

South Derbyshire Air Quality Strategy 2024-28

Date: February 2023



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Version Control

Version	Reason for review (review date/legislation/process changes)	Effective Date	Review date
1.0	First version	21/04/2021	21/04/2024
2.0	Version 2		01/04/2028

Approvals

Approved by	Date
Senior Leadership Team	TBC
Environment & Development Services Committee	TBC

1.0 Introduction

Air pollution is the biggest environmental health risk in the UK. It is estimated to contribute up to 40,000 premature deaths in the UK per year and contributes to an estimated 530 deaths and 5400 life years lost in Derbyshire County and City¹. The economic cost to the UK is thought to be around £20 billion a year.

Studies demonstrate long-term exposure to air pollution (over years) can reduce life expectancy, mainly due to cardiovascular and respiratory diseases and lung cancer. Short-term exposure (over hours or days) to high levels of air pollution can also cause a range of health impacts, including exacerbation of asthma, increases in respiratory and cardiovascular hospital admissions and mortality².

The impact of air pollution often disproportionately affects the very young; older people; those with underlying health conditions; and the most disadvantaged within our communities.

Reductions in air pollution require both global, national and local action.

1.1 National Strategy

In 2019 the UK Government published a [Clean Air Strategy](#) for the UK, which set out a range of actions to improve air quality across the country.

In 2023 the Government published an [Air quality strategy: framework for local authority delivery](#). This set out the government's specific expectations of local authorities' role in the delivery of clean air.

Section 3 of the Framework for local authority delivery includes the following 'actions for local partners',

¹ Public Health England (2014) Estimated local mortality burdens associated with particulate air pollution https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/332854/PH_E_CRCE_010.pdf

² Public Health England (2019) Health Matter; Air pollution <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-matters-air-pollution/health-mattersair-pollution>



- All local authorities are expected to take proactive action to improve air quality, whether or not they have an Air Quality Management Area. Local authorities without an Air Quality Management Area, should specify proactive measures they will take in their Air Quality Strategy.
- Local authorities' Air Quality Strategies should be informed by their monitoring and assessments. Air Quality Strategies should set out an enforcement strategy which prioritises reduction of population exposure, including in areas experiencing disproportionately high levels of pollution.

1.2 Regional Strategy

The Directors of Public Health for Derbyshire and Derby have identified air quality as being an important factor in ensuring healthy local communities. A Derbyshire County and Derby City Air Quality Strategy 2020-30 was jointly approved by the Derby and Derbyshire Health and Wellbeing Boards in January 2020.

The Derbyshire County and Derby City Air Quality Strategy contains the core vision that “*Together we will reduce the health impact of poor air quality for the people of Derbyshire County and Derby City*” along with a set of guiding principles, strategic priorities and quantitative outcomes.

In 2023 a revised Action Plan (2023-25) and Air Quality Strategy Indicators were published to support the delivery of the Strategy.

2.0 Purpose

The purpose of this Air Quality Policy for South Derbyshire is to synchronise local policy aims and priorities with those agreed at a regional level and in doing so to support delivery of the Derbyshire Strategy. Air pollution doesn't respect administrative boundaries and therefore joined up policy making offers part of the solution to dealing with poor air quality. The policy also sets out targets to help focus limited local government resources on the most effective means ways to reduce local air pollution, facilitate change, influence others and protect health.

By creating a clear link between Policy commitments by South Derbyshire District Council and the regional Derby and Derbyshire Air Quality Strategy, this Council considers that it has discharged the duty to publish an Air Quality Strategy which is set out in section 3 of the 2023 Air quality strategy: framework for local authority delivery.

This Policy also recognises that on 14 September 2023 South Derbyshire declared an Ecological Emergency.

The declaration includes the following text:

“This motion will see the council add ecological considerations, together with any implications, alongside those for climate, sustainability, and nature recovery in our new corporate plan as strategic priorities embedded within all areas of council engagement. The Council will continue to collaborate with our communities, businesses and other organisations, existing networks, and partnerships to



improve ecological literacy, encourage greater biodiversity, increase local sustainable food production in order to protect food security, tree planting and management.”

Air quality can also have an adverse effect on ecological sustainability and therefore this policy contains additional air quality targets which seek to support the goals of the Ecological Emergency declaration.

3.0 Objectives

The aim of this Policy is to **reduce the health impact of poor air quality for the people and ecology of South Derbyshire.**

The priorities of the Policy are:

- **To seek to reduce the sources of pollution within and outside South Derbyshire which contribute to poor air quality,**
- **To prioritise and support those interventions which offer additional health benefits,**
- **To mitigate the impacts of poor air quality on health,**
- **To strike a balance between the occasional tensions between climate change interventions and local air quality interventions.**

The diverse and changing nature of the sources, interventions and population groups exposed to poor air quality means that the cumulative effect of a range of interventions has the greatest potential to reduce local air pollution.

The Derbyshire and Derby Health Protection Boards have committed to the development of an annual action plan which will utilise the available evidence and best practice working with partners to achieve the priorities described above. The delivery of the Derbyshire Strategy will be monitored through these Boards.

Delivery of the Derbyshire Strategy is being undertaken through a Derbyshire Air Quality Working group, reporting at least annually to the Health and Wellbeing Board. This includes providing oversight of key population outcomes, performance against the strategic priorities and progress on the annual the action plan.

The delivery of this South Derbyshire Air Quality Policy will be monitored through the Council's Environment and Development Services Committee and through the publication of the Council's Annual Status Report, which is also published on the Council website after it has been approved by DEFRA.



4.0 Outcomes

The Derby and Derbyshire Air Quality Strategy contains a number of measurable outcomes which link to the four priorities.

These outcomes for Derbyshire are summarised in Table 1, along with more local outcomes, where they are available, to provide a more granular set of desired outcomes for South Derbyshire.

Table 1: Policy Outcomes

Outcome	2022 Derbyshire Baseline	South Derbyshire		
		2019	2022	2028 Target
Annual average measured concentration of nitrogen dioxide in the air	23.2µg/m ³	24.1µg/m ³	20.0µg/m ³	18.0µg/m ³
Highest recorded annual concentration of nitrogen dioxide in the air	53.1µg/m ³	32.7µg/m ³	26.9µg/m ³	26.0µg/m ³
Percentage of monitoring sites with a concentration of nitrogen dioxide in the air above 40µg/m ³	3.4%	0%	0%	0%
Annual average concentration of fine particulate matter (PM _{2.5}) in the air at monitoring sites	7.6µg/m ³	No data	No data	Note 1
Fraction of mortality attributable to particulate air pollution ^{Note 2}	5.3%	5.3%	5.4%	5.2%
Number of publicly available Electric vehicle Charging Points per 100,000 population ^{Note 3}	40.8	No data	37	100
Number of vehicles that are Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEV) ^{Note 4}	16,424	No data	1,533	10,000
Percentage of homes that have solid fuel (coal or wood) as their main fuel. ^{Note 5}	No data	No data	1.18%	0.9%
Percentage of homes with EPC rating C or above ^{Note 5}	39%	No data	48.8% (18,794 of 38,540)	56%
Number of homes within Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs)	180	0	0	0
Annual number of complaints relating to smoke from domestic or commercial/industrial chimneys and bonfires	535 (incomplete data)	95	97	95



Percentage of designated ecological sites which are exposed to an exceedance of the critical level (30µg/m ³) for nitrogen oxide (NOx) ^{Note 6}	No data	No data	0%	0%
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Notes:

Note 1 Currently there is no approved monitoring of PM2.5 in South Derbyshire. There are currently only two monitoring locations in Derbyshire and only five across the East Midlands region. Following the Environmental Targets (Fine Particulate Matter) (England) Regulations 2022 DEFRA have committed to expanding the PM2.5 monitoring network across the UK. Data will be included if / when monitoring stations are established in South Derbyshire.

Note 2 <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/public-health-outcomes-framework/> Indicator D01

Note 3 [Markdown map LocalAuthority publication template.knit \(dft.gov.uk\)](#)

Note 4 Department of Transport and Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency, Vehicle Statistics (Table VEH0132) - [Vehicle licensing statistics data tables - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Note 5 [Energy Performance of Buildings Data England and Wales \(opendatacommunities.org\)](#)

Note 6. Designated Ecological sites are Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), Ramsar sites, National Nature Reserves (NNR), Local Nature Reserves (LNR). Current year NOx exposure is taken from the [APIS Site Relevant Critical Loads online map](#)



5.0 Definitions

Air Quality Management Areas - (AQMAs) are areas that are likely to exceed the national air quality objective for a specific pollutant.

Fraction of mortality - expressed as the percentage of annual deaths from all causes in those aged 30+

µg/m³ – microgrammes per cubic meter of air

PM₁₀ - individual particles with an aerodynamic diameter generally less than 10 micrometers. PM₁₀ is also known as respirable particulate matter.

PM_{2.5} - individual particles with an aerodynamic diameter generally less than 2.5 micrometers. PM_{2.5} is also known as fine particulate matter.

6.0 Roles and Responsibilities

- **Responsible:** Service area which performs an activity or does the work.
- **Accountable:** Service area which is ultimately accountable for the service being provided
- **Consulted:** Services which need to be engaged and contribute to the Policy
- **Informed:** Services or stakeholders which need to be informed of the Policy

Detailed operational procedures are separate from policy documents.

Procedural information may be appropriately referenced or provided in the policy to meet a statutory requirement or to clarify the process that leads to a decision.

Responsible	Accountable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head of Environmental Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To support the Derbyshire Air Quality Working Group ○ To comply with Environment Act 2005 and other emerging legal requirements • Head of Planning and Strategic Housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To ensure planning policy and development control decisions do not have an unacceptable adverse affect on air quality. • Head of Culture & Community Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To ensure continuity with ecological emergency work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Director – Service Delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Leadership commitment to policy aims
Consulted	Informed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Corporate Environmental Sustainability Group ○ Senior Leadership Team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To understand the implications of the Policy



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Head of Planning & Strategic Housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public (published on website) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>To understand the Policy</i>
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7.0 References

None

8.0 Associated Documentation

Description of Documentation	Document Reference
Derbyshire County and Derby City Air Quality Strategy 2020-30	

9.0 Appendices / Glossary

9.1 Equality Impact Assessment Form

The outcome of the assessment should be included in the supporting Committee Report which is seeking approval for a new or amended Policy.

9.2 Sustainability Impact Assessment

The outcome of the assessment should be included in the supporting Committee Report which is seeking approval for a new or amended Policy. Put a tick in the areas that you feel that this policy supports/ impacts.

Our Environment		Our People		Our Future	
Improve the Environment of the District	Y	Engage with Communities	Y	Develop Skills and careers	N
Tackle Climate Change	N	Supporting and Safeguarding the most vulnerable	Y	Support economic growth and infrastructure	N
Enhance the attractiveness of South Derbyshire	Y	Deliver Excellent Services	N	Transforming the Council	N



End of Policy Document

