

South Derbyshire Air Quality Policy 2021-24

Date: April 2021



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

Approvals

Approved by	Date
Senior Leadership Team	March 2021
Environment & Development Services	21 st April 2021

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

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.

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>



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.

At the time of drafting this Policy, an Environment Bill is currently progressing through Parliament. The Bill makes a clear commitment to set an ambitious, legally binding target for the pollutant with the most significant impact on human health, fine particulate matter. The Bill also mandates that the government will set at least one further long-term air quality target.

2.0 Purpose

In recognition of the enormous impact that air quality has on the health of local communities, in 2020 both the Derby and Derbyshire Health Protection Boards approved the adoption of a Derbyshire and Derby Air Quality Strategy 2020-2030 (‘the Derbyshire Strategy’).

The purpose of this Air Quality Policy for South Derbyshire is to identify a set of local priorities, aims and objectives to support delivery of the Derbyshire Strategy and in doing so to reduce the Council’s own contribution to local air pollution, facilitate change, influence others and protect health.

3.0 Objectives

The aim of this Policy **is to reduce the health impact of poor air quality for the people 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 will be undertaken through a Derbyshire Air Quality Working group, reporting at least annually to the Health and Wellbeing Board. This will include 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.



4.0 Outcomes

The Derbyshire Strategy contains a number of measurable outcomes which link to the four priorities. These outcomes for Derby and Derbyshire are summarised in Table 1, along with more local outcomes to provide a more granular set of desired outcomes for South Derbyshire.

Table 1: Policy Outcomes

Outcome	2017 Derbyshire Baseline	South Derbyshire	
		2019 Baseline	2024 Target
Fraction of mortality attributed to particulate matter air pollution (Note 1)	5.1% (2019)	5.3%	5.1%
Average annual measured concentration of nitrogen dioxide	28.8 µg/m ³	23.8 µg/m ³	23.0 µg/m ³
Maximum annual average measured concentration of nitrogen dioxide (Note 2)	49.9 µg/m ³ (County) 61.9 µg/m ³ (City)	32.7 µg/m ³	36.0 µg/m ³
Number of air quality monitoring sites (Note 2)	272	16	19
Number of monitoring sites where the annual average measured concentration of nitrogen dioxide exceeds 40µ/m ³ (Note 2)	13	0	0
Number of Air Quality Management Areas (Note 2)	8	0	0
Predicted annual average and maximum background PM ₁₀ (Note 3)	No data	Mean 12.7 µg/m ³ Max 16.1 µg/m ³	Mean 12.2 µg/m ³ Max 15.6 µg/m ³
Predicted annual average and maximum background PM _{2.5} (Note 3)	No data	Mean 7.8 µg/m ³ Max 9.7 µg/m ³	Mean 7.4 µg/m ³ Max 9.3 µg/m ³

Data Sources:

Note 1 <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/public-health-outcomes-framework/> Indicator D01

Note 2 [South Derbyshire Air Quality Annual Status Report](#)

Note 3 [Background mapping data for local authorities](#)



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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+

$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ – 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 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Director – Service Delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Leadership commitment to policy aims ○ Possibly OEP?
Consulted	Informed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Senior Leadership Team ○ Head of Planning & Strategic Housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To understand the implications of the Policy • Public (published on website) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To understand the Policy



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

