

2024 Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR)

In fulfilment of Part IV of the Environment Act 1995
Local Air Quality Management, as amended by the
Environment Act 2021

Date: June 2024

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Executive Summary: Air Quality in Our Area

We are pleased to be able to report that the Air Quality in Sunderland is good. Health based objectives known as the Air Quality Objectives are being comfortably met across the City and we have seen a general decline in the pollutants measured. We have not declared any Air Quality Management Areas in our City.

Sunderland City Council is committed to try to reduce levels further and to support initiatives that will improve air quality and well-being in Sunderland. We are continuing to monitor levels of air quality throughout the city; Appendix A of this report contains a summary of air quality data collected in 2023. In total we monitored at 38 sites across Sunderland during 2023; three real-time air quality monitoring stations and thirty-five passive sites. We have also added another ten passive sites during 2024 to our monitoring programme which will be reported on next year.

Our real time monitoring data as well as data from other sites across the region can be accessed by going to www.wecare4air.co.uk.

We also look at new sources such as new roads or industrial sites to assess their potential impact on the City's air quality. This is achieved through strategic local planning but also as development occurs through the development control process.

Investment in electric vehicle charging points and improving cycling and walking infrastructure across the City are priorities that can progress towards a reduction in air pollution. More initiatives can be found in Table 2.2.

Together with our partners in Transport and Public Health we aim to work together to try to improve air quality and there are ways that Sunderland's residents and businesses can get involved too.

Sunderland residents and businesses can get more information by visiting <http://gosmartergoactive.co.uk/>.

Air Quality in Sunderland

Breathing in polluted air affects our health and costs the NHS and our society billions of pounds each year. Air pollution is recognised as a contributing factor in the onset of heart disease and cancer and can cause a range of health impacts, including effects on lung function, exacerbation of asthma, increases in hospital admissions and mortality. In the UK, it is estimated that the reduction in healthy life expectancy caused by air pollution is equivalent to 29,000 to 43,000 deaths a year¹.

Air pollution particularly affects the most vulnerable in society, children, the elderly, and those with existing heart and lung conditions. Additionally, people living in less affluent areas are most exposed to dangerous levels of air pollution².

Sunderland is one of five Local Authorities making up the conurbation of Tyne & Wear that covers an area of 540 km², with a population of 1.14 million. The conurbation centres around two major rivers with a mixture of large urban and rural areas.

A substantial rail and road network covers the region, which includes a number of motorways and trunk roads, primary roads, principal roads and other classified and non-classified routes. A comprehensive network of bus services operates in Tyne & Wear, as well as a Metro light rail network. Both regional and national rail systems and freight also operate. Passenger ferries and freight shipping services operate from the Port of Tyne and cargo traffic enters and leaves the Port of Sunderland.

Sunderland has a substantial amount of industry mainly located within the Washington area of the City. There are currently 68 installations within Sunderland that hold an Environmental Permit (Part B) and are regulated by the local authority. Part B permits control activities which cause emissions to air.

Table ES 1 provides a brief explanation of the key pollutants relevant to Local Air Quality Management and the kind of activities they might arise from.

¹ UK Health Security Agency. Chemical Hazards and Poisons Report, Issue 28, 2022.

² Defra. Air quality and social deprivation in the UK: an environmental inequalities analysis, 2006

Table ES 1 - Description of Key Pollutants

| Pollutant | Description |
|--|--|
| Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂) | Nitrogen dioxide is a gas which is generally emitted from high-temperature combustion processes such as road transport or energy generation. |
| Sulphur Dioxide (SO ₂) | Sulphur dioxide (SO ₂) is a corrosive gas which is predominantly produced from the combustion of coal or crude oil. |
| Particulate Matter (PM ₁₀ and PM _{2.5}) | <p>Particulate matter is everything in the air that is not a gas.</p> <p>Particles can come from natural sources such as pollen, as well as human made sources such as smoke from fires, emissions from industry and dust from tyres and brakes.</p> <p>PM₁₀ refers to particles under 10 micrometres. Fine particulate matter or PM_{2.5} are particles under 2.5 micrometres.</p> |

Air pollution is associated with a number of adverse health impacts. It is recognised as a contributing factor in the onset of heart disease and cancer. Additionally, air pollution particularly affects the most vulnerable in society: children, the elderly, and those with existing heart and lung conditions. There is also often a strong correlation with equalities issues because areas with poor air quality are also often less affluent areas^{3,4}.

The mortality burden of air pollution within the UK is equivalent to 29,000 to 43,000 deaths at typical ages⁵, with a total estimated healthcare cost to the NHS and social care of £157 million in 2017⁶.

Pollutants come from a variety of man-made sources such as industry, combustion of fuels, traffic engines and building heating. Some can come from natural sources such as the North Sea which adds to particulate levels. Air Quality in Sunderland is most heavily influenced by traffic emissions. The pollutant of most concern to Sunderland is Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) caused by road traffic.

³ Public Health England. Air Quality: A Briefing for Directors of Public Health, 2017

⁴ Defra. Air quality and social deprivation in the UK: an environmental inequalities analysis, 2006

⁵ Defra. Air quality appraisal: damage cost guidance, January 2023

⁶ Public Health England. Estimation of costs to the NHS and social care due to the health impacts of air pollution: summary report, May 2018

Levels of pollution across Sunderland, indicated by the latest monitoring data, are falling and Sunderland has not had to declare an AQMA within its boundary

Sunderland City Council's Environmental Health Team is responsible for overseeing the air quality monitoring network and reporting the data to DEFRA. We work together with other Local Authorities in our region as Air Pollution crosses administrative boundaries. Improvements to the road network or fitting buses with pollution reducing technology will have positive benefits in more than one local authority region in our area. The GoSmarter project mentioned earlier operates across all the Tyne & Wear Authorities and Northumberland.

We also work closely with our partners in Transport, Public Health and Planning as well as partners outside the Local Authority such as the Environment Agency to improve air quality standards.

Actions to Improve Air Quality

Whilst air quality has improved significantly in recent decades, there are some areas where local action is needed to protect people and the environment from the effects of air pollution.

The Environmental Improvement Plan⁷ sets out actions that will drive continued improvements to air quality and to meet the new national interim and long-term targets for fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), the pollutant of most harmful to human health. The Air Quality Strategy⁸ provides more information on local authorities' responsibilities to work towards these new targets and reduce fine particulate matter in their areas.

The Road to Zero⁹ details the Government's approach to reduce exhaust emissions from road transport through a number of mechanisms, in balance with the needs of the local community. This is extremely important given that cars are the most popular mode of

⁷ Defra. Environmental Improvement Plan 2023, January 2023

⁸ Defra. Air Quality Strategy – Framework for Local Authority Delivery, August 2023

⁹ DfT. The Road to Zero: Next steps towards cleaner road transport and delivering our Industrial Strategy, July 2018

personal travel, and the majority of Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) are designated due to elevated concentrations heavily influenced by transport emissions.

Conclusions and Priorities

We are pleased to report that no exceedances of the Air Quality Objectives were identified during the year 2023. Sunderland City Council does not currently have any AQMA's and because of our good air quality we conclude that we do not need to declare an AQMA for any pollutants.

Looking back over the last 5 years of data there has been a general decrease in NO₂ levels.

2019

During 2019 we saw mixed results at our monitoring sites. One of our automatic sites reported an increase whilst the other a decrease though none of the increased values exceeded the air quality objective. Across the diffusion tube network, 23 sites reported an increase (although in many cases this was very small) and 15 sites have decreased concentrations.

2020

The NO₂ results gathered during 2020 have demonstrated a fall in concentrations at every monitoring site, both automatic and sites monitored by diffusion tube. This was not wholly unexpected and is likely to be attributed to reduced traffic on the region's roads caused by restrictions brought about by the COVID-19 Pandemic. There has also been a shift towards working from home and this may continue to reduce traffic levels and therefore pollution in the future.

2021

During 2021, as the restrictions were lifted there has been a corresponding small increase in NO₂ levels at our site in Trimdon Street and at the AURN site on Wessington Way. At our diffusion tube sites, all but one site showed an increase in concentrations in 2021 compared to 2020.

2022

During 2022 levels of NO₂ have fallen again. All 3 continuous monitoring sites showed a decrease in concentrations and similarly all diffusion tube sites apart from one had a decreased annual mean. This trend has continued in 2023 with 2 continuous monitoring

sites recording equal levels of NO₂ as in 2022 and one recording a decrease. The diffusion tubes sites generally showed very small changes with 20 sites slightly lower and 15 higher. Concentrations of NO₂ are lower overall than they were 5 years ago.

The annual average of Particulate Matter (PM₁₀) has remained fairly constant over the past 5 years. Whilst levels at the Trimdon Street site have fluctuated, our urban background site in Silksworth has measured fairly constant levels of both PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}. Both sites have seen a decrease in levels of PM₁₀ in 2023 compared to 2022, measuring the lowest annual concentration in the last 5 years.

Interestingly, the UK's official Air Quality Statistics from sites across the UK have also reported their lowest ever concentrations since records began. There has been an overall decrease in annual mean concentrations of PM₁₀ at urban background sites from 36.1 µg/m³ in 1992 to 12.3 µg/m³ in 2023, the lowest recorded.

Annual average concentrations of PM₁₀ at the roadside steadily declined from 36.7 µg/m³ in 1997 to 17.2 µg/m³ in 2015. Between 1997 and 2015 inclusive, the annual mean PM₁₀ concentration at roadside sites decreased by an average of 1.1 µg/m³ each year. This reduction could be a consequence of the large reduction in emissions of PM₁₀ over the same period in the UK, particularly from road transport sources.

Concentrations of PM₁₀ at the roadside remained relatively stable between 2015 and 2019 before falling slightly in 2020 to 16.3 µg/m³. Since then concentrations have remained below pre-2020 levels, despite rising slightly in 2022. The mean concentration at the roadside in 2023 was 15.2 µg/m³, the lowest recorded.

Local Engagement and How to get Involved

Sunderland residents and businesses can get more information by visiting <http://gosmartergoactive.co.uk/>. Up to date Air Quality data can be accessed by visiting [Sunderland Trimdon Street - We Care 4 Air](#).

Sunderland's central train station has been subject to major investment and a new entrance opened in December 2023. The southern entrance of the station features a large glass wrap around design and includes a new ticket office and reception, public toilets, retail space and cafes, comfortable waiting areas, as well as a new mezzanine level that

has office space reserved for rail industry staff. The project was driven by Sunderland City Council, in partnership with Network Rail, Nexus, Grand Central and Northern Rail.

The southern entrance is part of a wider investment programme to transform the transport hub. The council is campaigning for support for the next phases to create a massively transformed city station over the coming years, with a vision to revamp the northern entrance, as well as platform-level works to increase capacity, with four tracks and four platforms to separate Nexus and Metro from mainline services. It is hoped the hub will create business and further investment opportunities to support the central business district and retail rejuvenation in the heart of the city.



In 2019/2020, c1.5 million Metro trips were made from and to the station, with a further c427,000 trips made using the national rail network. Numbers are expected to grow as the city centre becomes an economic hub and the city will require supporting infrastructure to encourage sustainable travel.

In addition, the Rail Safety and Standards board (RSSB) have decided to install a continuous air quality monitor to measure NO₂ within the station. The site was installed during May 2023 and more information can be found by visiting [Air Quality Monitoring for the Rail Industry \(rssb.co.uk\)](https://www.rssb.co.uk/Air-Quality-Monitoring-for-the-Rail-Industry). Once data from the new site has been published, Sunderland Council will include an update within future ASR's.

The construction of a new pedestrian footbridge across the River Wear has also been making progress in 2023/4. The bridge which is part of the Sunderland Riverside Project will improve connectivity and access between the North and South sides of the river, particularly with the Stadium of Light and a new residential neighbourhood planned for the North side of the river.



The bridge will allow residents and visitors to safely cross the river away from traffic and will encourage walking and cycling into the city centre instead of using vehicles. The bridge is scheduled to be completed in Summer 2025.



Local Responsibilities and Commitment

This ASR was prepared by the Environmental Health Department of Sunderland City Council

If you have any comments on this ASR, please send them to Joanne Dodson at:

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Public.health@sunderland.gov.uk

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1 Local Air Quality Management

This report provides an overview of air quality in Sunderland during 2023 (January to December). It fulfils the requirements of Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) as set out in Part IV of the Environment Act (1995), as amended by the Environment Act (2021), and the relevant Policy and Technical Guidance documents.

The LAQM process places an obligation on all local authorities to regularly review and assess air quality in their areas, and to determine whether or not the air quality objectives are likely to be achieved.

The National air quality objectives are health-based targets for 9 recognised air pollutants. These include Nitrogen Dioxide, Particulate Matter, Benzene, Sulphur Dioxide and Ozone. Local Authorities like Sunderland only need to report on certain pollutants and these are currently Nitrogen Dioxide, Particulate Matter and Sulphur Dioxide. Objectives may have annual targets or shorter time frames such as hourly

Where an exceedance is considered likely the local authority must declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and prepare an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) setting out the measures it intends to put in place in order to achieve and maintain the objectives and the dates by which each measure will be carried out. This Annual Status Report (ASR) is an annual requirement showing the strategies employed by Sunderland to improve air quality and any progress that has been made.

The statutory air quality objectives applicable to LAQM in England are presented in Table E.1.

2 Actions to Improve Air Quality

2.1 Air Quality Management Areas

Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) are declared when there is an exceedance or likely exceedance of an air quality objective. After declaration, the authority should prepare an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) within 18 months. The AQAP should specify how air quality targets will be achieved and maintained and provide dates by which measures will be carried out.

Sunderland City Council currently does not have any declared AQMAs and has not exceeded the air quality objectives for any pollutant. Levels of measured pollutants are declining across most areas of the City. With the aim to support this decline and in accordance with government guidance, Sunderland City Council are working towards producing a local Air Quality Strategy to further prevent and reduce polluting activities.

Table 2.1 – Declared Air Quality Management Areas

Sunderland does not currently have any AQMA's.

2.2 Progress and Impact of Measures to address Air Quality in Sunderland.

Defra's appraisal of last year's ASR concluded, "on the basis of the evidence provided by the local authority the conclusions reached are **accepted** for all sources and pollutants".

Commentary was also provided with suggestions to improve this year's report. Defra recommends that Directors of Public Health approve draft ASRs. Sign off is not a requirement, however collaboration and consultation with those who have responsibility for Public Health is expected to increase support for measures to improve air quality, with co-benefits for all

Sunderland has taken forward a number of direct measures during the current reporting year of 2023 in pursuit of improving local air quality. Details of all measures completed, in progress or planned are set out in Table 2.2. 24 measures are included within Table 2.2, with the type of measure and the progress Sunderland have made during the reporting year of 2023 presented. Where there have been, or continue to be, barriers restricting the implementation of the measure, these are also presented within Table 2.2.

Although Sunderland City Council does not currently have an AQMA and therefore has not produced an AQAP, the measures listed in table 2.2 demonstrate some of the key projects that are currently ongoing and that should have a positive impact on Air Quality and reduce pollutant concentrations.

It is the intention of Sunderland City Council to produce and implement an Air Quality Strategy in the near future. A joint approach with relevant departments within the council will be adopted. It is hoped that by working together will ensure we can continue to meet the AQ Objectives and also look at long term strategies to reduce pollutants such as PM_{2.5}

Sunderland City Council worked to implement these measures in partnership with the following stakeholders during 2023:

- University Of Sunderland
- Riverside residents
- City Hospitals
- Sunderland College

- Gentoo
- Nexus
- NECA (North East Combined Authority)

Table 2.2 – Progress on Measures to Improve Air Quality

| Measure No. | Measure Title | Category | Classification | Year Measure Introduced in AQAP | Estimated / Actual Completion Date | Organisations Involved | Funding Source | Defra AQ Grant Funding | Funding Status | Estimated Cost of Measure | Measure Status | Reduction in Pollutant / Emission from Measure | Key Performance Indicator | Progress to Date | Comments / Barriers to Implementation |
|-------------|---|---|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| 1 | EV Infrastructure Strategy for Sunderland | Policy Guidance and Development Control | Low Emissions Strategy | 2022 | 2024 | University of Sunderland, Sunderland College, City Hospitals, Gentoo | Local Authority | NO | Funded | | Planning | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | Project partner appointed, stakeholder engagement stage. 3-year EV Infrastructure Delivery Plan and Roadmap developed. | |
| 2 | Mobility Hub with EV car club located in Riverside Sunderland | Promoting Low Emission Transport | Public Vehicle Procurement - Prioritising uptake of low emission vehicles | 2020 | 2022 | Local Authority, Riverside residents | Local Authority | NO | Funded | | Implementation | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | Procurement exercise currently ongoing (2024) to appoint a car club operator to manage existing 10 LA EV cars and add vehicles for public use. | Operational and staff EV taster sessions held to promote use |
| 3 | Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan | Promoting Travel Alternatives | Promotion of cycling, Promotion of walking | 2012 | 2025 | Local Authority | Local Authority | NO | Funded | £50k - £100k | Planning | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | Local cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan is now adopted. Schemes are being developed and delivered. Working with AECOM on an area focused LCWIP for Washington. | |
| 4 | Connect 700 Bus Service | Vehicle Fleet Efficiency | Promoting Low Emission Public Transport | 2012 | 2019 | University of Sunderland & Nexus | University of Sunderland & Nexus | NO | Funded | | Implementation | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | The bus service continues to run. Operated with Euro standard compliant vehicles. Further year contract starting in Sept 2024. | |
| 5 | Ultra-low emissions bus fund | Vehicle Fleet Efficiency | Promoting Low Emission Public Transport | 2022 | 2023 | Northeast Combined Authority (NECA) & Nexus | Levelling Up Fund | NO | Funded | | | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | Funding secured to deliver 20 electric buses. | |
| 6 | Go Ultra Low Cities (fastned) | Promoting Low Emission Transport | Procuring alternative Refuelling infrastructure to promote Low Emission Vehicles, EV recharging, Gas fuel recharging | 2018 | 2019 | Northeast Combined Authority (NECA) | Go Ultra Low Cities Grant and the European Regional Development Fund. | NO | Funded | £1 million - £10 million | Completed | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | Completed | |

| Measure No. | Measure Title | Category | Classification | Year Measure Introduced in AQAP | Estimated / Actual Completion Date | Organisations Involved | Funding Source | Defra AQ Grant Funding | Funding Status | Estimated Cost of Measure | Measure Status | Reduction in Pollutant / Emission from Measure | Key Performance Indicator | Progress to Date | Comments / Barriers to Implementation |
|-------------|--|----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| 7 | Electric Bikes for staff business travel | Promoting Travel Alternatives | Promotion of cycling | 2020 | 2023 | Local Authority | Local Authority | NO | Funded | £50k - £100k | Implementation | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | E bikes are now available for use by council staff. | |
| 8 | Cyle to work salary cycle scheme | Promoting Travel Alternatives | Promotion of cycling | 2017 | 2017 | Local Authority | Local Authority | NO | Funded | | Completed | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | on going | |
| 9 | E-scooters Trail - 300 provided with plans to extend | Promoting Travel Alternatives | Promoting Low Emission Public Transport | 2021 | 2022 | Neuron | Local Authority/ Neuron | NO | Funded | | Completed | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | Operating zone tripled in size in April 2022. | Trial extended but unlikely to continue (2023) |
| 10 | School Street Closure | Promoting Travel Alternatives | Promotion of walking | 2021 | 2022 | Primary Schools & Northumbria Police | Local Authority | NO | Funded | | Implementation | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | First primary school trial underway for 18-month period | Pilot to be reviewed for moving parent/carer parking and road safety benefits |
| 11 | Rapid Cluster Site EV Charging | Promoting Low Emission Transport | Procuring alternative Refuelling infrastructure to promote Low Emission Vehicles, EV recharging, Gas fuel recharging | 2020 | 2030 | North East Combined Authority (NECA) | North East Combined Authority (NECA) | NO | Funded | | Completed | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | Delivered. Funding secured for further 3 sites. | |
| 12 | OLEV Workplace EV Chargers | Promoting Low Emission Transport | Procuring alternative Refuelling infrastructure to promote Low Emission Vehicles, EV recharging, Gas fuel recharging | 2020 | 2030 | Local Authority | Local Authority | NO | Funded | | Implementation | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | Funding secured to install EV chargers at several Sunderland Council Sites | Workplace charging delivered at satellite offices/depots |
| 13 | On Street EV Charging Scheme | Promoting Low Emission Transport | Procuring alternative Refuelling infrastructure to promote Low Emission Vehicles, EV recharging, Gas fuel recharging | 2022 | 2030 | Local Authority | Local Authority | NO | Funded | | Planning | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | Pilot on-street residential scheme delivered. Grant funding secured for next phase. | |
| 14 | ERDF Programme | Promoting Low Emission Transport | Public Vehicle Procurement - Prioritising uptake of low emission vehicles | 2020 | 2023 | South Tyneside, Gateshead and Sunderland Local Authorities | ERDF | NO | Funded | | Implementation | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | Charge points delivered. | |
| 15 | Energy Generation & Storage Project | Promoting Low Emission Transport | Procuring alternative Refuelling infrastructure to promote Low | 2022 | 2025 | Local Authority | Local Authority | NO | Funded | | Planning | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | Contractor appointed, installation progressing. Solar PV delivered to various council buildings. | |

| Measure No. | Measure Title | Category | Classification | Year Measure Introduced in AQAP | Estimated / Actual Completion Date | Organisations Involved | Funding Source | Defra AQ Grant Funding | Funding Status | Estimated Cost of Measure | Measure Status | Reduction in Pollutant / Emission from Measure | Key Performance Indicator | Progress to Date | Comments / Barriers to Implementation |
|-------------|---|---|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| | | | Emission Vehicles, EV recharging, Gas fuel recharging | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16 | Fleet Replacement Programme | Promoting Low Emission Transport | Public Vehicle Procurement - Prioritising uptake of low emission vehicles | 2020 | 2021 | Local Authority | Local Authority | NO | Funded | | Completed | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | Initial study on electrifying Sunderland Fleet vehicles. Further electric vans on order. | |
| 17 | 3 Electric Refuse Vehicles trial | Promoting Low Emission Transport | Public Vehicle Procurement - Prioritising uptake of low emission vehicles | 2020 | 2020 | Local Authority | ERDF | NO | Funded | | Completed | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | funding secured for one eRCV. Local match and vehicle procured and operational. | |
| 18 | City Centre Heat Network | Promoting Low Emission Plant | Low Emission Fuels for stationary and mobile sources in Public Procurement | 2021 | 2023 | HNDU, BEIS and LA. | HNDU | NO | Not Funded | | Planning | Reduced Plant emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | Initial Study complete. Funding applications and project delivery stage. Planning permission secured. | |
| 19 | Mine Source Energy | Promoting Low Emission Plant | Low Emission Fuels for stationary and mobile sources in Public Procurement | 2020 | 2023 | Coal Authority, HNDU | Local Authority | NO | Not Funded | | Planning | Reduced Plant emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | Initial study complete. Next stage under consideration. Procurement in progress. | |
| 20 | Zero Emission Vehicle Policy | Policy Guidance and Development Control | Regional Groups Co-ordinating programmes to develop Area wide Strategies to reduce emissions and improve air quality | 2022 | 2024 | North East Combined Authority (NECA) | North East Combined Authority (NECA) | NO | Funded | | Planning | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | 3-year EV Infrastructure Delivery Plan and Roadmap developed | |
| 21 | EV Charging Infrastructure review | Promoting Low Emission Transport | Procuring alternative Refuelling infrastructure to promote Low Emission Vehicles, EV recharging, Gas fuel recharging | 2022 | 2022 | Gateshead, North Tyneside, Newcastle and Nexus | NECA Sustainable Transport Group | NO | Funded | | Implementation | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | Regional procurement in progress with a view to contract award in autumn 2023 | |
| 22 | Ultra-low emission taxi infrastructure scheme Round 2 | Promoting Low Emission Transport | Procuring alternative Refuelling infrastructure to promote Low Emission Vehicles, EV recharging, Gas fuel recharging | 2018 | 2020 | North East Combined Authority (NECA) | North East Combined Authority (NECA) | NO | Funded | £500k - £1 million | Implementation | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | EV points for electric taxis to be provided across the North East. To be installed in Houghton-Le-Spring. | Engagement with taxi industry ongoing to support EV uptake (2023) |

| Measure No. | Measure Title | Category | Classification | Year Measure Introduced in AQAP | Estimated / Actual Completion Date | Organisations Involved | Funding Source | Defra AQ Grant Funding | Funding Status | Estimated Cost of Measure | Measure Status | Reduction in Pollutant / Emission from Measure | Key Performance Indicator | Progress to Date | Comments / Barriers to Implementation |
|-------------|---|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| 23 | Nissan36Zero creation of a microgrid including energy generation and EV battery production. | Promoting Low Emission Plant | Low Emission Fuels for stationary and mobile sources in Public Procurement | 2020 | 2023 | Nissan, Envision | Nissan, Envision | NO | Funded | > £10 million | Implementation | Reduced Plant emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | Construction commenced; construction continues. | |
| 24 | The Better Points App | Promoting Travel Alternatives | Promotion of walking | 2021 | 2025 | Local Authority | Local authority | NO | Funded | | Implementation | Reduced vehicle emissions | Measured concentrations at AQ Sites | A City-Wide app we have for Sunderland that rewards people in points for traveling sustainably. Original procured as a pilot scheme in September 2021 we now have approx. 3k users | |

2.3 PM_{2.5} – Local Authority Approach to Reducing Emissions and/or Concentrations

As detailed in Policy Guidance LAQM.PG22 (Chapter 8) and the Air Quality Strategy¹⁰, local authorities are expected to work towards reducing emissions and/or concentrations of fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}). There is clear evidence that PM_{2.5} (particulate matter smaller 2.5 micrometres) has a significant impact on human health, including premature mortality, allergic reactions, and cardiovascular diseases.

Current measured levels of PM_{2.5} in Sunderland are very low. During 2023 the annual average was measured as 6µg/m³ against a target of 25µg/m³. This data shows we are already achieving the 2040 target of 10µg/m³

Background on the impacts on health outcomes and rationale:

Although levels of PM_{2.5} are relatively low there are still improvements that can be made. Data from the Public Health Outcomes Framework ([Public Health Outcomes Framework - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-health-outcomes-framework)) suggests that man-made small particulate air pollution (PM_{2.5}) contributes to deaths in the City and the burden this creates on our population is equivalent to 4.5% of all deaths at ages 30 years and over. This places Sunderland in the best performing quartile for this measure.

The people of Sunderland have lower life expectancy at birth than the England average, with a gap of 2.2 years for males and 2.4 years for females. Data published recently shows that:

- 17.1% of the gap for males and 24.1% of the gap for females is due to deaths from respiratory diseases.
- 13.4% of the gap for males and 16.2% of the gap for females is due to deaths from circulatory diseases.

28.1% of the gap for males and 34.3% of the gap for females is due to deaths from cancer. Evidence shows that long term exposure to poor air quality increases the risk

¹⁰ Defra. Air Quality Strategy – Framework for Local Authority Delivery, August 2023

of mortality from cardiovascular and respiratory diseases and also lung cancer.

Sunderland has higher than England average rates of death for these causes as follows:

- Premature (under 75 years) mortality rates from cardiovascular disease of 93 per 100,000 compared to 76 per 100,000 for England; of this 62 per 100,000 were preventable.
- Premature (under 75 years) mortality rates from respiratory disease of 44 per 100,000 compared to 33 per 100,000 for England; of this 28 per 100,000 were preventable.
- Premature (under 75 years) mortality rates from lung cancer of 50 per 100,000 compared to 34 per 100,000 for England; around 89% of lung cancers are preventable.

Data from the Public Health Outcomes Framework suggests that man-made small particulate air pollution (PM_{2.5}) contributes to deaths in the City and the burden this creates on our population is equivalent to 4.5% of all deaths at ages 30 years and over. This places Sunderland in the best performing quartile for this measure.

Levels of PM_{2.5} in Sunderland (as measured by the Silksworth CM2 monitoring station) are generally low. Data for 2023, at 6µg/m³ are well below the EU target of 25µg/m³.

Actions already being taken by Sunderland City Council to reduce pollutants such as PM₁₀ and NO_x as reported in Table 2.2 will also reduce levels of PM_{2.5} emissions.

Sunderland City Council is taking the following measures to address PM_{2.5}. Examples of measures to tackle PM_{2.5} can be categorised into Mobile Sources, Stationary Sources and Area Sources.

Sunderland City Council is taking the following measures to address PM_{2.5}:

Mobile Sources

Sunderland Council has previously secured funding for the retrofitting of diesel buses which will help to reduce primary and secondary sources of PM_{2.5}.

Stationary Sources

Stationary sources of PM_{2.5} can originate from industrial processes that use dusty raw materials and equipment such as electrostatic precipitators. The Environmental Health

Team of Sunderland Council closely monitors dusty emissions from permitted processes and respond to any complaints regarding dust emissions from demolition and/or construction sites. We also control dust through the planning process by assessing proposed industrial and potentially dusty activities and advising on appropriate control measures, for example, ensuring construction sites have an adequate Construction Environmental Management Plan in place before planning permission has been granted which can be used to hold the developer accountable if dust complaints are received.

Area Source Measures

The whole of Sunderland City Council's boundary is a smoke control area and domestic coal is not permitted to be used as fuel. Only authorised appliances (stoves) may be used within Sunderland, and they must only burn the correct fuels. A recent survey of retailers selling wood and smokeless fuels was carried out by the Environmental Team and on the whole were found to be compliant. The team also uses intel gathered from smoke complaint investigation to identify fuel sources and ensure they are compliant.

The Environment Act 2021 amended Schedule 1A of The Clean Air Act 1993 to make provision for financial penalties in relation to the emissions of smoke in smoke control areas in England.

Environmental Health Team thoroughly investigates complaints of dark smoke or the use of unapproved appliances to minimise the emissions of PM_{2.5} from these sources and promotes the Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs practical guide for the use of open fires and wood burning stoves in the City

To improve our understanding of PM_{2.5} levels we have recently procured an upgrade of the analysers at our Trimdon Street Site (CM1) within the city centre. This will include a particulate analyser that can measure both PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} whereas previously only PM₁₀ was measured. In addition, the smart sensor network that is currently being installed at locations across the city will also measure PM_{2.5} and provide a valuable source of data to identify any hotspots and trends.

Further discussions between our partners in Public Health and Transport are required to improve our understanding. Sunderland City Council will continue to work towards reducing emissions and concentrations of PM_{2.5} in their area as practicable.

3 Air Quality Monitoring Data and Comparison with Air Quality Objectives and National Compliance

This section sets out the monitoring undertaken within 2023 by Sunderland City Council and how it compares with the relevant air quality objectives. In addition, monitoring results are presented for a five-year period between 2019 and 2023 to allow monitoring trends to be identified and discussed.

3.1 Summary of Monitoring Undertaken

3.1.1 Automatic Monitoring Sites

Sunderland undertook automatic (continuous) monitoring at 3 sites during 2023. Table A.1 in Appendix A shows the details of the automatic monitoring sites.

Trimdon Street Site (CM1) has been in place for approximately 20 years and was located on the busy 5 arm junction within the city centre to monitor traffic emissions. Silksworth site (CM2) was located in a quieter area of Sunderland to provide an urban background station that would monitor background concentrations in Sunderland. Wessington Way (CM3) was located as part of the AURN programme and monitors emissions from the busy A1231 dual carriage way.

NB. Local authorities do not have to report annually on the following pollutants: 1,3 butadiene, benzene, carbon monoxide and lead, unless local circumstances indicate there is a problem. The www.wecare4air.co.uk page presents automatic monitoring results for Sunderland, with automatic monitoring results also available through the UK-Air website .

Maps showing the location of the monitoring sites are provided in Appendix D. Further details on how the monitors are calibrated and how the data has been adjusted are included in Appendix C.

3.1.2 Non-Automatic Monitoring Sites

Sunderland undertook non- automatic (i.e. passive) monitoring of NO₂ at 35 sites during 2023. Table A.2 in Appendix A presents the details of the non-automatic sites.

Maps showing the location of the monitoring sites are provided in Appendix D.

The sites for diffusion tube monitoring are primarily chosen for their proximity to busy congested roads. Some have been in the same location for many years and are therefore able to give long running data trends. Other sites are short term and may have been placed as a response to new or future development in the area or due to officer observations or comments from the public. Sites are reviewed annually and have remained the same as 2022.

Further details on Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) for the diffusion tubes, including bias adjustments and any other adjustments applied (e.g. annualisation and/or distance correction), are included in Appendix C.

3.2 Individual Pollutants

The air quality monitoring results presented in this section are, where relevant, adjusted for bias, annualisation (where the annual mean data capture is below 75% and greater than 25%), and distance correction. Further details on adjustments are provided in Appendix C.

3.2.1 Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂)

Table A.3 and Table A.4 in Appendix A compare the ratified and adjusted monitored NO₂ annual mean concentrations for the past five years with the **air quality objective of 40µg/m³**. Note that the concentration data presented represents the concentration at the location of the monitoring site, following the application of bias adjustment and annualisation, as required (i.e. the values are exclusive of any consideration to fall-off with distance adjustment).

For diffusion tubes, the full 2023 dataset of monthly mean values is provided in Appendix B. Note that the concentration data presented in Table B.1 includes distance corrected values, only where relevant.

Table A.5 in Appendix A compares the ratified continuous monitored NO₂ hourly mean concentrations for the past five years with the **air quality objective of 200µg/m³, not to be exceeded more than 18 times per year**.

There were no exceedances of the annual or 1-hour air quality objectives for NO₂ at all of the monitoring locations.

The annual mean at CM1, CM2 and CM3 did not increase in 2023 compared to the year before. Two continuous monitoring sites (Cm1 and CM2) recording equal levels of NO₂ as in 2022 and one (CM 3) recording a decrease. The diffusion tubes sites generally showed very small changes with 20 sites measuring levels of NO₂ that were slightly lower and 15 higher. Figures A.2 and A.3 show the diffusion tube data for 2019 to 2023.

3.2.2 Particulate Matter (PM₁₀)

Table A.6 in Appendix A: Monitoring Results compares the ratified and adjusted monitored PM₁₀ annual mean concentrations for the past five years with the air quality objective of 40µg/m³.

Table A.7 in Appendix A compares the ratified continuous monitored PM₁₀ daily mean concentrations for the past five years with the **air quality objective of 50µg/m³, not to be exceeded more than 35 times per year.**

However, it must be noted that the data from CM1 was collected using a TEOM. In previous years the data has been corrected using the VCM (Volatile Correction Model) but the removal of a nearby FDMS (Filter Dynamics Measurement System) analyser has meant that there is no longer an analyser in range and the correction model cannot be used. After seeking advice from the LAQM helpdesk, the data was corrected using a factor of 1.3 but it cannot be relied heavily upon to make conclusions. When compared with the last 5 years data the annual concentration is lower than it has been previously, see Fig A.

Relying on the data from CM2, there were no exceedances of the annual or daily air quality objective for PM₁₀ in Sunderland for the year 2022. Annual concentrations of PM₁₀ decreased at both CM1 and CM2 when compared to the previous year's levels. The number of 24-hour means >50µg/m³ decreased at CM1 to 0 days and remained the same at 0 days for CM2.

3.2.3 Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5})

Table A.8 in Appendix A presents the ratified and adjusted monitored PM_{2.5} annual mean concentrations for the past five years.

Concentrations of PM_{2.5} were measured at CM2. This is an affiliate AURN site and as such the data has been correctly ratified and is available from the [Data Archive - Defra, UK](#) . There were no exceedances of the PM_{2.5} objective at the monitoring location. Levels in 2023 decreased slightly, from 8 µg/m³ measured in 2022, to 6 µg/m³

Appendix A: Monitoring Results

Table A.1 – Details of Automatic Monitoring Sites

| Site ID | Site Name | Site Type | X OS Grid Ref (Easting) | Y OS Grid Ref (Northing) | Pollutants Monitored | In AQMA? Which AQMA? | Monitoring Technique | Distance to Relevant Exposure (m) ⁽¹⁾ | Distance to kerb of nearest road (m) ⁽²⁾ | Inlet Height (m) |
|---------|----------------|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--|----------------------|-------------------------|--|---|------------------|
| CM1 | Trimdon Street | Kerbside | 438928 | 557151 | NO ₂ , PM ₁₀ | NO | Chemiluminescent; TEOM | 3 | 0.5 | 2 |
| CM2 | Silksworth | Urban Background | 438116 | 554462 | NO ₂ , PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} | NO | Chemiluminescent, FIDAS | 230 | 0.5 | 2 |
| CM3 | Wessington Way | Roadside | 438020 | 558348 | NO ₂ | NO | Chemiluminescent | 15 | 1.5 | 1.8 |

Notes:

(1) 0m if the monitoring site is at a location of exposure (e.g. installed on the façade of a residential property).

(2) N/A if not applicable

Table A.2 – Details of Non-Automatic Monitoring Sites

| Diffusion Tube ID | Site Name | Site Type | X OS Grid Ref (Easting) | Y OS Grid Ref (Northing) | Pollutants Monitored | In AQMA? Which AQMA? | Distance to Relevant Exposure (m) ⁽¹⁾ | Distance to kerb of nearest road (m) ⁽²⁾ | Tube Co-located with a Continuous Analyser? | Tube Height (m) |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|---|---|-----------------|
| 38 | 17 Parkside South, East Herrington | Roadside | 435714 | 552473 | NO2 | No | 0.0 | 18.0 | No | 2.0 |
| 53 | 166 Chester Road, Millfield | Roadside | 438568 | 556566 | NO2 | No | 0.0 | 4.0 | No | 2.0 |
| 55 | 25 Eden Vale, Thornholme | Roadside | 438690 | 556135 | NO2 | No | 0.0 | 3.0 | No | 2.0 |
| 56 | 101 Southwick Road, Southwick | Roadside | 439101 | 558292 | NO2 | No | 0.0 | 2.0 | No | 2.0 |
| 57 | 5/6 Northbridge Street, Monkwearmouth | Kerbside | 439664 | 557829 | NO2 | No | 0.0 | 2.0 | No | 2.0 |
| 58 | 6 Beatrice Terrace, Shiney Row | Kerbside | 432634 | 552616 | NO2 | No | 0.0 | 3.0 | No | 2.0 |
| 86 | 2 Alice Street, Thornholme | Roadside | 439466 | 556484 | NO2 | No | 0.0 | 4.0 | No | 2.0 |
| 88 | Hind's Street, Central | Kerbside | 439160 | 556995 | NO2 | No | 165.0 | 0.0 | No | 4.0 |
| 94 | Chaplins PH, Mary St. City Centre | Kerbside | 439374 | 556660 | NO2 | No | 2.0 | 2.0 | No | 4.0 |
| 100 | Air Quality Trailer, Trimdon Street | Roadside | 438927 | 557151 | NO2 | No | 2.0 | 5.0 | No | 4.0 |

| Diffusion Tube ID | Site Name | Site Type | X OS Grid Ref (Easting) | Y OS Grid Ref (Northing) | Pollutants Monitored | In AQMA? Which AQMA? | Distance to Relevant Exposure (m) ⁽¹⁾ | Distance to kerb of nearest road (m) ⁽²⁾ | Tube Co-located with a Continuous Analyser? | Tube Height (m) |
|-------------------|---|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|---|---|-----------------|
| 101, 105, 106 | Puma Centre, Silksworth Lane | Urban Background | 438116 | 554462 | NO2 | No | 130.0 | 3.0 | Yes | 2.0 |
| 109 | 23 Newcastle Road, Bowling Alley | Roadside | 439648 | 558120 | NO2 | No | 0.0 | 3.0 | No | 2.0 |
| 111 | 237 Queen Alexandra Rd, Barnes roundabout | Roadside | 438453 | 555507 | NO2 | No | 0.0 | 9.0 | No | 2.0 |
| 113 | Durham Road Prospect Junction | Urban Centre | 437446 | 554989 | NO2 | No | 20.0 | 4.0 | No | 2.0 |
| 117 | 3, Holmeside (Baker's Oven) | Roadside | 439495 | 556795 | NO2 | No | 97.0 | 4.0 | No | 2.0 |
| 118 | 27 Bridge Street | Roadside | 439696 | 557205 | NO2 | No | 0.0 | 2.0 | No | 2.0 |
| 119 | 4 Athenaeum Street | Roadside | 439792 | 556921 | NO2 | No | 88.0 | 2.0 | No | 4.0 |
| 120 | Gillespie's | Roadside | 439806 | 557063 | NO2 | No | 100.0 | 5.0 | No | 4.0 |
| 121 | 16 Windsor Terrace, Grangetown | Roadside | 440702 | 554722 | NO2 | No | 0.0 | 2.0 | No | 4.0 |
| 123 | 263 Chester Road | Roadside | 437943 | 556341 | NO2 | No | 10.0 | 4.0 | No | 4.0 |
| 125 | 45 Station Road | Roadside | 435417 | 547025 | NO2 | No | 0.0 | 2.0 | No | 4.0 |

| Diffusion Tube ID | Site Name | Site Type | X OS Grid Ref (Easting) | Y OS Grid Ref (Northing) | Pollutants Monitored | In AQMA? Which AQMA? | Distance to Relevant Exposure (m) ⁽¹⁾ | Distance to kerb of nearest road (m) ⁽²⁾ | Tube Co-located with a Continuous Analyser? | Tube Height (m) |
|-------------------|---|-----------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|---|---|-----------------|
| 128 | Echo Building (lamp post) | Roadside | 439707 | 557312 | NO2 | No | 20.0 | 2.0 | No | 4.0 |
| 129 | West Sunnyside (lamp post) | Roadside | 439938 | 557089 | NO2 | No | 2.0 | 1.0 | No | 2.0 |
| 130 | St Mary's Car Park Matlock Street lamp post | Roadside | 439538 | 557292 | NO2 | No | 177.0 | 3.0 | No | 2.0 |
| 132 | Dunn House North Bridge Street | Roadside | 439661 | 557901 | NO2 | No | 0.5 | 3.0 | No | 4.0 |
| 133 | Northern Way | Roadside | 438123 | 558344 | NO2 | No | 0.0 | 3.0 | No | 4.0 |
| 134 | Southwick Rd/Thompson Rd | Roadside | 438563 | 558517 | NO2 | No | 0.0 | 2.0 | No | 4.0 |
| 135 | Merle Terrace | Roadside | 437561 | 557538 | NO2 | No | 0.0 | 4.0 | No | 4.0 |
| 136 | 1, Morningside | Roadside | 428269 | 553809 | NO2 | No | 0.0 | 9.0 | No | 4.0 |
| 137 | 9 Esthwaite | Roadside | 429935 | 556631 | NO2 | No | 0.0 | 26.0 | No | 4.0 |
| 138 | Galleries Service Yard | Roadside | 429984 | 556576 | NO2 | No | 56.0 | 1.0 | No | 4.0 |
| 139 | Rear of 79 Spout Lane | Roadside | 430899 | 556961 | NO2 | No | 8.0 | 0.0 | No | 4.0 |
| 140 | 3 Musgrove Terrace | Roadside | 430877 | 556851 | NO2 | No | 3.0 | 0.0 | No | 4.0 |

| Diffusion Tube ID | Site Name | Site Type | X OS Grid Ref (Easting) | Y OS Grid Ref (Northing) | Pollutants Monitored | In AQMA? Which AQMA? | Distance to Relevant Exposure (m) ⁽¹⁾ | Distance to kerb of nearest road (m) ⁽²⁾ | Tube Co-located with a Continuous Analyser? | Tube Height (m) |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|---|---|-----------------|
| 141 | Jnctn Dairy Lane & Front St | Roadside | 432542 | 549640 | NO2 | No | 9.0 | 3.0 | No | 4.0 |
| 142 | 3 Whitehall Terrace | Roadside | 437224 | 556714 | NO2 | No | 0.0 | 4.0 | No | 4.0 |

Notes:

(1) 0m if the monitoring site is at a location of exposure (e.g. installed on the façade of a residential property).

(2) N/A if not applicable.

Table A.3 – Annual Mean NO₂ Monitoring Results: Automatic Monitoring (µg/m³)

| Site ID | X OS Grid Ref (Easting) | Y OS Grid Ref (Northing) | Site Type | Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period (%) ⁽¹⁾ | Valid Data Capture 2023 (%) ⁽²⁾ | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|---|--|------|------|----------------|------|------|
| CM1 | 438928 | 557151 | Kerbside | | 89 | 28 | 25 | 26.1 | 24.6 | 24.6 |
| CM2 | 438116 | 554462 | Urban Background | | 98 | 13 | 12 | no data | 11 | 11 |
| CM3 | 438020 | 558348 | Roadside | | 99 | 17 | 13 | 17 | 15 | 13 |

Annualisation has been conducted where data capture is <75% and >25% in line with LAQM.TG22.

Reported concentrations are those at the location of the monitoring site (annualised, as required), i.e. prior to any fall-off with distance correction.

Where exceedances of the NO₂ annual mean objective occur at locations not representative of relevant exposure, the fall-off with distance concentration has been calculated and reported concentration provided in brackets for 2023.

Notes:

The annual mean concentrations are presented as µg/m³.

Exceedances of the NO₂ annual mean objective of 40µg/m³ are shown in **bold**.

All means have been “annualised” as per LAQM.TG22 if valid data capture for the full calendar year is less than 75%. See Appendix C for details.

Concentrations are those at the location of monitoring and not those following any fall-off with distance adjustment.

(1) Data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year.

(2) Data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for 6 months, the maximum data capture for the full calendar year is 50%).

Table A.4 – Annual Mean NO₂ Monitoring Results: Non-Automatic Monitoring (µg/m³)

| Diffusion Tube ID | X OS Grid Ref (Easting) | Y OS Grid Ref (Northing) | Site Type | Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period (%) ⁽¹⁾ | Valid Data Capture 2023 (%) ⁽²⁾ | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|---|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| 38 | 435714 | 552473 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | 33.7 | 28.9 | 26.9 | 24.6 | 23.6 |
| 53 | 438568 | 556566 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | 25.6 | 15.1 | 21.1 | 18.8 | 18.7 |
| 55 | 438690 | 556135 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | 25.1 | 21.3 | 24.0 | 19.5 | 19.4 |
| 56 | 439101 | 558292 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | 26.0 | 18.5 | 22.2 | 18.1 | 16.9 |
| 57 | 439664 | 557829 | Kerbside | N/A | 67.3 | 32.2 | 22.2 | 31.6 | 22.6 | 28.8 |
| 58 | 432634 | 552616 | Kerbside | N/A | 86.5 | 33.0 | 19.8 | 25.4 | 19.8 | 18.7 |
| 86 | 439466 | 556484 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | 16.4 | 13.7 | 18.1 | 16.2 | 16.4 |
| 88 | 439160 | 556995 | Kerbside | N/A | 90.4 | 28.2 | 20.3 | 24.2 | 20.7 | 21.8 |
| 94 | 439374 | 556660 | Kerbside | N/A | 90.4 | 27.8 | 22.0 | 26.9 | 22.2 | 24.3 |
| 100 | 438927 | 557151 | Roadside | N/A | 75.0 | 35.2 | 25.3 | | 20.4 | 21.2 |
| 101, 105, 106 | 438116 | 554462 | Urban Background | N/A | 90.4 | 30.1 | 20.8 | 13.8 | 10.8 | 10.4 |
| 109 | 439648 | 558120 | Roadside | N/A | 67.6 | 17.5 | 13.2 | 20.4 | 16.1 | 18.4 |
| 111 | 438453 | 555507 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | 26.9 | 22.0 | 15.6 | 11.9 | 12.1 |

| Diffusion Tube ID | X OS Grid Ref (Easting) | Y OS Grid Ref (Northing) | Site Type | Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period (%) ⁽¹⁾ | Valid Data Capture 2023 (%) ⁽²⁾ | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|---|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| 113 | 437446 | 554989 | Urban Centre | N/A | 90.4 | 29.0 | 20.0 | 25.5 | 19.4 | 17.7 |
| 117 | 439495 | 556795 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | 28.6 | 24.5 | 22.8 | 23.0 | 19.4 |
| 118 | 439696 | 557205 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | 23.0 | 17.8 | 26.8 | 22.6 | 21.5 |
| 119 | 439792 | 556921 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | 23.6 | 17.4 | 19.6 | 17.5 | 17.1 |
| 120 | 439806 | 557063 | Roadside | N/A | 67.6 | 23.8 | 16.7 | 20.1 | 17.0 | 18.0 |
| 121 | 440702 | 554722 | Roadside | N/A | 67.0 | 32.5 | 21.2 | 16.7 | 14.0 | 14.7 |
| 123 | 437943 | 556341 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | 26.9 | 18.2 | 27.7 | 23.7 | 24.6 |
| 125 | 435417 | 547025 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | 26.1 | 22.8 | 20.3 | 16.6 | 16.2 |
| 128 | 439707 | 557312 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | 18.1 | 14.7 | 23.0 | 18.8 | 21.2 |
| 129 | 439938 | 557089 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | 22.1 | 17.6 | 14.9 | 13.4 | 12.5 |
| 130 | 439538 | 557292 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | 37.8 | 33.0 | 20.5 | 17.5 | 17.0 |
| 132 | 439661 | 557901 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | 25.1 | 18.7 | 34.7 | 29.3 | 29.4 |
| 133 | 438123 | 558344 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | 29.2 | 20.7 | 20.9 | 16.1 | 16.0 |

| Diffusion Tube ID | X OS Grid Ref (Easting) | Y OS Grid Ref (Northing) | Site Type | Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period (%) ⁽¹⁾ | Valid Data Capture 2023 (%) ⁽²⁾ | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|---|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| 134 | 438563 | 558517 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | 21.4 | 15.6 | 23.9 | 21.0 | 20.6 |
| 135 | 437561 | 557538 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | 20.6 | 15.7 | 16.1 | 13.0 | 12.0 |
| 136 | 428269 | 553809 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | 20.3 | 14.6 | 15.7 | 12.1 | 11.5 |
| 137 | 429935 | 556631 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | 36.9 | 25.4 | 15.6 | 12.9 | 12.7 |
| 138 | 429984 | 556576 | Roadside | N/A | 78.8 | 23.7 | 15.4 | 29.9 | 24.9 | 25.4 |
| 139 | 430899 | 556961 | Roadside | N/A | 80.5 | 22.3 | 15.0 | 18.2 | 15.6 | 15.1 |
| 140 | 430877 | 556851 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | | 18.5 | 16.6 | 12.9 | 13.1 |
| 141 | 432542 | 549640 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | | 20.4 | 18.6 | 14.3 | 13.8 |
| 142 | 437224 | 556714 | Roadside | N/A | 90.4 | | | 24.7 | 21.8 | 22.1 |

Annualisation has been conducted where data capture is <75% and >25% in line with LAQM.TG22.

Diffusion tube data has been bias adjusted

Reported concentrations are those at the location of the monitoring site (bias adjusted and annualised, as required), i.e. prior to any fall-off with distance correction.

Notes:

The annual mean concentrations are presented as $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

Exceedances of the NO₂ annual mean objective of $40\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ are shown in **bold**.

NO₂ annual means exceeding 60µg/m³, indicating a potential exceedance of the NO₂ 1-hour mean objective are shown in **bold and underlined**.

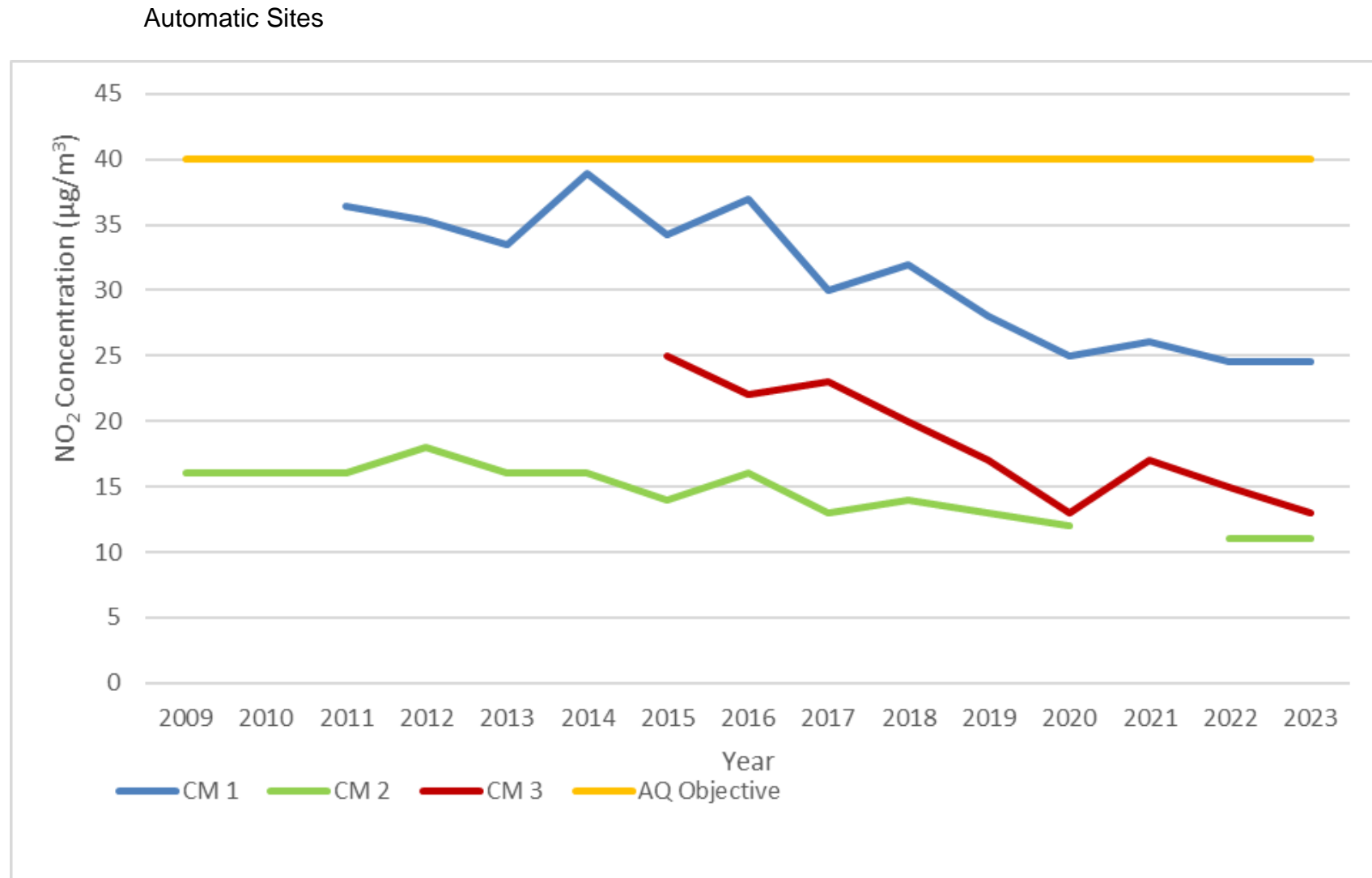
Means for diffusion tubes have been corrected for bias. All means have been “annualised” as per LAQM.TG22 if valid data capture for the full calendar year is less than 75%. See Appendix C for details.

Concentrations are those at the location of monitoring and not those following any fall-off with distance adjustment.

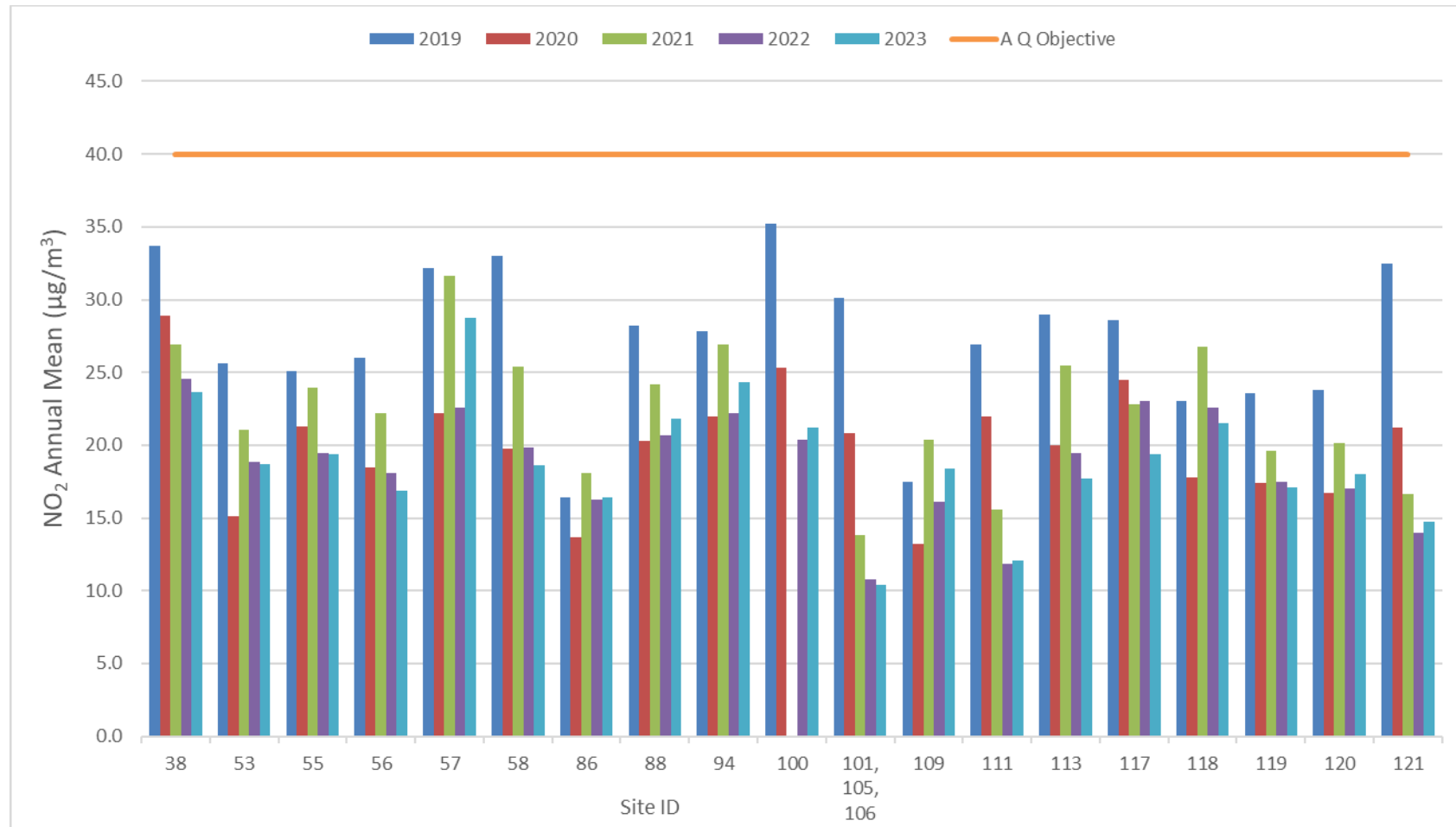
(1) Data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year.

(2) Data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for 6 months, the maximum data capture for the full calendar year is 50%).

Figure A.1 – Trends in Annual Mean NO₂ Concentrations



Diffusion Tube Sites (38 to 121)



Diffusion Tube Sites (123 to 142)

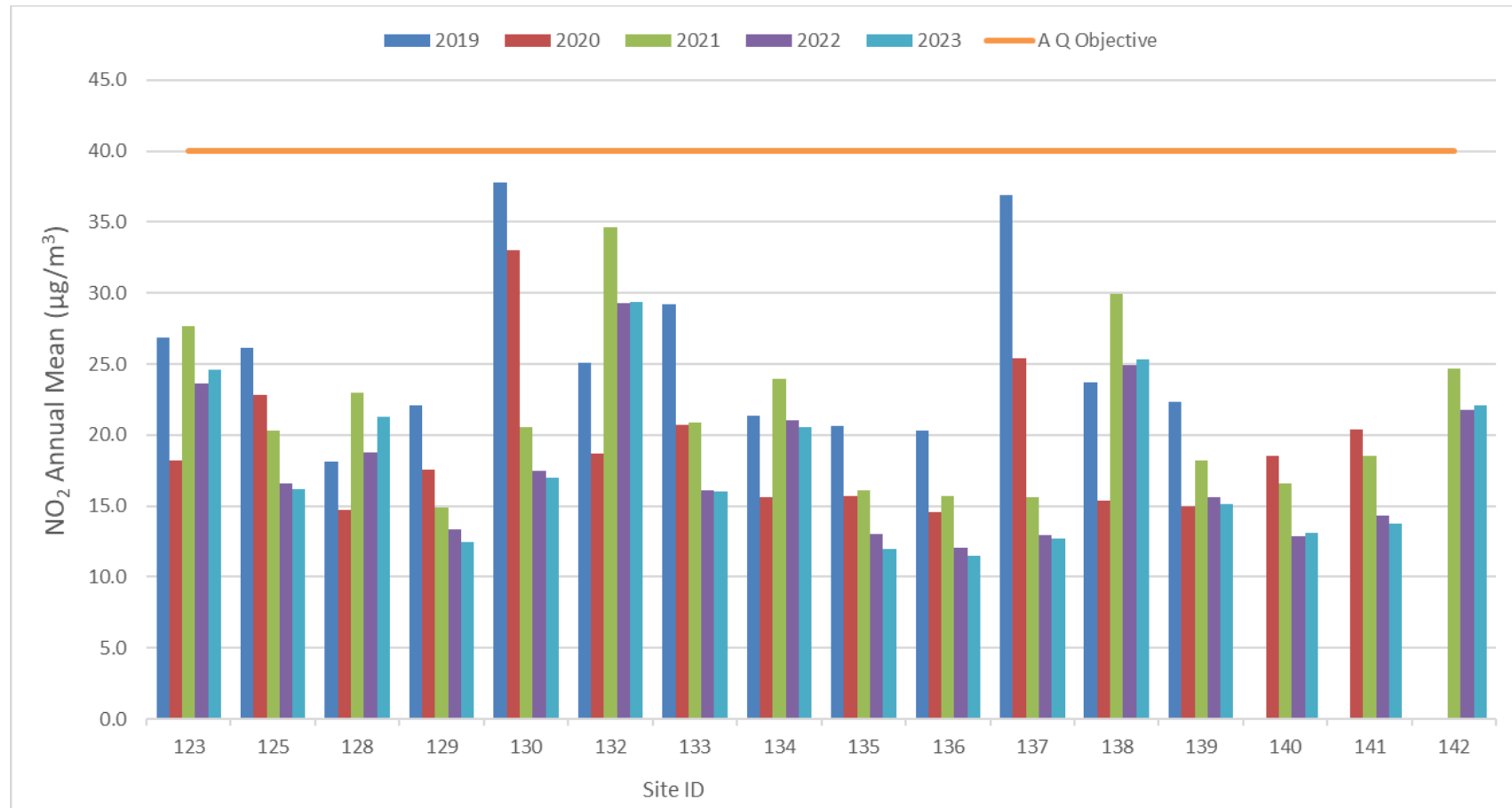


Table A.5 – 1-Hour Mean NO₂ Monitoring Results, Number of 1-Hour Means > 200µg/m³

| Site ID | X OS Grid Ref (Easting) | Y OS Grid Ref (Northing) | Site Type | Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period (%) ⁽¹⁾ | Valid Data Capture 2023 (%) ⁽²⁾ | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|---|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| CM1 | 438928 | 557151 | Kerbside | | 89 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CM2 | 438116 | 554462 | Urban Background | | 98 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CM3 | 438020 | 558348 | Roadside | | 99 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Notes:

Results are presented as the number of 1-hour periods where concentrations greater than 200µg/m³ have been recorded.

Exceedances of the NO₂ 1-hour mean objective (200µg/m³ not to be exceeded more than 18 times/year) are shown in **bold**.

If the period of valid data is less than 85%, the 99.8th percentile of 1-hour means is provided in brackets.

(1) Data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year.

(2) Data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for 6 months, the maximum data capture for the full calendar year is 50%).

Table A.6 – Annual Mean PM₁₀ Monitoring Results (µg/m³)

| Site ID | X OS Grid Ref (Easting) | Y OS Grid Ref (Northing) | Site Type | Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period (%) ⁽¹⁾ | Valid Data Capture 2023 (%) ⁽²⁾ | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|---|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| CM1 | 438928 | 557151 | Kerbside | | 88 | 19 | 18 | 20.1 | 21.5 | 14.7 |
| CM2 | 438116 | 554462 | Urban Background | | 95 | 15 | 11 | 11 | 13 | 10 |

Annualisation has been conducted where data capture is <75% and >25% in line with LAQM.TG22.

Notes:

The annual mean concentrations are presented as µg/m³.

Exceedances of the PM₁₀ annual mean objective of 40µg/m³ are shown in **bold**.

All means have been “annualised” as per LAQM.TG22 if valid data capture for the full calendar year is less than 75%. See Appendix C for details.

(1) Data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year.

(2) Data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for 6 months, the maximum data capture for the full calendar year is 50%).

Figure A.2 – Trends in Annual Mean PM₁₀ Concentrations

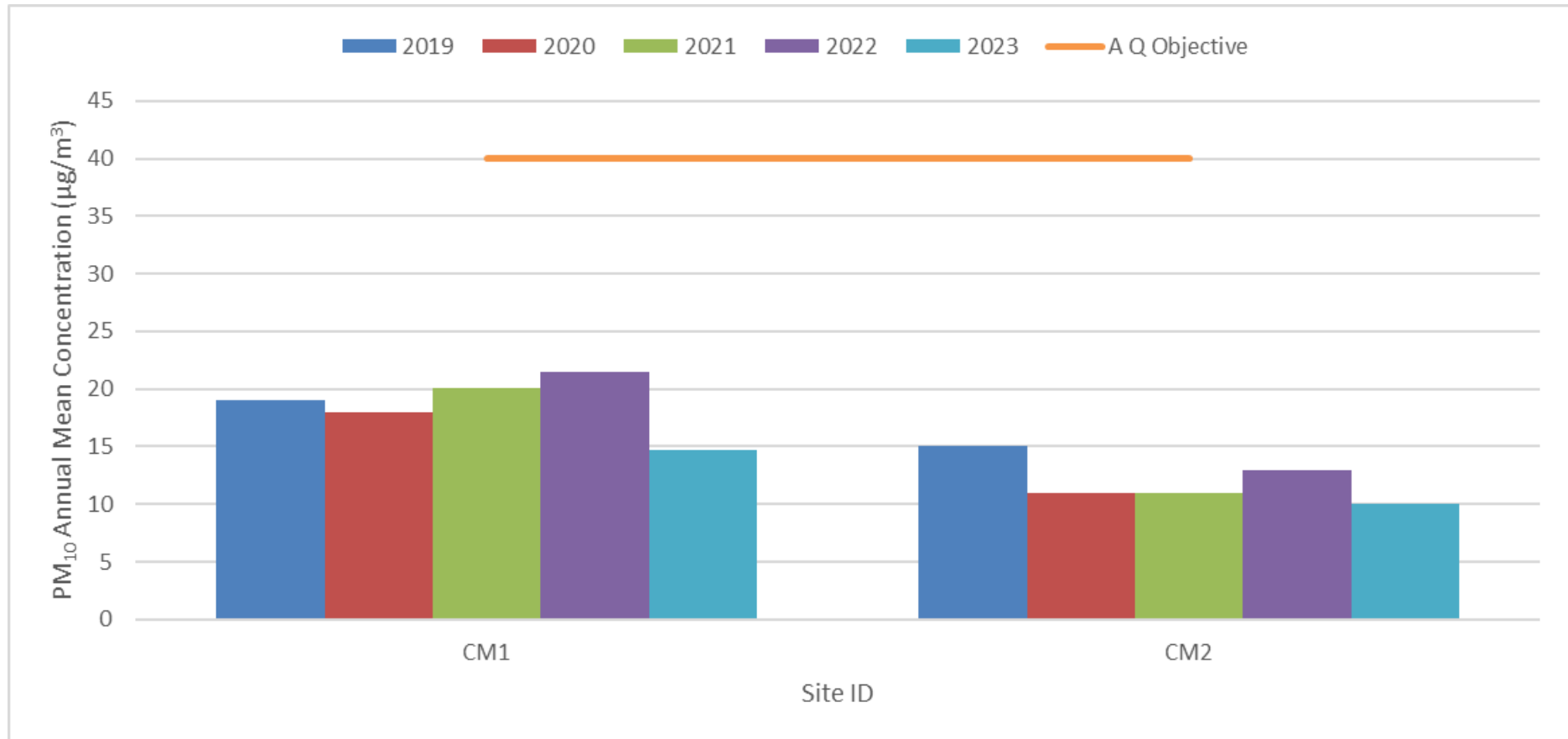


Table A.7 – 24-Hour Mean PM₁₀ Monitoring Results, Number of PM₁₀ 24-Hour Means > 50µg/m³

| Site ID | X OS Grid Ref (Easting) | Y OS Grid Ref (Northing) | Site Type | Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period (%) ⁽¹⁾ | Valid Data Capture 2023 (%) ⁽²⁾ | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|---|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| CM1 | 438928 | 557151 | Kerbside | | 88 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| CM2 | 438116 | 554462 | Urban Background | | 95 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Notes:

Results are presented as the number of 24-hour periods where daily mean concentrations greater than 50µg/m³ have been recorded.

Exceedances of the PM₁₀ 24-hour mean objective (50µg/m³ not to be exceeded more than 35 times/year) are shown in **bold**.

If the period of valid data is less than 85%, the 90.4th percentile of 24-hour means is provided in brackets.

(1) Data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year.

(2) Data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for 6 months, the maximum data capture for the full calendar year is 50%).

Table A.8 – Annual Mean PM_{2.5} Monitoring Results (µg/m³)

| Site ID | X OS Grid Ref (Easting) | Y OS Grid Ref (Northing) | Site Type | Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period (%) ⁽¹⁾ | Valid Data Capture 2023 (%) ⁽²⁾ | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|---|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| CM2 | 438116 | 554462 | Urban Background | | 95 | 9 | 6 | 6 | 8 | 6 |

Annualisation has been conducted where data capture is <75% and >25% in line with LAQM.TG22.

Notes:

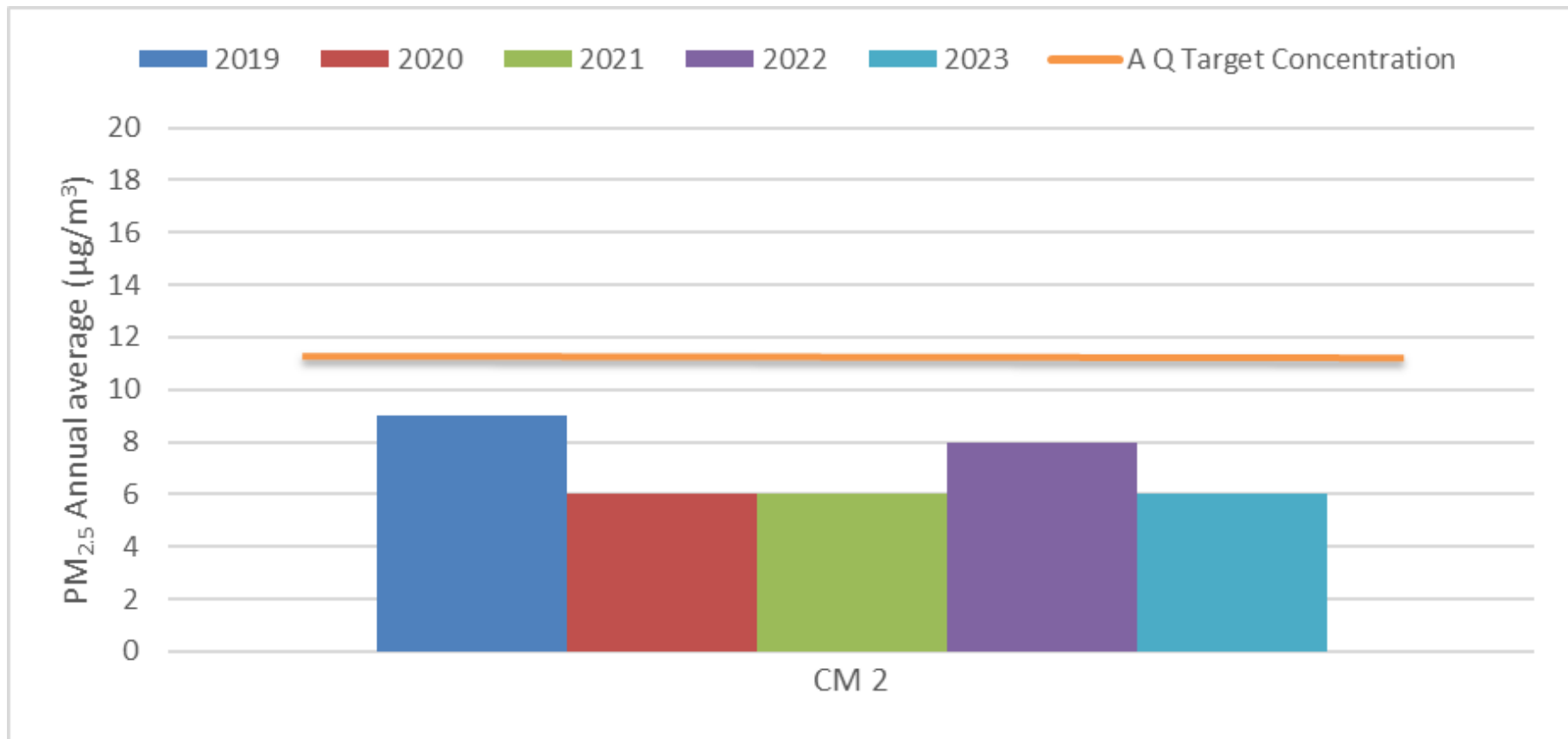
The annual mean concentrations are presented as µg/m³.

All means have been “annualised” as per LAQM.TG22 if valid data capture for the full calendar year is less than 75%. See Appendix C for details.

(1) Data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year.

(2) Data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for 6 months, the maximum data capture for the full calendar year is 50%).

Figure A.3 – Trends in Annual Mean PM_{2.5} Concentrations



Appendix B: Full Monthly Diffusion Tube Results for 2023

Table B.1 – NO₂ 2023 Diffusion Tube Results (µg/m³)

| DT ID | X OS Grid Ref (Easting) | Y OS Grid Ref (Northing) | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Annual Mean: Raw Data | Annual Mean: Annualised and Bias Adjusted (0.73) | Annual Mean: Distance Corrected to Nearest Exposure | Comment |
|-------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|------|-----------------------|--|---|---|
| 38 | 435714 | 552473 | 39.8 | 34.9 | 36.0 | 33.0 | 30.5 | 29.7 | 25.6 | 31.8 | 30.5 | 28.9 | | 33.1 | 32.4 | 23.6 | - | |
| 53 | 438568 | 556566 | 29.4 | 32.3 | 27.8 | 28.8 | 26.6 | 22.8 | 18.7 | 23.8 | 25.5 | 19.2 | | 29.1 | 25.6 | 18.7 | - | |
| 55 | 438690 | 556135 | 30.3 | 29.7 | 31.8 | 27.5 | 25.8 | 20.7 | 22.5 | 24.5 | 28.3 | 24.4 | | 27.6 | 26.6 | 19.4 | - | |
| 56 | 439101 | 558292 | 28.1 | 18.0 | 24.2 | 24.0 | 23.9 | 18.6 | 22.3 | 23.8 | 26.2 | 20.1 | | 21.5 | 23.2 | 16.9 | - | |
| 57 | 439664 | 557829 | | | 37.6 | | 44.8 | 35.9 | 29.6 | 35.8 | 35.9 | 36.7 | | 27.1 | 35.6 | 28.8 | - | |
| 58 | 432634 | 552616 | 31.7 | <1.27 | 29.8 | 25.1 | 23.6 | 20.0 | 20.6 | 26.0 | 24.0 | 25.4 | | 26.6 | 25.6 | 18.7 | - | |
| 86 | 439466 | 556484 | 25.6 | 31.0 | 25.9 | 25.5 | 22.6 | 17.6 | 17.2 | 19.3 | 19.7 | 22.2 | | 24.1 | 22.4 | 16.4 | - | |
| 88 | 439160 | 556995 | 28.3 | 31.3 | 30.3 | 36.1 | 35.5 | 27.3 | 27.0 | 31.4 | 26.5 | 30.0 | | 26.1 | 29.9 | 21.8 | - | |
| 94 | 439374 | 556660 | 30.7 | 32.8 | 35.5 | 38.3 | 40.2 | 27.1 | 31.3 | 35.0 | 34.9 | 31.9 | | 30.7 | 33.3 | 24.3 | - | |
| 100 | 438927 | 557151 | | | 31.5 | 29.2 | 28.9 | 24.1 | 27.7 | 28.0 | 32.7 | 30.8 | | 30.1 | 29.1 | 21.2 | - | |
| 101 | 438116 | 554462 | 14.9 | 12.6 | 16.5 | 14.5 | 14.0 | 12.2 | 12.2 | 12.0 | 13.3 | 16.0 | | 15.9 | - | - | - | Triplicate Site with 101, 105 and 106 - Annual data provided for 106 only |
| 105 | 438116 | 554462 | 17.4 | 12.9 | 15.5 | 15.1 | 14.3 | 11.7 | 12.0 | 12.1 | 13.5 | 16.0 | | 15.0 | - | - | - | Triplicate Site with 101, 105 and 106 - Annual data provided for 106 only |
| 106 | 438116 | 554462 | 17.1 | 12.6 | 15.9 | 14.9 | 14.0 | 12.4 | 12.0 | 11.9 | 13.7 | | | 16.8 | 14.3 | 10.4 | - | Triplicate Site with 101, 105 and 106 - Annual data provided for 106 only |
| 109 | 439648 | 558120 | | | 26.3 | 27.0 | 25.3 | 21.1 | 18.0 | 21.5 | 21.2 | 24.3 | | | 23.1 | 18.4 | - | |
| 111 | 438453 | 555507 | 18.9 | 17.4 | 19.4 | 18.8 | 17.9 | 14.1 | 12.6 | 15.7 | 15.4 | 16.1 | | 15.0 | 16.6 | 12.1 | - | |
| 113 | 437446 | 554989 | 28.5 | 24.9 | 27.8 | 23.5 | 23.6 | 19.7 | 20.2 | 22.6 | 24.0 | 25.7 | | 24.7 | 24.2 | 17.7 | - | |
| 117 | 439495 | 556795 | 29.6 | 26.4 | 29.7 | 29.9 | 33.3 | 20.7 | 21.0 | 29.7 | 22.9 | 24.2 | | 22.4 | 26.5 | 19.4 | - | |

| DT ID | X OS Grid Ref (Easting) | Y OS Grid Ref (Northing) | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Annual Mean: Raw Data | Annual Mean: Annualised and Bias Adjusted (0.73) | Annual Mean: Distance Corrected to Nearest Exposure | Comment |
|-------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|------|-----------------------|--|---|---------|
| 118 | 439696 | 557205 | 38.2 | 30.7 | 34.7 | 27.2 | 22.6 | 22.5 | 27.7 | 27.4 | 29.5 | 33.1 | | 27.6 | 29.4 | 21.5 | - | |
| 119 | 439792 | 556921 | 29.4 | 23.7 | 24.9 | 23.1 | 23.2 | 16.3 | 21.2 | 23.4 | 25.2 | 23.0 | | 23.0 | 23.4 | 17.1 | - | |
| 120 | 439806 | 557063 | | | 26.0 | 23.5 | 26.7 | 16.5 | 20.0 | 22.5 | | 22.9 | | 22.9 | 22.5 | 18.0 | - | |
| 121 | 440702 | 554722 | | | 20.8 | 19.9 | 25.3 | 11.8 | 16.4 | 17.8 | 18.2 | | | 17.1 | 18.3 | 14.7 | - | |
| 123 | 437943 | 556341 | 29.4 | 30.0 | 35.4 | 42.0 | 37.2 | 33.4 | 31.8 | 32.9 | 33.6 | 33.6 | | 31.1 | 33.7 | 24.6 | - | |
| 125 | 435417 | 547025 | 21.9 | 23.0 | 26.3 | 27.2 | 24.5 | 21.1 | 19.6 | 22.0 | 18.5 | 20.9 | | 17.9 | 22.1 | 16.2 | - | |
| 128 | 439707 | 557312 | 40.3 | 28.4 | 32.6 | 22.2 | 29.5 | 20.3 | 24.1 | 27.4 | 26.8 | 27.3 | | 37.5 | 29.1 | 21.2 | - | |
| 129 | 439938 | 557089 | 23.3 | 16.2 | 20.2 | 15.4 | 16.7 | 10.6 | 13.7 | 15.7 | 17.3 | 18.2 | | 18.2 | 17.1 | 12.5 | - | |
| 130 | 439538 | 557292 | 29.0 | 21.7 | 25.7 | 26.3 | 19.1 | 16.4 | 19.8 | 21.3 | 24.3 | 27.8 | | 23.0 | 23.3 | 17.0 | - | |
| 132 | 439661 | 557901 | 48.6 | 44.5 | 47.4 | 35.9 | 37.4 | 33.8 | 33.4 | 38.6 | 41.8 | 40.5 | | 39.0 | 40.3 | 29.4 | - | |
| 133 | 438123 | 558344 | 24.4 | 20.7 | 24.4 | 29.6 | 23.9 | 16.9 | 36.4 | 5.7 | 21.3 | 20.6 | | 22.0 | 21.9 | 16.0 | - | |
| 134 | 438563 | 558517 | 30.7 | 22.5 | 29.2 | 31.2 | 32.1 | 25.4 | 27.5 | 27.4 | 27.2 | 26.7 | | 26.8 | 28.2 | 20.6 | - | |
| 135 | 437561 | 557538 | 19.3 | 12.9 | 18.1 | 17.9 | 18.1 | 15.2 | 13.3 | 14.1 | 16.1 | 17.6 | | 15.1 | 16.4 | 12.0 | - | |
| 136 | 428269 | 553809 | 22.6 | 19.9 | 19.1 | 14.0 | 13.1 | 11.5 | 11.6 | 15.7 | 14.2 | 14.9 | | 15.6 | 15.8 | 11.5 | - | |
| 137 | 429935 | 556631 | 21.3 | 13.8 | 21.0 | 18.6 | 15.1 | 14.1 | 14.3 | 17.9 | 16.5 | 16.5 | | 18.2 | 17.4 | 12.7 | - | |
| 138 | 429984 | 556576 | | 33.0 | 37.1 | 36.0 | 38.2 | 35.1 | 27.3 | 38.4 | 25.5 | 43.0 | | 30.3 | 34.7 | 25.4 | - | |
| 139 | 430899 | 556961 | 26.7 | 18.4 | 22.6 | 18.4 | 15.4 | | 16.8 | 20.0 | 19.2 | 21.0 | | 24.4 | 20.7 | 15.1 | - | |
| 140 | 430877 | 556851 | 20.5 | 21.3 | 21.6 | 19.2 | 17.6 | 14.8 | 13.2 | 18.0 | 16.5 | 18.4 | | 17.2 | 18.0 | 13.1 | - | |
| 141 | 432542 | 549640 | 21.7 | 18.6 | 23.3 | 20.2 | 19.4 | 16.6 | 15.7 | 19.5 | 15.6 | 18.3 | | 15.9 | 18.8 | 13.8 | - | |
| 142 | 437224 | 556714 | 29.9 | 24.0 | 35.3 | 35.4 | 33.2 | 28.6 | 28.3 | 28.3 | 32.0 | 29.1 | | 26.3 | 30.3 | 22.1 | - | |

All erroneous data has been removed from the NO₂ diffusion tube dataset presented in Table B.1.

- Annualisation has been conducted where data capture is <75% and >25% in line with LAQM.TG22.
- Local bias adjustment factor used.
- National bias adjustment factor used.
- Where applicable, data has been distance corrected for relevant exposure in the final column.
- Sunderland confirm that all 2023 diffusion tube data has been uploaded to the Diffusion Tube Data Entry System.

Notes:

Exceedances of the NO₂ annual mean objective of 40µg/m³ are shown in **bold**.

NO₂ annual means exceeding 60µg/m³, indicating a potential exceedance of the NO₂ 1-hour mean objective are shown in **bold and underlined**.

See Appendix C for details on bias adjustment and annualisation.

Appendix C: Supporting Technical Information / Air Quality Monitoring Data QA/QC

New or Changed Sources Identified Within Sunderland During 2023.

Sunderland City Council continues to assess new sources of pollution and during 2023 there were several new developments that were granted planning permission that had the potential to have an impact on air quality and have been subject to appropriate assessments.

In February 2023, a new plant that will use Pyrolysis to process waste plastic was given planning permission. The site will be located within the Port of Sunderland. The plant will take mixed plastic waste from across the north of England that would otherwise have been incinerated or disposed of in landfill. It will be the first plant operated by Quantafuel in the UK to recycle plastics, reducing CO₂ emissions by around 70% compared to incineration and it expected to open in 2025.

The site will be regulated by the Environment Agency and must comply with approved guidance and permit conditions setting out the best available techniques (BAT) for process operations and emission controls. It must achieve such standards in order to operate under an environmental permit. An Air Quality assessment was submitted in support of the planning application and process emissions were modelled using an appropriate AQ Model. The assessment predicted that the impact will be negligible at the nearest human receptors.

A large cross boundary project was also given planning permission during 2023. The IAMP TWO site will be located within Sunderland and across the Northern boundary with neighbouring South Tyneside Local Authority. The newly approved phase includes:

- The dualling of the A1290 between the A19/A1290 Downhill Lane junction and the southern access from International Drive
- A new access road with a bridge across the River Don
- A pumping station, electricity substations and landscaping

- Four plots for industrial units of up to 168,000sqm

The proposed uses include light industrial, general industrial and storage and distribution, as well as "ancillary office and research and development floorspace". At this point in time, the end users of the industrial units are as yet unknown. However, planning conditions will require suitable air quality assessments and/or screening assessments to be submitted if required.

There have been two new industrial processes that have been granted an Environmental Permit within Sunderland during 2023.

The first was for a site that produces furniture and required a Part B permit for a timber process and a biomass boiler to deal with waste wood offcuts. During the planning stage, a biomass boiler screening assessment was submitted to the LA which identified that the stack height was sufficient to adequately disperse any pollutants. The site is also subject to the controls within the permit to prevent particulate matter from leaving the site.

The second site application was from a pallet manufacturing business which required a timber process Part B permit from the LA. In addition a large biomass boiler was installed on site and was of sufficient capacity to fall within the scope of the Medium Combustion Plant Directive. This means that the site required a permit from the Environment Agency to operate the boiler. Conditions to limit emissions to air will be regulated through both the LA permit and the MCP permit.

Additional Air Quality Works Undertaken by Sunderland City Council During 2023.

Sunderland City Council has not completed any additional works within the reporting year of 2023.

QA/QC of Diffusion Tube Monitoring

Sunderland City Council diffusion tubes are supplied and analysed by Gradko International Ltd, Winchester, Hampshire. The preparation method used is 20% TEA/ Water. Gradko are a UKAS accredited laboratory, and they also participate in several national quality schemes such as Air PT, LEAP and field intercomparison

Exposure of the diffusion tubes in line with the National Calendar was attempted wherever possible and for the vast majority of 2023 the National Calendar dates were followed.

Diffusion Tube Annualisation

4 non-automatic sites required annualisation. Annualisation is required for any site with data capture less than 75% but greater than 25%. The Diffusion Tube Processing Tool was used to calculate the factor and the annualisation summary is provided as Table C.1.

Table C.1 – Annualisation Summary (concentrations presented in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)

| Site ID | Annualisation Factor Newcastle Cradlewell | Annualisation Factor Sunderland Silksworth | Annualisation Factor Sunderland Wessington Way | Annualisation Factor N/A | Average Annualisation Factor | Raw Data Annual Mean | Annualised Annual Mean |
|---------|---|--|--|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 57 | 1.0281 | 1.1603 | 1.1346 | | 1.1077 | 35.6 | 39.4 |
| 109 | 1.0071 | 1.1417 | 1.1259 | | 1.0915 | 23.1 | 25.2 |
| 120 | 1.0260 | 1.1414 | 1.1223 | | 1.0966 | 22.5 | 24.7 |
| 121 | 1.0267 | 1.1488 | 1.1381 | | 1.1045 | 18.3 | 20.2 |

Diffusion Tube Bias Adjustment Factors

The diffusion tube data presented within the 2024 ASR have been corrected for bias using an adjustment factor. Bias represents the overall tendency of the diffusion tubes to under or over-read relative to the reference chemiluminescence analyser. LAQM.TG22 provides guidance with regard to the application of a bias adjustment factor to correct diffusion tube monitoring. Triplicate co-location studies can be used to determine a local bias factor based on the comparison of diffusion tube results with data taken from NO_x/NO_2 continuous analysers. Alternatively, the national database of diffusion tube co-location surveys provides bias factors for the relevant laboratory and preparation method.

Sunderland City Council have applied a local bias adjustment factor of 0.73 to the 2023 monitoring data. A summary of bias adjustment factors used by Sunderland City Council

over the past five years is presented in Table C.2. Sunderland also considered using the National Diffusion Tube Bias Adjustment Factor. A bias adjustment factor of 0.81 was obtained from the National Diffusion Tube Bias Adjustment Factor Spread sheet version v 06/24. Sunderland City Council have co located tubes in triplicate at CM2 which is an Urban Background site, and it was considered that using a locally derived bias factor is more appropriate. The results from the Diffusion Tube survey once annualised and Bias adjusted did not exceed the objective when using either the local factor or the National factor.

Table C.2 – Bias Adjustment Factor

| Monitoring Year | Local or National | If National, Version of National Spreadsheet | Adjustment Factor |
|-----------------|-------------------|--|-------------------|
| 2023 | Local | <-> | 0.73 |
| 2022 | Local | <-> | 0.7 |
| 2021 | National | 03/21 | 0.84 |
| 2020 | National | 03/20 | 0.81 |
| 2019 | National | 03/19 | 0.93 |

Table C.3 – Local Bias Adjustment Calculation

| | Local Bias Adjustment Input 1 | Local Bias Adjustment Input 2 | Local Bias Adjustment Input 3 | Local Bias Adjustment Input 4 | Local Bias Adjustment Input 5 |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Periods used to calculate bias | 11 | | | | |
| Bias Factor A | 0.73 (0.67 - 0.8) | | | | |
| Bias Factor B | 37% (24% - 50%) | | | | |
| Diffusion Tube Mean ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) | 14.1 | | | | |
| Mean CV (Precision) | 2.6% | | | | |
| Automatic Mean ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) | 10.3 | | | | |
| Data Capture | 99% | | | | |
| Adjusted Tube Mean ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) | 10 (9 - 11) | | | | |

Notes:

A single local bias adjustment factor has been used to bias adjust the 2023 diffusion tube results.

NO₂ Fall-off with Distance from the Road

Wherever possible, monitoring locations are representative of exposure. However, where this is not possible, the NO₂ concentration at the nearest location relevant for exposure has been estimated using the Diffusion Tube Data Processing Tool/NO₂ fall-off with distance calculator available on the LAQM Support website. Where appropriate, non-automatic annual mean NO₂ concentrations corrected for distance are presented in Table B.1.

Table C.4 – Non-Automatic NO₂ Fall off With Distance Calculations (concentrations presented in µg/m³)

No diffusion tube NO₂ monitoring locations within Sunderland City Council required distance correction during 2023.

QA/QC of Automatic Monitoring

The QA/QC procedures of Sunderland are based on the AURN Site Operator's manual along with training received from our original equipment suppliers, Casella Measurement. Refresher training is provided by the AURN when required for the sites that Sunderland act as LSO or at our affiliate site.

The fundamental aims of a quality assurance/ control programme are:

- The data obtained from measurement systems should be representative of ambient concentrations existing in each area.
- Measurements must be accurate, precise and traceable.
- Data must be comparable and reproducible.
- Results must be consistent over time.

An appropriate level of data capture is required throughout the year.

Equipment Maintenance

- Automatic analysers are serviced every 6 months by a qualified engineer under a contract with We Care 4 Air.

- Local Authority staff visits the air quality sites at least once every 2 or 4 weeks during which a check of the equipment is made to ensure it is all working within normal parameters. Filters are also changed during this visit.
- If a problem occurs, then a call-out is instigated to the service centre and an engineer will normally visit site within 48-hours to correct the fault.

Calibration

- At each site visit staff will perform a calibration response check using a certified gas cylinder. Results are passed to our data management partner to adjust data if necessary.
- At the 6-month service the instruments are re-calibrated to the site cylinder certificated value.
- Gas cylinder pressures are regularly checked at routine visits to ensure they are replaced before they run out completely.
- When a cylinder is replaced, the new certified values are recorded and forwarded to the data management team.

Data Validation

During 2023 the contract for data capture has been performed by WeCare4Air, who now host Sunderland's data at [Air Quality Service and Data throughout the UK - We Care 4 Air](#). We Care 4 Air have continued the excellent work of AQDM and follow the same methods as outlined below.

Review data daily to ensure that

- Telecommunications to the station are operational
- The air quality station is operational
- Individual analysers are operational
- Air quality exceedances are identified
- Operational information such as TEOM filter loading, does not invalidate data
- Obvious data errors are identified

Data Ratification

In addition to the initial data screening process (validation), data are further scrutinised in monthly blocks in order to provide a final ratified data set.

The software that collects the data is used to rescale the data using the factor calculated from the monthly/ fortnightly calibration check. Data is then reviewed for erroneous data such as:

- Daily calibration spikes
- Routine or service visit errors
- Analyser faults
- Site faults, such as power outages

When data is satisfactory, it is compared to other local sites. This provides a check to ensure data is realistic.

PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} Monitoring Adjustment

The data from CM1 (Trimdon Street) was collected using a TEOM and PM₁₀ monitoring data collected was previously corrected using the Volatile Correction Model (VCM). This calculation is carried out by the data management company prior to it being completed into the final ratified data set. The removal of a nearby FDMS analyser has meant that there is no longer an analyser in range and the correction model cannot be used. After seeking advice from the LAQM helpdesk, the data was corrected using a factor of 1.3 but it cannot be relied heavily upon to make conclusions.

Automatic Monitoring Annualisation

All automatic monitoring locations within Sunderland recorded data capture of greater than 75% therefore it was not required to annualise any monitoring data. In addition, any sites with a data capture below 25% do not require annualisation.

NO₂ Fall-off with Distance from the Road

Wherever possible, monitoring locations are representative of exposure. However, where this is not possible, the NO₂ concentration at the nearest location relevant for exposure has been estimated using the NO₂ fall-off with distance calculator available on the LAQM Support website. Where appropriate, automatic annual mean NO₂ concentrations corrected for distance are presented in Table A.3.

No automatic NO₂ monitoring locations within Sunderland required distance correction during 2023.

Appendix D: Map(s) of Monitoring Locations and AQMAs

Figure D.1 – Map of CM 1 and Diffusion Tube Site 88.

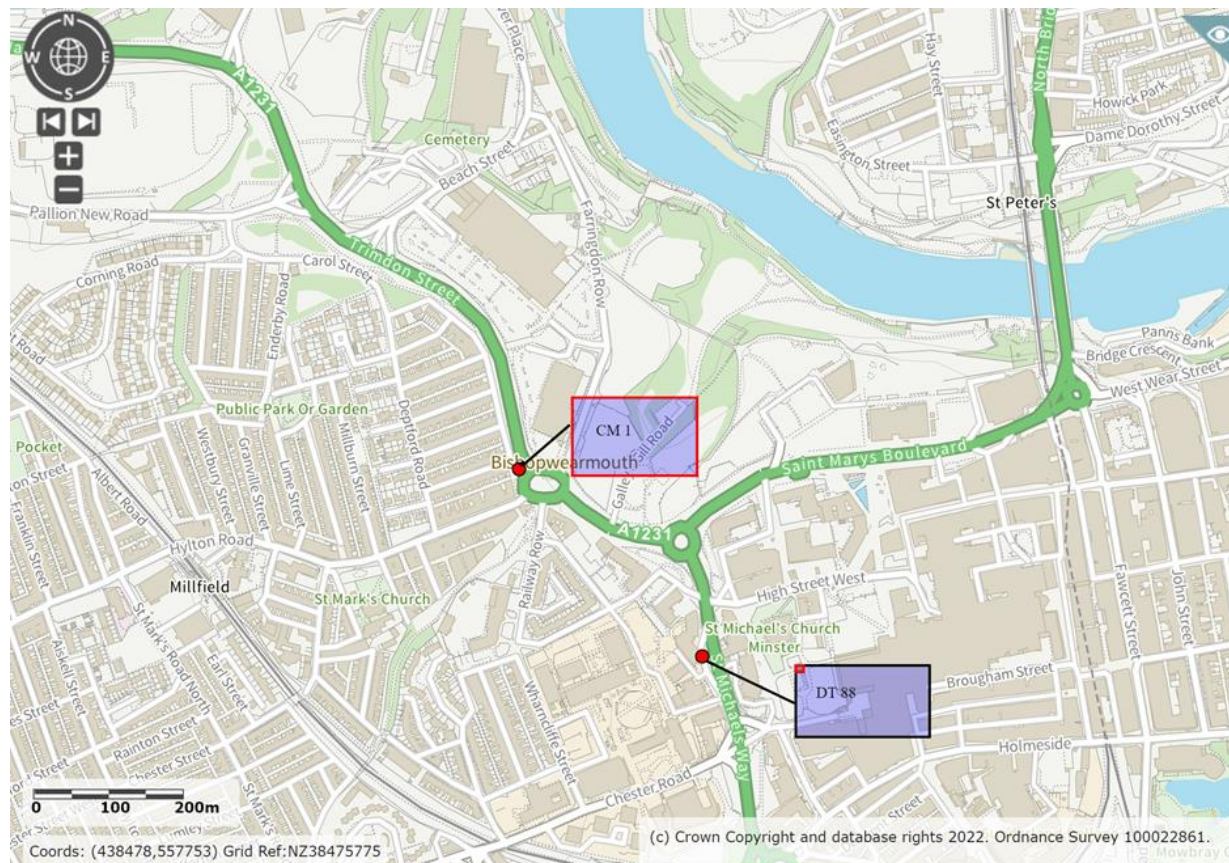


Figure D.2 – Map of CM 2 and Diffusion Tubes 101, 105 & 106

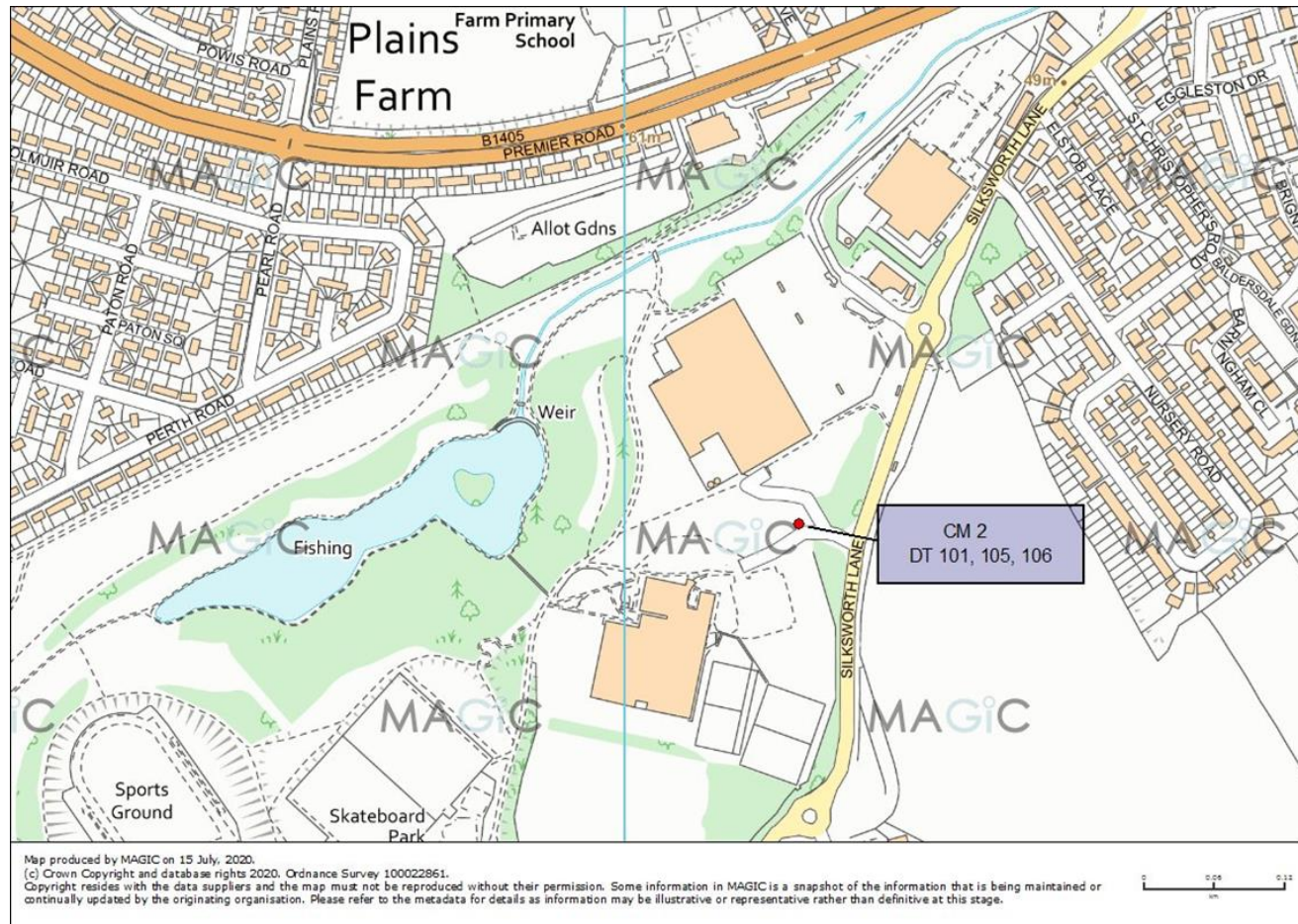


Figure D.3 – Map of CM 3 and Diffusion Tubes 133 & 134

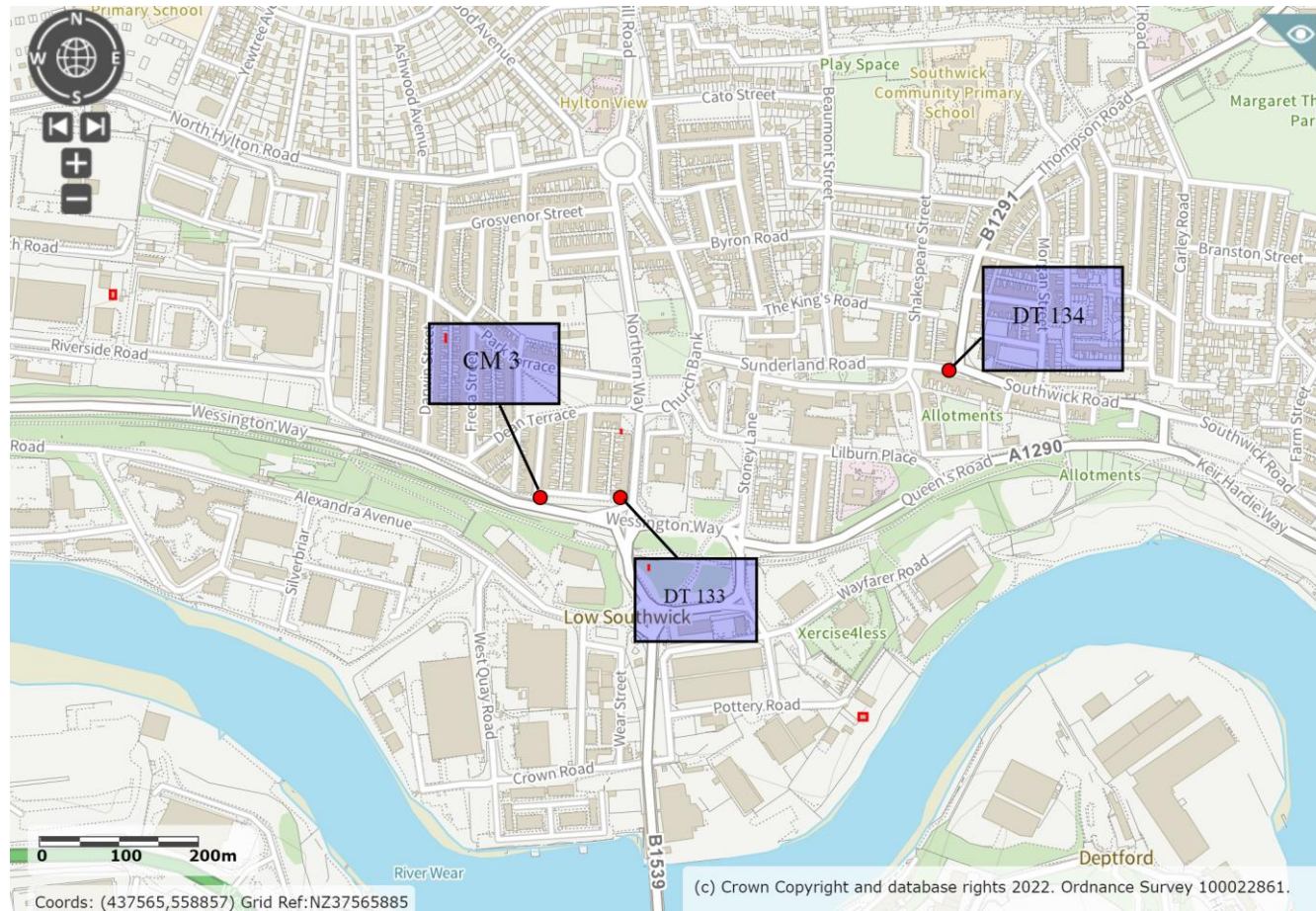


Figure D.4 – Map Diffusion Tube 135



Figure D.5 – Map of Diffusion Tubes 53



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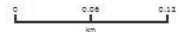


Figure D.6 – Map of Diffusion Tube 55

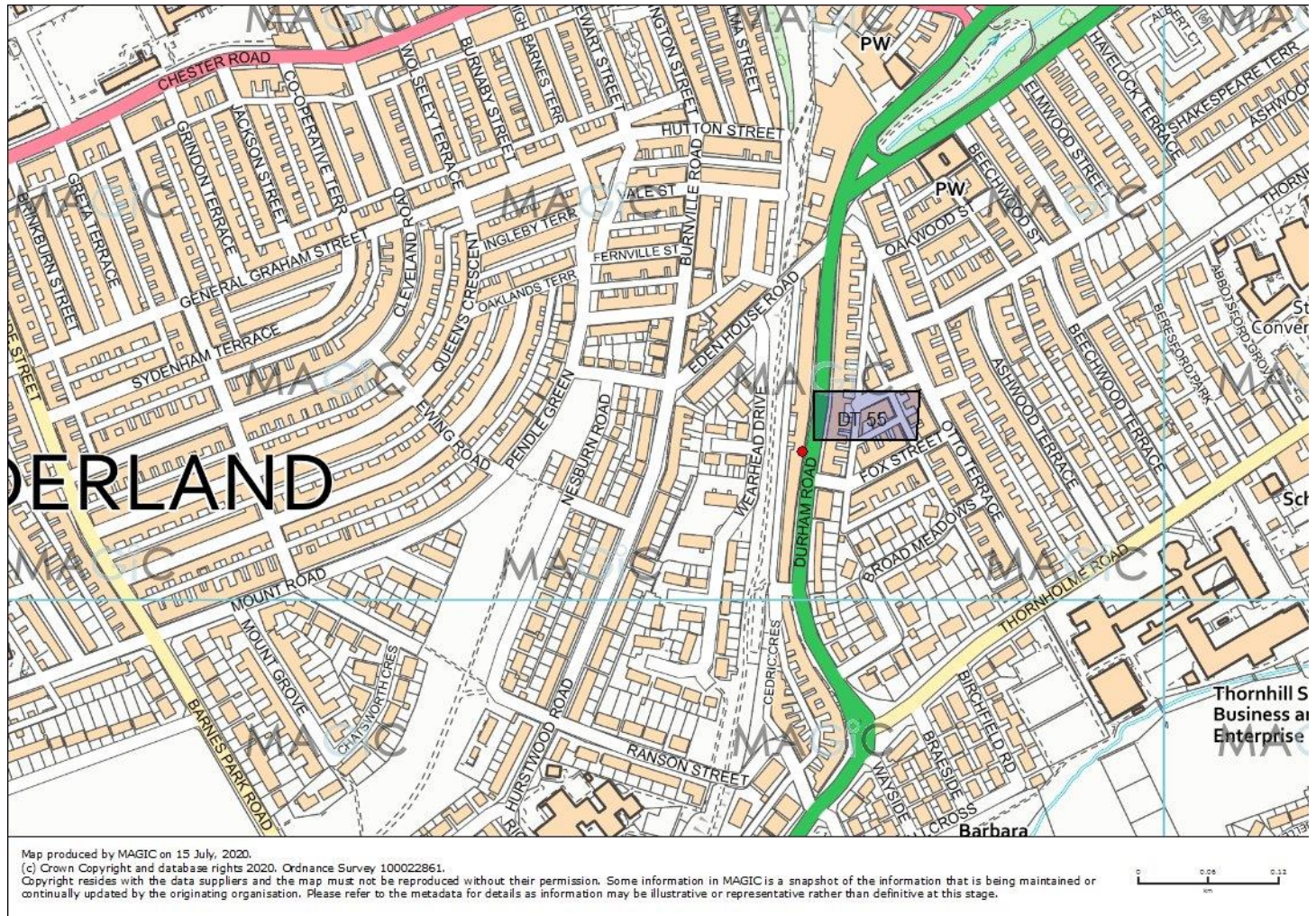
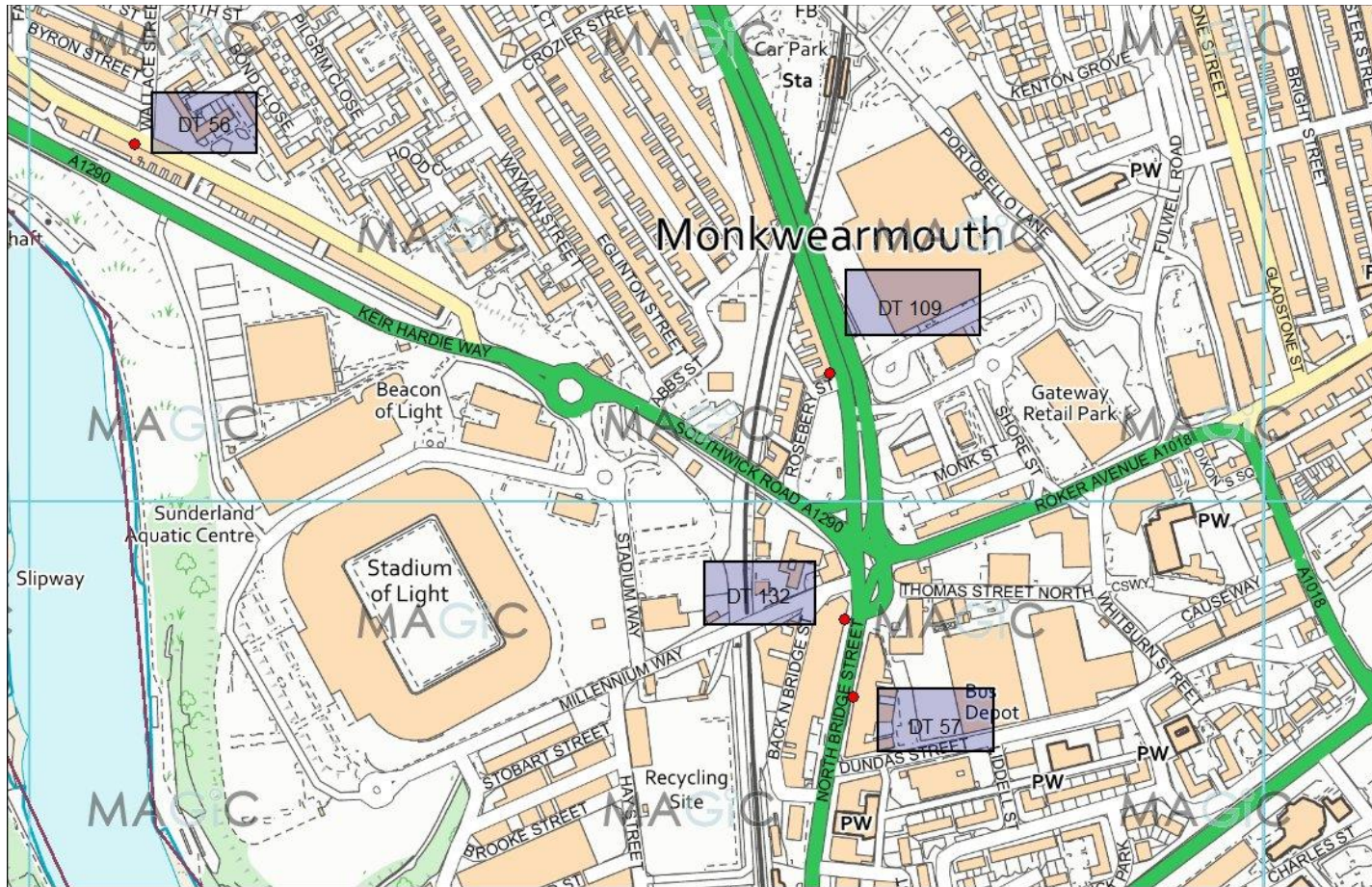


Figure D.7 – Map of Diffusion Tubes, 56, 57, 109 & 132.



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Figure D.9 – Map of Diffusion Tubes 86, 88, 94 & 117

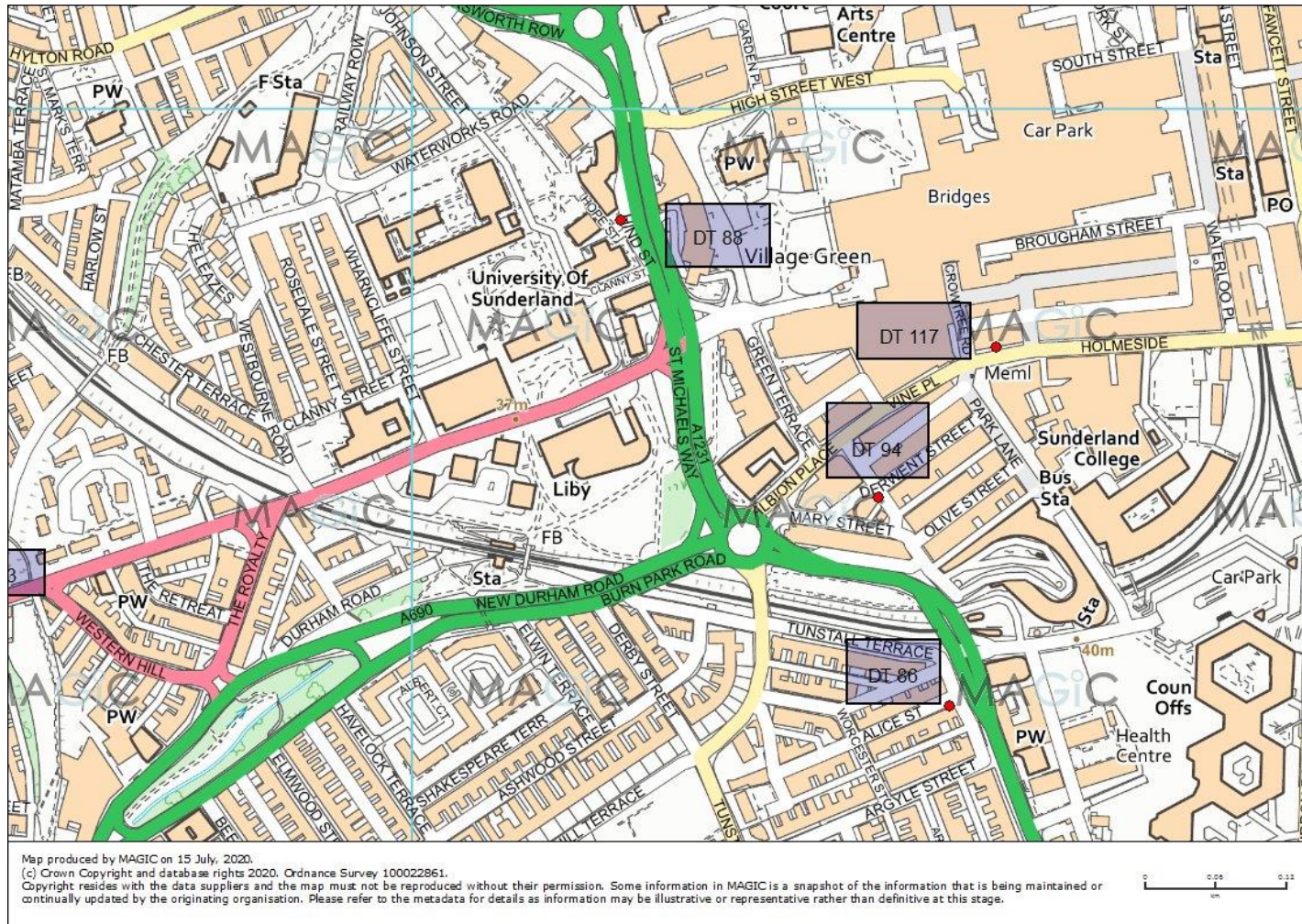
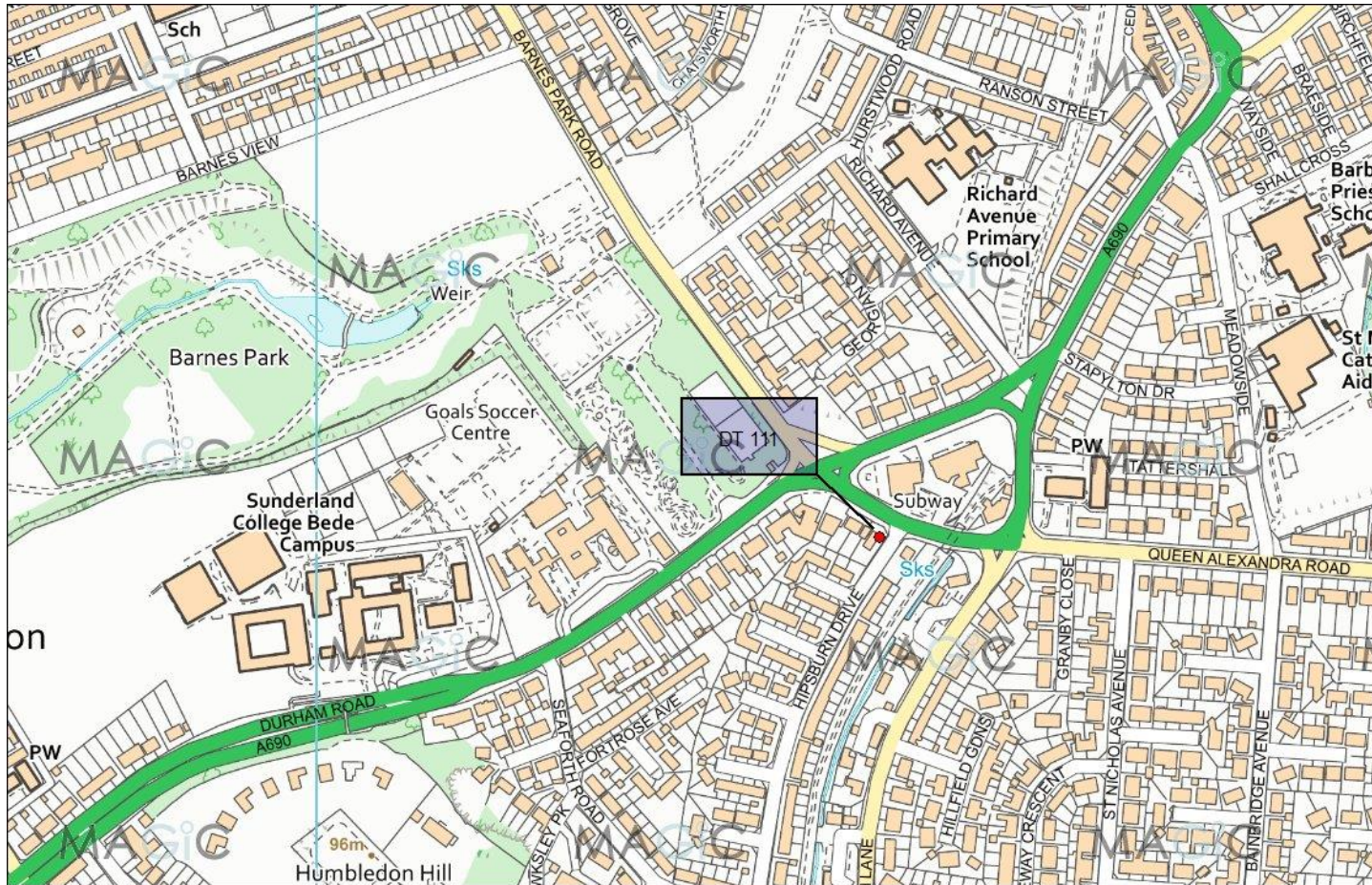
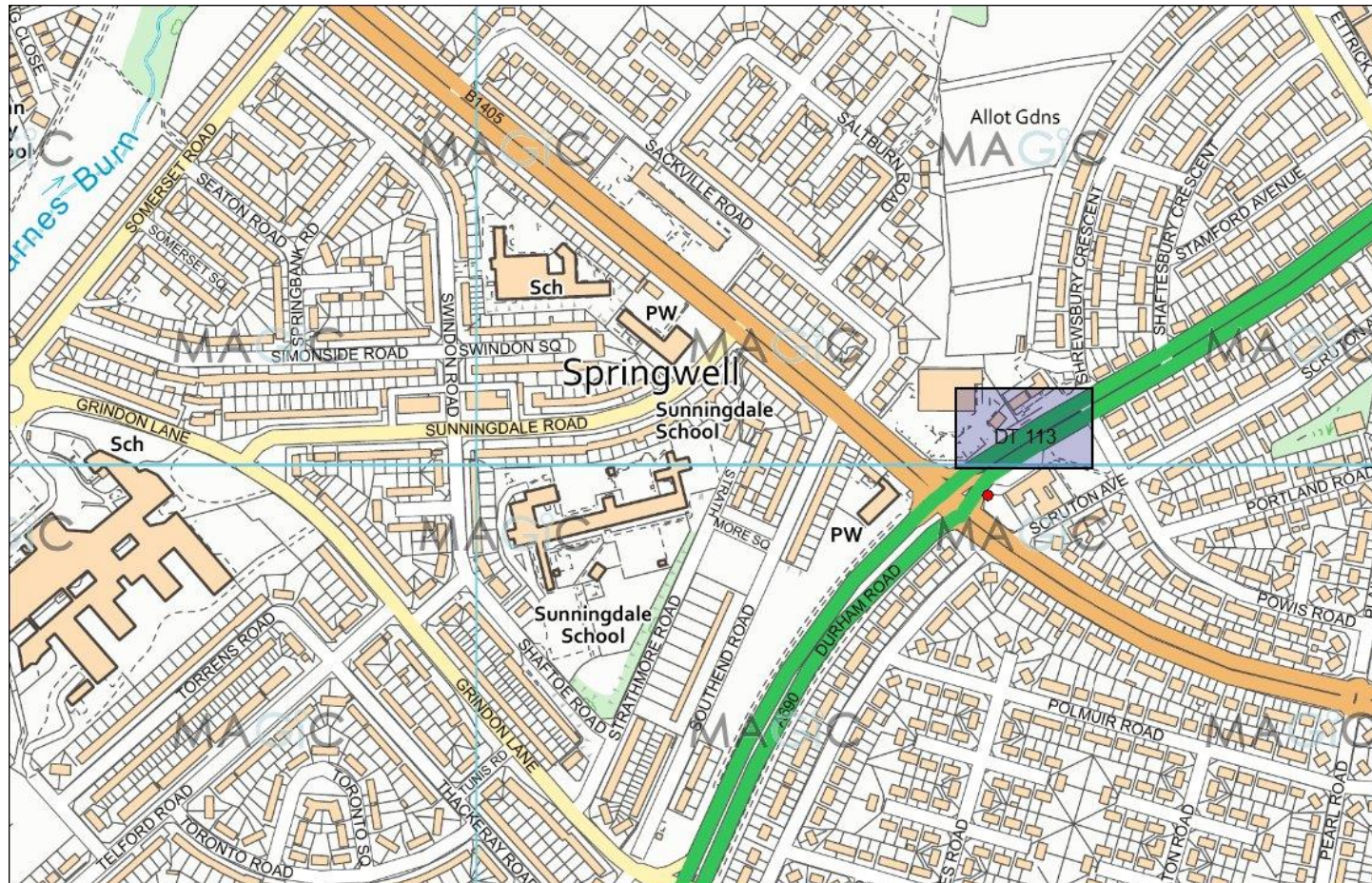


Figure D.10 – Map of Diffusion Tube 111



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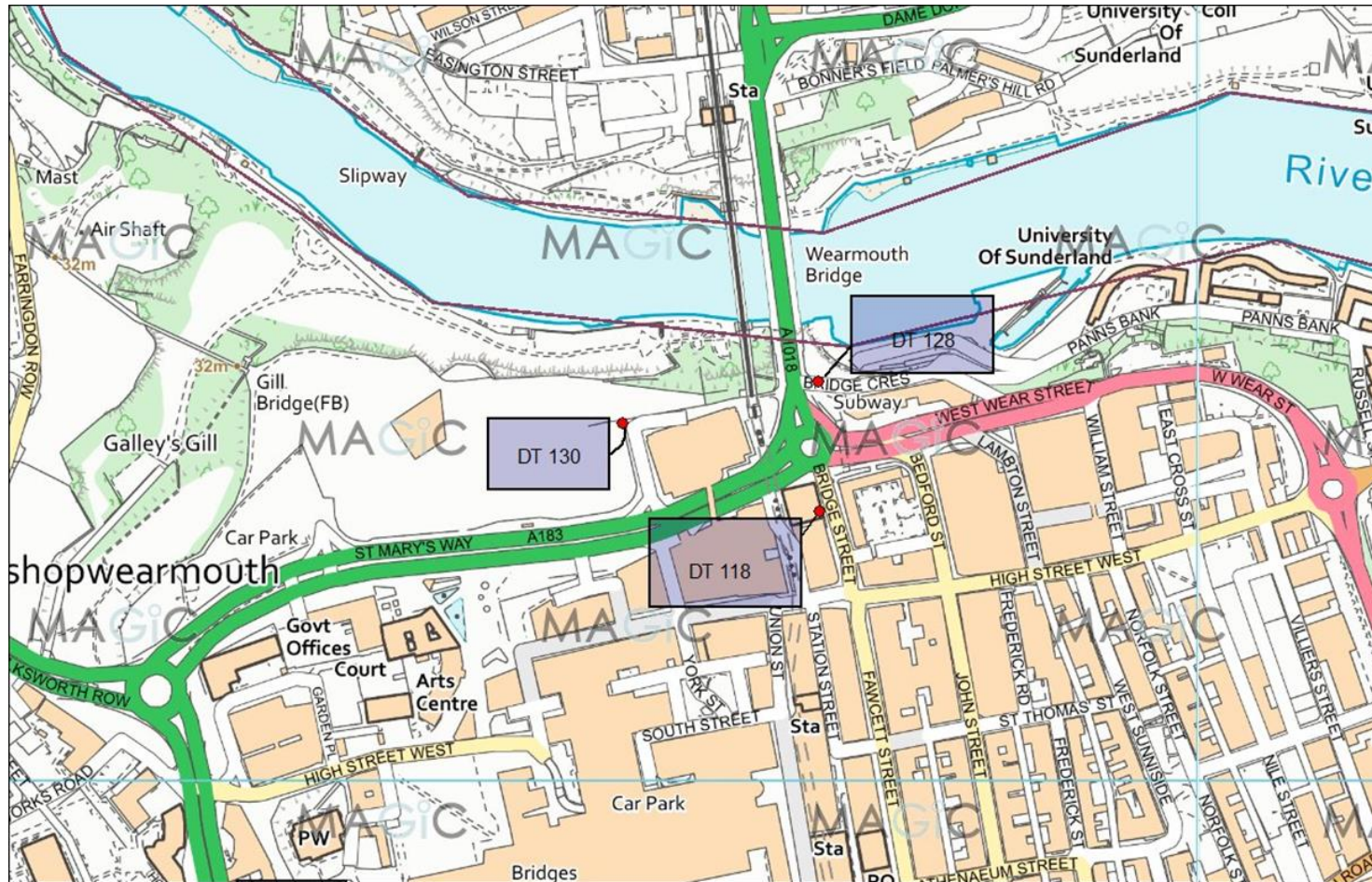
Figure D.11 – Map of Diffusion Tube 113.



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Figure D.12 – Map of Diffusion Tubes 118, 128 & 130



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Figure D.13 – Map of Diffusion Tube 121

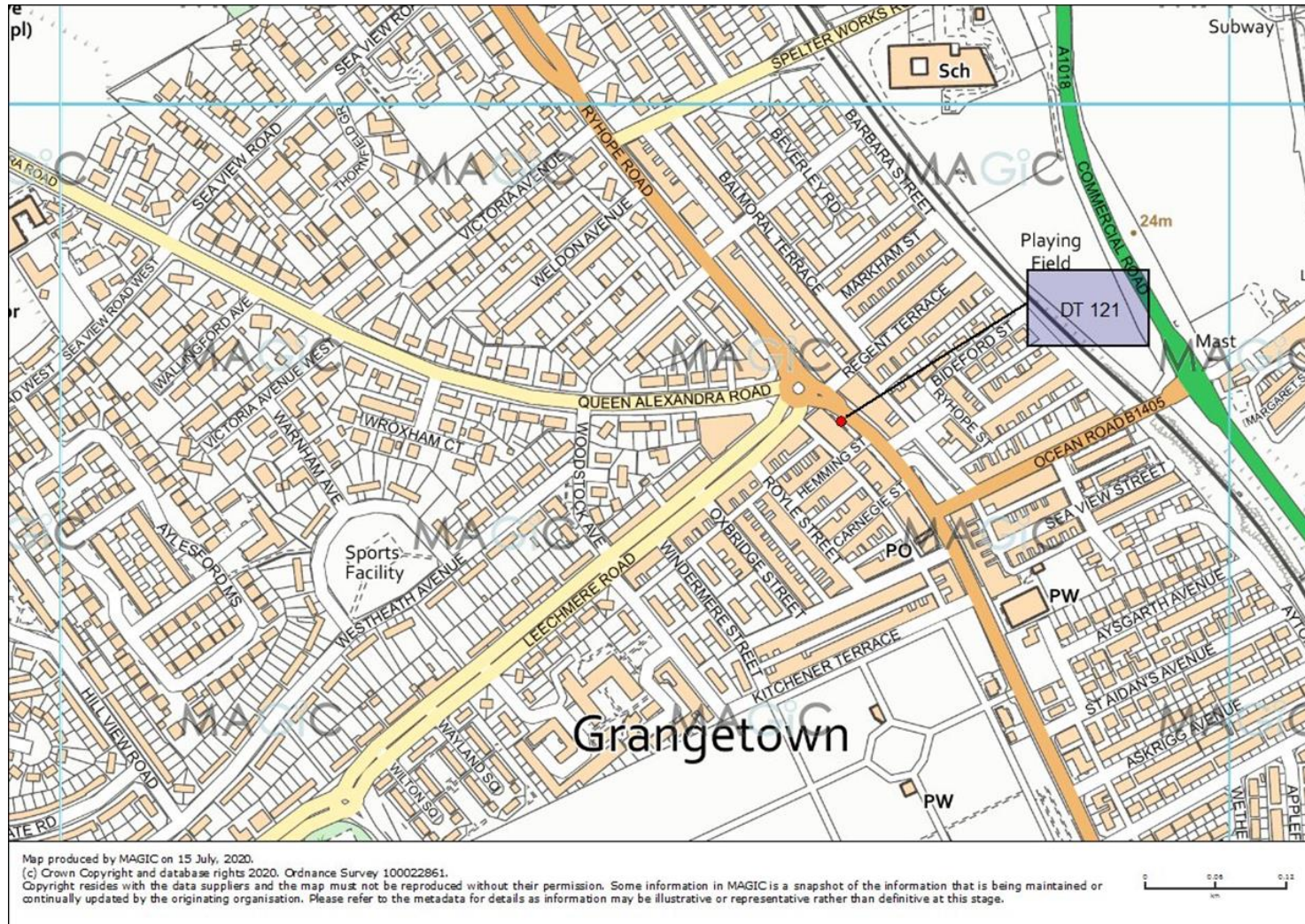


Figure D.14 – Map of Diffusion Tube 123 and 142.

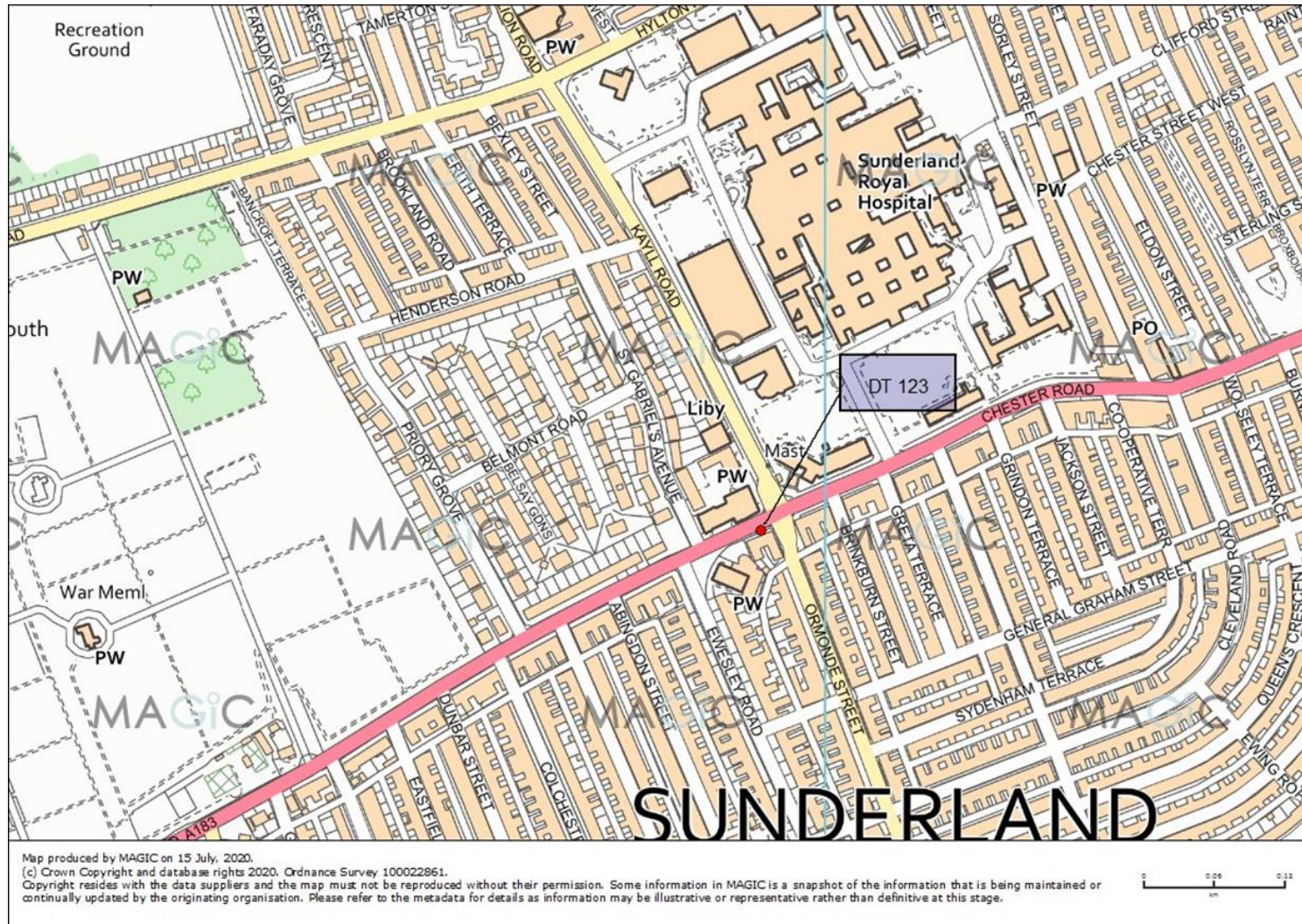


Figure D.15 – Map of Diffusion Tube 125



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Figure D.16 – Map of Diffusion Tubes 136

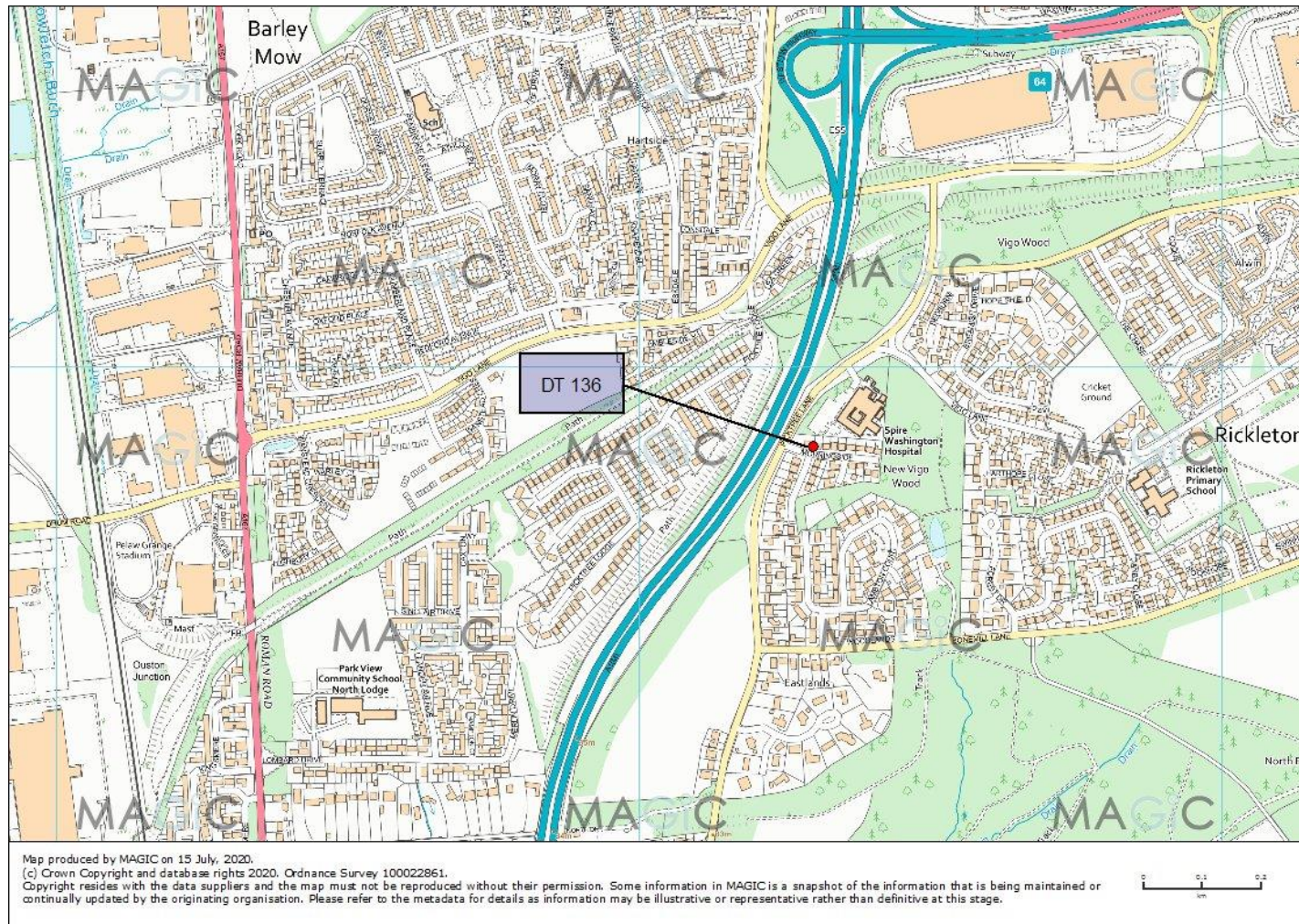
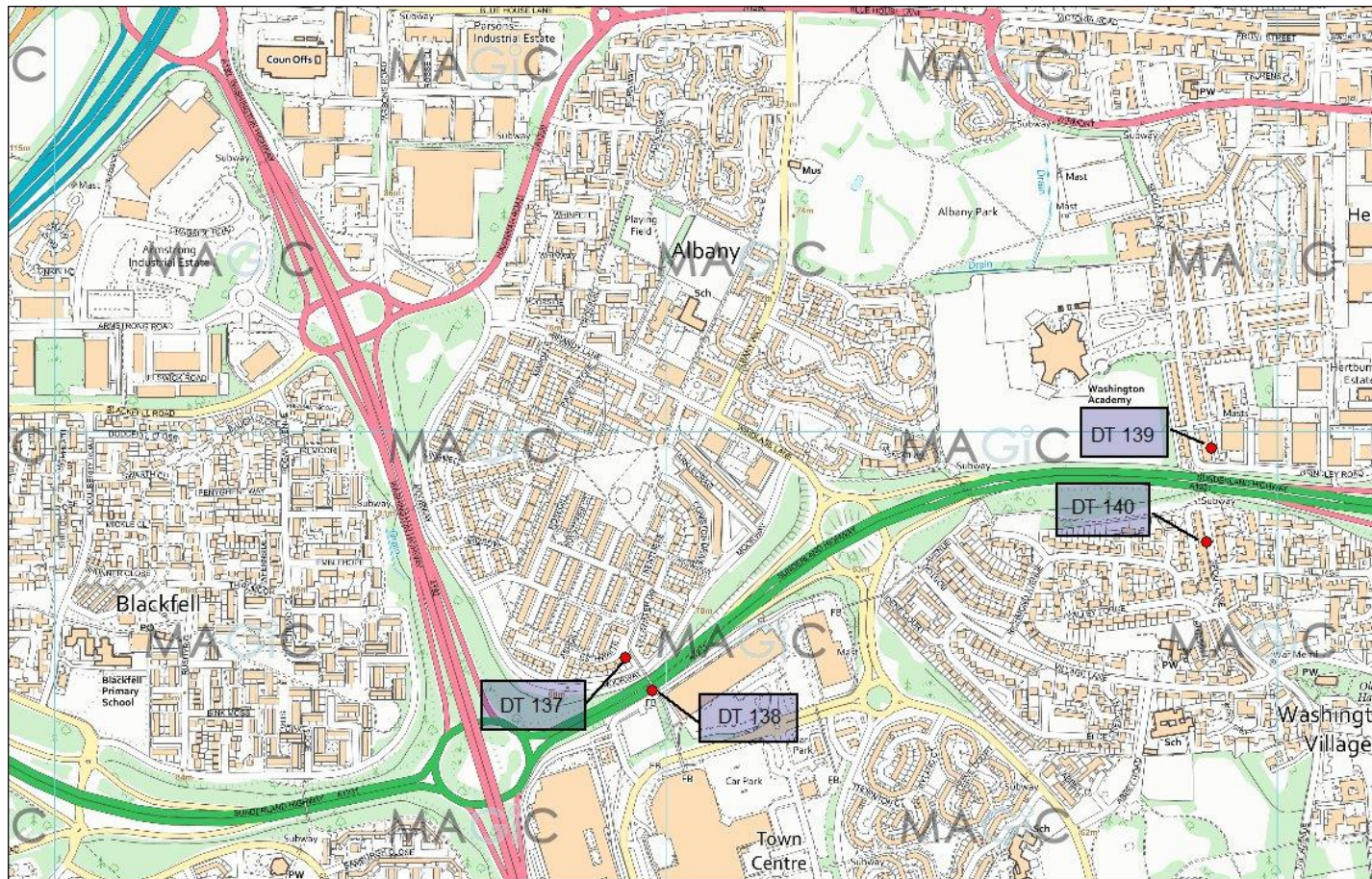


Figure D.17 – Map of Diffusion Tubes 137, 138, 139 & 140.



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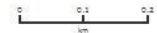


Figure D.18 – Map of Diffusion Tube 141.



Appendix E: Summary of Air Quality Objectives in England

Table E.1 – Air Quality Objectives in England¹¹

| Pollutant | Air Quality Objective: Concentration | Air Quality Objective: Measured as |
|--|---|------------------------------------|
| Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂) | 200µg/m ³ not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year | 1-hour mean |
| Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂) | 40µg/m ³ | Annual mean |
| Particulate Matter (PM ₁₀) | 50µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year | 24-hour mean |
| Particulate Matter (PM ₁₀) | 40µg/m ³ | Annual mean |
| Sulphur Dioxide (SO ₂) | 350µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 24 times a year | 1-hour mean |
| Sulphur Dioxide (SO ₂) | 125µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 3 times a year | 24-hour mean |
| Sulphur Dioxide (SO ₂) | 266µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year | 15-minute mean |

¹¹ The units are in microgrammes of pollutant per cubic metre of air (µg/m³).

Glossary of Terms

| Abbreviation | Description |
|-------------------|---|
| AQAP | Air Quality Action Plan - A detailed description of measures, outcomes, achievement dates and implementation methods, showing how the local authority intends to achieve air quality limit values' |
| AQMA | Air Quality Management Area – An area where air pollutant concentrations exceed / are likely to exceed the relevant air quality objectives. AQMAs are declared for specific pollutants and objectives |
| ASR | Annual Status Report |
| Defra | Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs |
| DMRB | Design Manual for Roads and Bridges – Air quality screening tool produced by National Highways |
| EU | European Union |
| FDMS | Filter Dynamics Measurement System |
| LAQM | Local Air Quality Management |
| NO ₂ | Nitrogen Dioxide |
| NO _x | Nitrogen Oxides |
| PM ₁₀ | Airborne particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of 10µm or less |
| PM _{2.5} | Airborne particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of 2.5µm or less |
| QA/QC | Quality Assurance and Quality Control |
| SO ₂ | Sulphur Dioxide |

References

- Local Air Quality Management Technical Guidance LAQM.TG22. August 2022. Published by Defra in partnership with the Scottish Government, Welsh Assembly Government and Department of the Environment Northern Ireland.
- Local Air Quality Management Policy Guidance LAQM.PG22. August 2022. Published by Defra in partnership with the Scottish Government, Welsh Assembly Government and Department of the Environment Northern Ireland.
- Chemical hazards and poisons report: Issue 28. June 2022. Published by UK Health Security Agency
- Air Quality Strategy – Framework for Local Authority Delivery. August 2023. Published by Defra.