



SHROPSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD - Report			
Meeting Date	17 th November 2022		
Title of Paper	Air Quality Update – November 2022		
Reporting Officer and email	Toby Pierce – Public Protection Officer (Professional), Environmental Protection, Toby.Pierce@shropshire.gov.uk		
Which Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy priorities does this paper address? Please tick all that apply	Children & Young People		Joined up working X
	Mental Health		Improving Population Health X
	Healthy Weight & Physical Activity		Working with and building strong and vibrant communities
	Workforce		Reduce inequalities (see below) X
What inequalities does this paper address?	As detailed in Shropshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-27.		
Paper content - Please expand content under these headings or attach your report ensuring the three headings are included.			
Update report attached			
Risk assessment and opportunities appraisal (NB This will include the following: Risk Management, Human Rights, Equalities, Community, Environmental consequences and other Consultation)	Not Applicable		
Financial implications (Any financial implications of note)	Not Applicable		
Climate Change Appraisal as applicable	Not Applicable		
Where else has the paper been presented?	System Partnership Boards	N/A	
	Voluntary Sector	N/A	
	Other	N/A	
List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)			
Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder) or your organisational lead e.g. Exec lead or Non-Exec/Clinical Lead (List of Council Portfolio holders can be found at this link: https://shropshire.gov.uk/committee-services/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=130) Cllr Simon Jones, Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Public Health			
Appendices			

Air Quality Update – November 2022

Toby Pierce – Public Protection Officer (Professional)

Environmental Protection, Health, Wellbeing and Prevention Directorate

1. Executive Summary

Environmental Protection have completed and submitted Shropshire Council's 2022 Annual Status Report. Key findings are that both Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA's) in Shrewsbury and Bridgnorth centres are still required. Work continues to review Action Plans (previously referred to as the 2022 Air Quality Action Plan Review Project) for both locations in order to demonstrate how emission exceedances in these areas will be addressed.

2. Recommendations

Further updates to be provided at future Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) Meetings.

3. Report

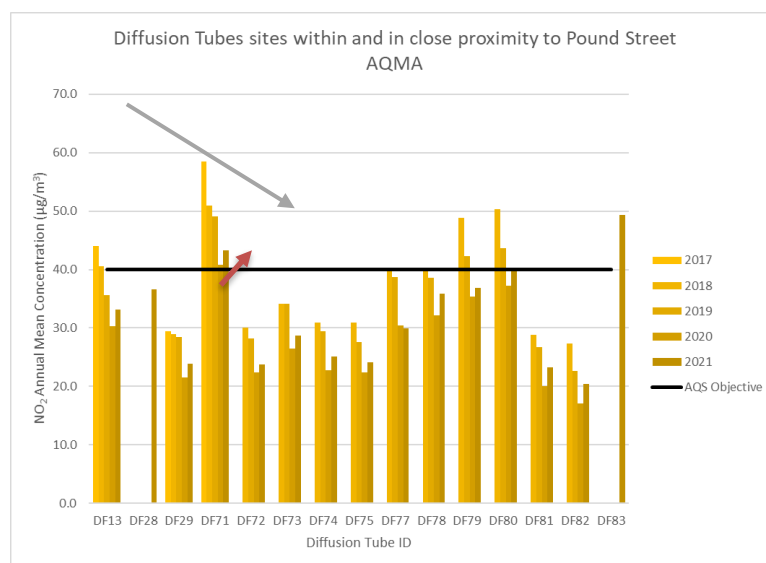
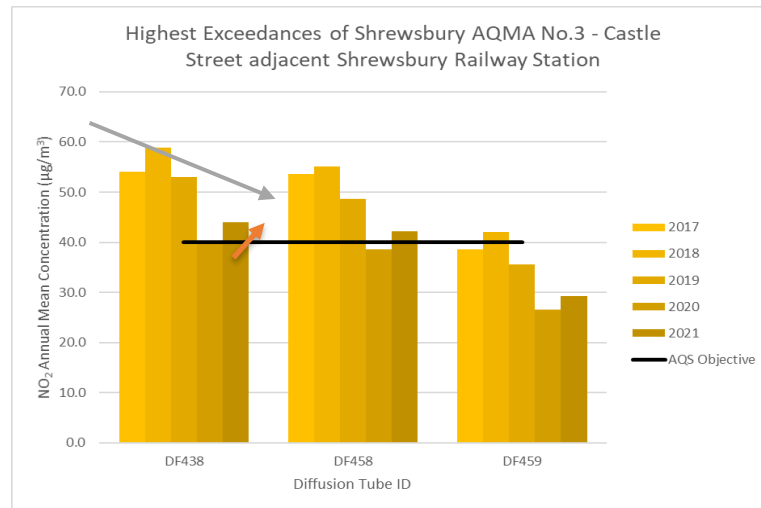
2022 Annual Status Report

Environmental Protection have completed and submitted Shropshire Council's 2022 Annual Status Report (ASR) which reports the work and monitoring undertaken in the 2021 year. The 2022 ASR details that overall trends for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) appear to be falling, although clear trends are difficult to establish in light of the impact of Covid-19 pandemic on traffic levels and subsequent emissions in 2019/2020. It can be argued that there is an overall downward trend in accordance with national trends, as the public and commercial sector switch to cleaner vehicles such as electric and hybrid vehicles. It must be noted that throughout 2021, traffic was still 'recovering' from lockdown influences and are likely to have been altered by changes in working practices and transport choices i.e., reduced travel due to homeworking, increase in walking and cycling activity post-lockdowns.

2021 data, shown below in Figure A, for both Bridgnorth and Shrewsbury Air Quality Management Area's (AQMA's) show a return to exceedances of the Air Quality Standard (objective level) of 40ug/m³ – demonstrating the ongoing need for the AQMA at each location. Overall trends have been indicated at one location per AQMA by a green arrow, and recent increases by a red arrow. Close attention shall be paid, through further monitoring, in coming years to assess whether post-pandemic traffic levels impact upon overall emission trends.



Figure A – 5-year trends for Shrewsbury and Bridgnorth AQMA's



No reference particulate monitoring is currently undertaken by the Council given that previous monitoring indicated ongoing trends well below current objective levels. The Council will continue to review available data and undertake further investigation where required.

Further detail and analysis can be found within the full 2022 ASR document which is published on Shropshire Councils website at <https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/environmental-health/environmental-protection-and-prevention/air-quality/shropshire-council-air-quality-reports/>. The ASR has been submitted to Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) for review and appraisal, as is required by legislation. Revised versions of the report may be generated, based on DEFRA's appraisal.

2022 Air Quality Action Plan Review Project

The Council's appointed contractor Bureau Veritas are undertaking baseline computer modelling for each AQMA to model the likely concentrations, sources, and movement of emissions at each location. Next steps will be to identify, assess and model a range of interventions that are likely to lead to a reduction in emissions.

Environmental Protection are in discussion with internal colleagues within Highways and Active Travel teams to maximize joint-working and shared agendas in this work. The project continues to be overseen by the internal Air Quality Steering Group with involvement from external stakeholders, and further updates will be provided to the HWBB as the project progresses.

