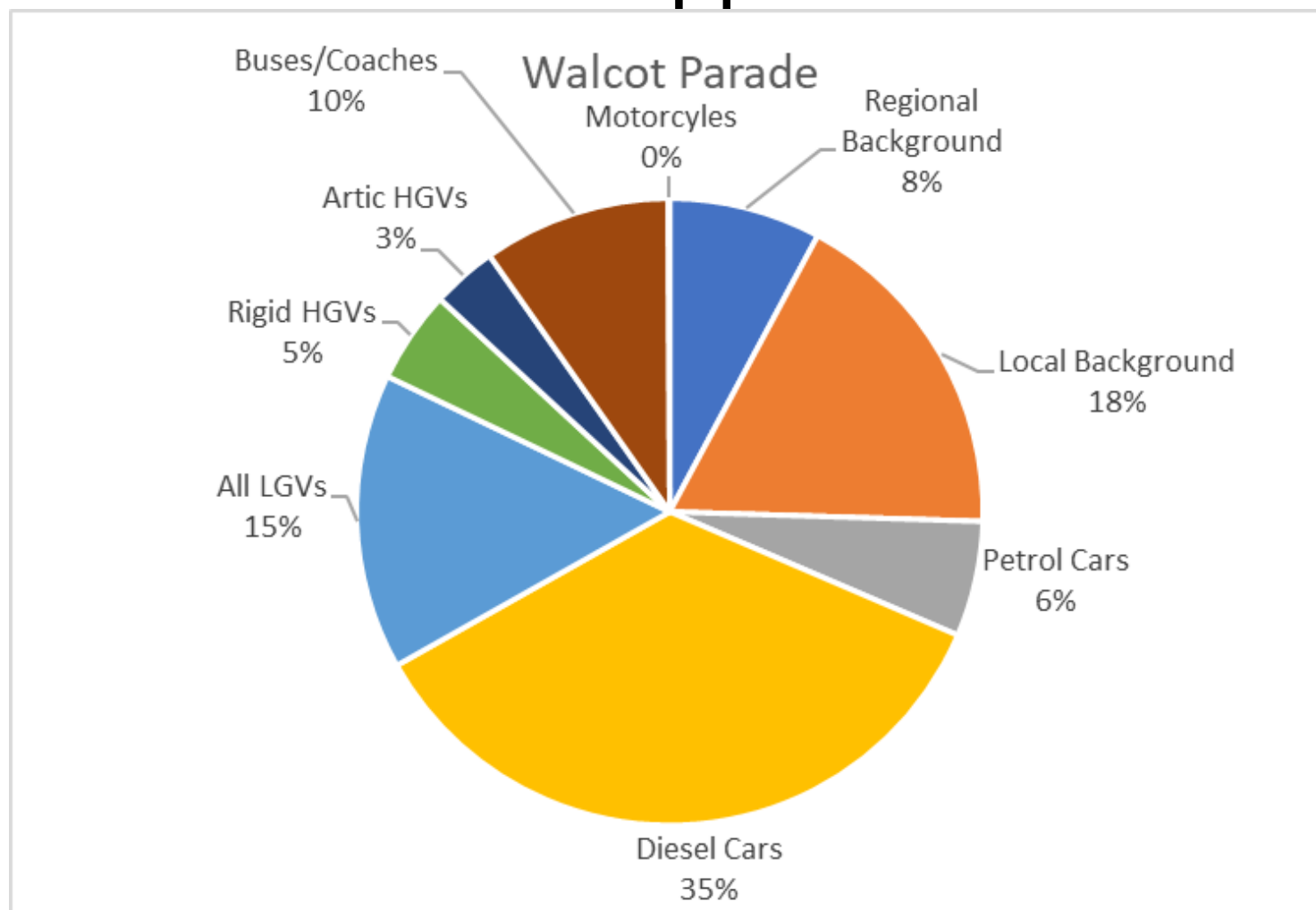
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Revised AQAP

- The AQAP is over 5 years old and needs to be updated in line with the guidance
- Whilst the NO₂ concentrations in Bath have reduced to below 40 µg/m³, the Council needs to demonstrate ongoing compliance with the objectives before consulting on revoking the Air Quality Management Area (3 years below 36 µg/m³)
- This AQAP supplements the Clean Air Plan (and the Clean Air Zone is an action contained within this AQAP)

Source Apportionment



Key Actions

- The AQAP contains 21 actions to reduce NO₂, including:
 - Promoting low emission transport e.g. Clean Air Zone & EV charging infrastructure
 - Traffic Management e.g. Liveable Neighbourhoods & City Regional Sustainable Transport Scheme (CRSTS) and Bath and North East Somerset Council Local Active Travel and Safety Programme (LATS)
 - Promoting Travel Alternatives e.g. Clean Air Schools Kit
 - Transport and Planning Infrastructure e.g. Dott and e-bike trial
 - Promoting low emission plant e.g. Domestic and business retrofitting projects and Council corporate renewables and decarbonisation
 - Policy Guidance and Development Control e.g. Air Quality Planning and Policy Guidance

Note: All actions can be seen [here](#)



Consultation feedback

- There were 28 Responses:
 - 24 Residents
 - 1 Residents Association
 - 1 Community Travel Organisation
 - 1 Wiltshire Council
 - 1 National Highways
- Of these, 11 agreed or strongly agreed with the AQAP, 4 were neutral and 13 disagreed or strongly disagreed with the proposed AQAP.
- 4 responses did not add additional comments to the further comments or actions questions (2 neutral, one strongly disagreed and one agreed).
- Many of the comments were more specific to other project leads rather than the overall action plan and have been forwarded to the relevant departments for consideration.
 - Liveable Neighbourhoods – 6 comments
 - Parking – 2 comments

Future Actions

- DEFRA have approved the Council with an extension until 30th April 2025 for us to adopt a Bath AQAP.
- Review NO₂ concentrations each year and move to consulting on revoking the AQMA when we can demonstrate ongoing compliance with the objectives (3 years below 36 µg/m³)
- Give updates on each action in the Air Quality Annual Status Report
- Develop an Air Quality Strategy to ensure that air quality continues to improve when the AQMA is revoked and to also include the wider district and particulate matter.