

Bath & North East Somerset Council		
DECISION MAKER:	Cllr Martin Veal, Cabinet Member for Community Services Cllr Anthony Clarke, Cabinet Member for Transport	
DECISION DATE:	On or after 18th June 2016	<small>EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:</small>
		E 2817
TITLE:	Keynsham and Saltford Air Quality Action Plan	
WARD:	Keynsham North, Keynsham South, Keynsham East and Saltford.	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report:		
Appendix 1 – Keynsham and Saltford Air Quality Action Plan		

1 THE ISSUE

As required by UK legislation, Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) have been declared in Keynsham and Saltford due to exceedances of the national objective limits for measured nitrogen dioxide concentrations. Following declaration of the AQMAs, the Council is obliged to develop Air Quality Action Plans which seek to reduce air pollution to below the objective limit.

2 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the Air Quality Action Plan attached in Appendix 1 is adopted.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

3.1 There are currently no budgets aligned for implementation of any of the recommendations highlighted.

3.2 The preparation of the action plan creates a listing of proposals to be implemented. This does not commit the Council to implementation and spend against these actions at this time, but it will be important to document any decisions not to implement as this could lead to future challenge.

3.3 Of the actions proposed, some could potentially be incorporated in the design of ongoing and future capital works aligned with current strategies, funded through new grant monies, provided by external partners or managed through existing revenue budgets (where in line with the required service provision).

- 3.4 Each action proposed would require individual assessment, including funding options, through outline business case review or as part of a wider project business case.
- 3.5 Each action put forward for implementation would then require the appropriate approval through the usual council process.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

- 4.1 The action plans are developed in recognition of the legal requirement on the local authority to work towards Air Quality Strategy (AQS) objectives under Part IV of the **Environment Act 1995** and relevant regulations and to meet the requirements of the Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) statutory process.

5 THE REPORT

- 5.1 The content of the proposed air quality action plans seek to reduce the concentration of nitrogen dioxide in the air in certain areas of Keynsham and Saltford. The draft action plan was approved by the Cabinet Member prior to the commencement of the consultation period and was developed by the Air Quality Working Group that includes officers from Public Health, Transportation Policy, Sustainability and Public Protection and Health Improvement. The matter has since been heard at the Communities, Transport and Environment Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel.
- 5.2 The Keynsham action plan measures often duplicate those contained within other strategic documents such as the Keynsham Transport Strategy. This is due to the common aims of minimising the impact of traffic and reducing congestion. The action plans also took account of the Core Strategy and Placemaking Plans.
- 5.3 The lifespan of the action plan is not set by legislation, but it is expected that a new plan will need to be developed in 2021 in order to reassess actions and identify potential new measures for reducing air pollution.

6 RATIONALE

- 6.1 Measures have been included that could be developed within the next 5 years. The option of a bypass for Saltford was not considered as there are no proposals for this within the current Core Strategy that runs until 2029 and it is outside of the expected lifespan of the action plan.

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 7.1 In addition to the original options presented in the original consultation document, officers have included supplemental ones that arose from the exercise in the final Action Plans.

8 CONSULTATION

8.1 The Team Manager (Licensing and Environmental Protection), the Group Manager for Public Protection and Health Improvement, the Divisional Director of Environmental Services, the Strategic Director for Place, Head of Legal Services, Financial Officer and the appropriate Cabinet Members were consulted in the writing of this report.

9 RISK MANAGEMENT

9.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance. The Action Plan has been produced in accordance with the 'Local Air Quality Management Policy Guidance (PG16)'. The key risks arising from this statutory action plan are the fact that there is no identified funding currently for the actions. The existence of these plans will assist in leveraging finance in from other sources such as DEFRA grants.

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Background papers	<i>Air Quality Action Plans for Keynsham and Saltford - Consultation Draft – available online on air quality webpages. Consultation Report – Keynsham and Saltford Air Quality Actions Plans – available upon request.</i>
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