



AGENDA ITEM NO.

Report Cover Sheet

Name of Meeting:	Executive
Date of Meeting:	22nd October 2007
Report Title:	Local Air Quality Management Areas – Consultation on Air Quality Management Areas and Action Plans.
Summary of report:	The report reviews the Air Quality monitoring and assessment process which the Council is required to undertake. It recommends a consultation process on extension of the existing Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) in Warwick and the creation of an AQMA in Kenilworth. It also outlines the process for consultation on the Action Plans in relation to the Kenilworth, Warwick and Leamington AQMAs. The summary sheet to the draft Action Plan is also attached to this report for information.
For Further Information Please Contact (report author):	Richard Hall
Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Policy Framework:	No
Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budgetary framework:	No
Wards of the District directly affected by this decision:	Kenilworth, Warwick and Leamington town centres.
Key Decision?	No
Included within the Forward Plan?	No (If Yes, include reference number)
Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006?	No
Date and name of meeting when issue was last considered and relevant minute number:	N/A
Background Papers:	Environment Act 1995 Part IV Environment & Economic Policy Committee Meeting Minutes – 18.10.2006, 21.03.2007

Consultation Undertaken		
Below is a table of the Council's regular consultees. However not all have to be consulted on every matter and if there was no obligation to consult with a specific consultee they will be marked as n/a.		
Consultees	Yes/ No	Who
Other Committees	N/A	
Ward Councillors	Yes	Willes, Brunswick and Warwick Town Centre members.
Portfolio Holders	Yes	Cllr Michael Kinson
Other Councillors		
Warwick District Council recognised Trades Unions	N/A	
Other Warwick District Council Service Areas		Legal, Planning, Town Centre Managers
Project partners	Yes	WCC
Parish/Town Council	"	Warwick and Leamington Town Council, Barford Parish Council.
Highways Authority	"	
Residents	N/A	The report recommends a consultation process.
Citizens Panel	N/A	
Other consultees	N/A	
Officer Approval		
With regard to officer approval all reports must be approved by the report authors relevant director, Finance Services and Legal Services.		
Officer Approval	Date	Name
Relevant Director(s)	2007	Craig Anderson
Chief Executive		
CMT	2007	
Section 151 Officer		
Legal	April 2007	Clare Flanagan
Planning		John Edwards
Final Decision?		Yes
Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below)		
The report recommends a consultation process. A decision on the Finalised Action Plan will be required by Executive, which is projected to be in March 2008.		

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 That the proposed consultation process in relation to the Air Quality Action Plan be agreed.
- 1.2 That the proposed consultation process in relation to the extension of the Warwick Air Quality Management Area be agreed.
- 1.3 That the proposed consultation process in relation to the creation of an Air Quality Management Area in Kenilworth be agreed. (*The inclusion of this section depends on whether we have received a consultants report in time for this Committee*)
- 1.4 That the results of the consultation, with finalised Action Plan and Air Quality Management Areas be reported back to Executive in March 2008.

2.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Environment Act 1995 Part IV requires that local authorities monitor and assess air quality within their areas, within laid down procedures. Where pollution levels exceed, or are likely to exceed, Air Quality Regulation standards then Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) must be declared. In this district there are 3 AQMAs, as identified in the attached maps. There is then a duty to devise an Action Plan to improve air quality within these areas.
- 2.2 Having declared AQMAs in Barford, Warwick and Leamington in 2004 more detailed air pollution monitoring and computer modelling work has been conducted. This has led to the conclusion that the area included within the Warwick AQMA needs to be extended. The Barford AQMA is expected to be resolved by the construction of the new bypass. Air quality monitoring has continued since its construction and a report will be prepared within the next 6 months which is expected to show that the area can designation can be withdrawn. The Leamington AQMA will remain the same.
- 2.3 Monitoring and assessment work in Kenilworth has also been carried out and this has indicated that an AQMA might need to be declared there.
- 2.4 It is necessary to consult widely on both the draft Air Quality Action Plan and the creation and modification of Air Quality Management Areas, hence this current report. A range of proposals has been set out at this time and these relate to measures either planned or proposed by the County Council in relation to the Local Transport Plan. They are largely general in nature at this stage. The purpose of the consultation process is to give consultees a chance to influence the specific measures which will be incorporated in the finalised Action Plan.

3.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Not applicable.

4.0 BUDGETARY FRAMEWORK

The consultation process will be accommodated within existing budgets

5.0 POLICY FRAMEWORK

The Community Plan Priority S1 refers to protecting and enhancing the built and natural environment. S4 refers to promoting greener travel and the use of public transport.

This work aligns closely with the county-wide Local Transport Plan and Local Planning Policies for transport.

APPENDIX 1 - PROPOSED CONSULTATION PROCESS

(a) Action Plan - Proposed Consultees

The Secretary of State/DEFRA
The Environment Agency
The Highways Agency
Health Protection Agency

Warwickshire County Council

- Transport Planning Group
- Ecology & Geology

Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council
Coventry City Council
Stratford on Avon District Council
North Warwickshire Borough Council
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council

Local Strategic Partnership – Environment Theme Group
Warwickshire Primary Care Trust
Leamington Town Council
Kenilworth Town Council
Warwick Town Council
Whitnash Town Council
Warwick Town Centre Forum
All Parish Councils within Warwick District

Departments within Warwick District Council

- Planning & Engineers
- Legal
- Housing
- Leisure & Amenities + Town Centre Managers

Housing Associations operating within the District
Residents Associations within AQMA Areas

Advantage West Midlands
Warwick Castle
Stagecoach Bus Company
National Express Coach Company
Stuarts Coach Company and any other local coach/bus companies
All rail companies serving Leamington Spa & Warwick
Freight Transport Association
Federation of Small Businesses
Licensed Taxi Association and local taxi firms

Green Peace
Friends of the Earth
English Heritage
Sustrans
Natural England (includes functions previously associated with Countryside Alliance & English Nature)

Local Chambers of Trade
Living Streets (the Pedestrian Association)
All properties (residential & business) in each Air Quality Management Area

Proposed Methods of Consultation

1. Executive Summary of the Action Plan, together with a covering letter and any relevant documents and details to the main consultees listed.
2. General Public - Summary booklets of the Action Plan and questionnaires available at all "One Stop Shops" and in libraries with facilities to view the full document via the internet on the premises, or to request a paper copy.
3. Air Quality Action Plan Document available on the Warwick District Council website, together with questionnaire for response.

(b) Warwick AQMA Extension - Proposed Consultees

The Secretary of State/DEFRA
The Environment Agency
The Highways Agency
The Health Protection Agency

Warwickshire County Council

- Transport Planning Group
- Ecology & Geology

Warwick Town Council
Warwick Town Centre Forum

Warwick Castle

Departments within Warwick District Council

- Planning & Engineers
- Legal
- Housing
- Leisure & Amenities + Warwick Town Centre Manager

Housing Associations with properties in the relevant areas
Residents Associations within the relevant areas

Warwickshire Primary Care Trust

English Heritage

Local Chamber of Trade

All properties (residential & business) in Warwick Air Quality Management Area

Proposed Methods of Consultation

1. Plan of the proposed AQMA, together with a covering letter and any relevant documents and details to the main consultees listed.
2. General public - A plan of the proposed Warwick AQMA and questionnaires available at Warwick "One Stop Shops" and in libraries with facilities to view the full document via the internet on the premises, or to request a paper copy.
3. Warwick Air Quality Management Area Documentation available on the Warwick District Council website together with questionnaire for response.

(c) Kenilworth Declaration of 2 AQMAs - Proposed Consultees

The Secretary of State/DEFRA
The Environment Agency
The Highways Agency
The Health Protection Agency

Warwickshire County Council

- Transport Planning Group
- Ecology & Geology

Kenilworth Town Council

Departments within Warwick District Council

- Planning & Engineers
- Legal
- Housing
- Leisure & Amenities

Housing Associations with properties in the relevant areas

Residents Associations within the relevant areas

Warwickshire Primary Care Trust

English Heritage

Local Chamber of Trade

All properties (residential & business) in each of the Kenilworth Air Quality Management Areas

Proposed Methods of Consultation

1. Plan of the proposed AQMA, together with a covering letter and any relevant documents and details to the main consultees listed.
2. General public - A plan of the proposed two Kenilworth AQMAs and questionnaires available at Kenilworth "One Stop Shops" and in libraries with facilities to view the full document via the internet on the premises, or to request a paper copy.
3. Kenilworth Air Quality Management Area Documentation available on the Warwick District Council website together with questionnaire for response.

APPENDIX 2 – Extract from DRAFT AIR QUALITY ACTION PLAN

Executive Summary

This Air Quality Action Plan is the culmination of the second round of local air quality review and assessment for Warwick District Council (WDC). The process of Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) review and assessment has been set down in Part IV of the Environment Act 1995, which forms part of the Government's response to European Directives on Air Quality to which the UK Air Quality Strategy responds.

Following the Detailed Assessment in 2004 and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) acceptance of the findings of the report, WDC declared AQMAs in Leamington Spa, Warwick and Barford. As such, the aim of this Action Plan is to identify how Warwick District Council will use its existing powers and work together with other organisations in pursuit of the annual mean Air Quality Objective for nitrogen dioxide. Measures are proposed to improve air quality both within the AQMAs and across the District as a whole.

Warwickshire County Council (WCC) is responsible for the management of the local road network and as such is responsible for any direct actions proposed for the AQMAs in order to reduce road traffic emissions. Warwick District Council will work together with the County Council to improve air quality within the AQMAs and throughout the District.

The direct measures proposed (or undertaken) within the AQMAs are:

- Construction of the Barford bypass
- Improving effectiveness of public transport (SPARK)
- Establishment of Urban Mixed Priority Route schemes
- Improve the National Cycle Network routes in Warwick and Leamington Spa
- Development of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS)
- Improve and promote bus services
- Improve and promote passenger rail services
- Establishment of Park & Ride Schemes
- Sustainable Parking Strategy
- Powered Two Wheeler (PTW) Strategy

The indirect measures to improve air quality across the whole District are:

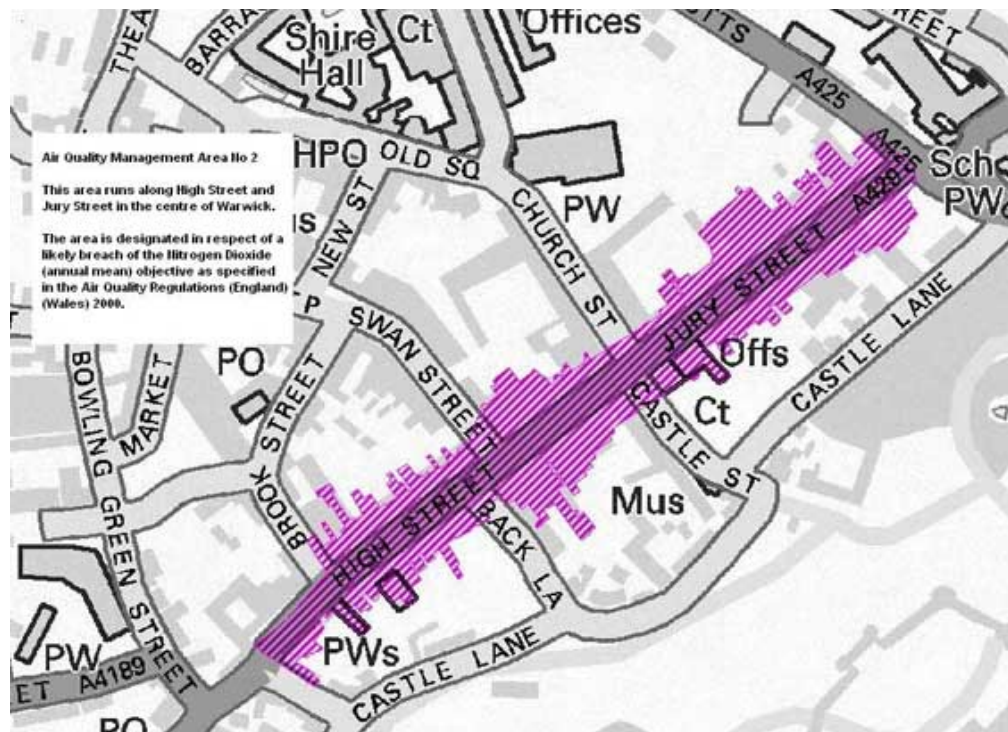
- Changing travel behaviour by working with the County Council by encouraging, for example, "Walk to School" and "Wheels to Work" initiatives
- Decrease the number of "utility" journeys made by car
- Encourage new development in Warwickshire to be sustainable and the use of public transport over personal car use
- Support of improvements to Junctions 13, 14 and 15 on the M40 where existing levels of traffic can affect travel habits and route choice.
- WDC to continue their commitment to local air quality monitoring

The proposed actions will help work towards the NO₂ annual mean objective.

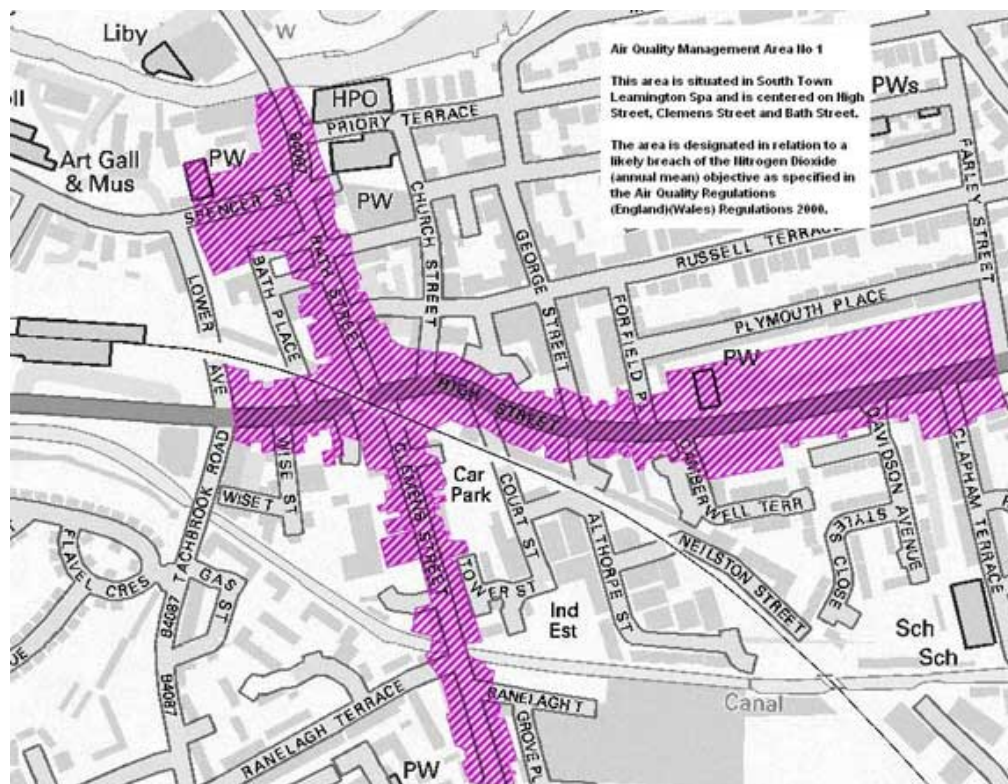
It was not possible to assess the air quality impacts of all the measures to improve air quality within this Plan, through detailed modelling, so additional benefits beyond those assessed may be achieved. A qualitative assessment of impacts of all measures has been included in the action plan summary tables by way of indication of potential benefits. The impacts of measures will be further considered through future progress reports.

APPENDIX 3 – MAPS SHOWING LIMITS OF THE 3 EXISTING AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREAS

WARWICK



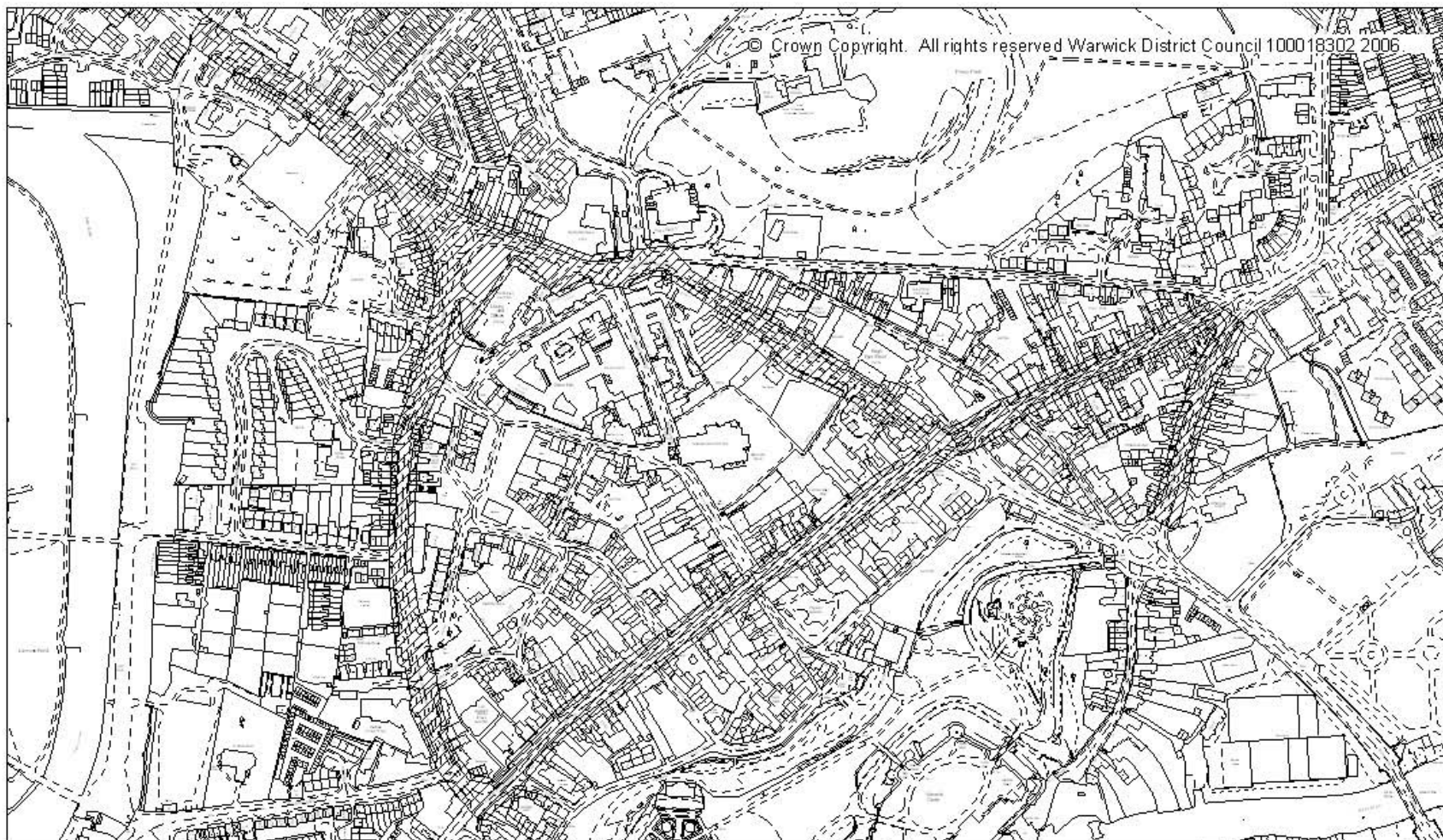
LEAMINGTON



BARFORD



APPENDIX 4 PROPOSED, EXTENDED WARWICK AQMA



Title:
WARWICK AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA

Environmental Health, P.O. Box 2176, Riverside House, Milverton Hill, Royal
Leamington Spa. CV32 5QF.

Date: 26 September 2007

Drawn By:

WDC Reference:

Scale: 1:4250

OS Sheet Reference No. SP2864

Plot Centred (NGR): 428216E, 264997N

