Shropshire Council

Date: Thursday, 19 January 2023

Time: 9.30 am

Venue: Shrewsbury Room, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY2 6ND

Contact: Michelle Dulson, Committee Officer
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HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

TO FOLLOW REPORT (S)

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	SHROPSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD Report		
Meeting Date	19ᵗʰ **January 2023**		
Title of Paper	Air Quality update – January 2023		
Reporting Officer and email	Toby Pierce, PPO – Professional Environmental Protection, Health, Wellbeing and Prevention Directorate Email: 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	
	Mental Health		Improving Population Health	X
	Healthy Weight & Physical Activity		Working with and building strong and vibrant communities	X
	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.

Report Appended below.

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. Cecilia Motley, Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Communities
Appendices

Air Quality Update – January 2023

Toby Pierce – Public Protection Officer (Professional)

Environmental Protection, Health, Wellbeing and Prevention Directorate

1. Executive Summary

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) have provided a positive appraisal of the Council's 2022 Annual Status Report. 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 HWBB Meetings.

3. Report

Appraisal of 2022 Annual Status Report

DEFRA, appraised and accepted Shropshire Councils 2022 Annual Status Report stating '*Overall, the report is detailed, concise and satisfies the criteria of relevant standards. The Council should continue their good and thorough work'.* DEFRA noted that the Council's Air Quality Action Plans are still pending review and advised that *'[Shropshire Council]… state that they will be an AQAP review in 2022 and are encouraged to review and publish an updated AQAP as soon as possible.'*

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/.

2022 Air Quality Action Plan Review Project

The Council's appointed contractor Bureau Veritas have reported their initial technical assessment findings, including the results of baseline computer modelling for each AQMA to model the likely concentrations, sources, and movement of emissions at each location.

As to be expected, modelling has indicated that the majority of emissions at both AQMA's relate to congestion, rather than free-flowing traffic. This highlights the need to both reduce congestion by volume of vehicle traffic and by smoothing the movement of traffic in these locations. Some preliminary maps based on modelling are presented below, but please note that these may be subject to refinement and change during the course of the project.
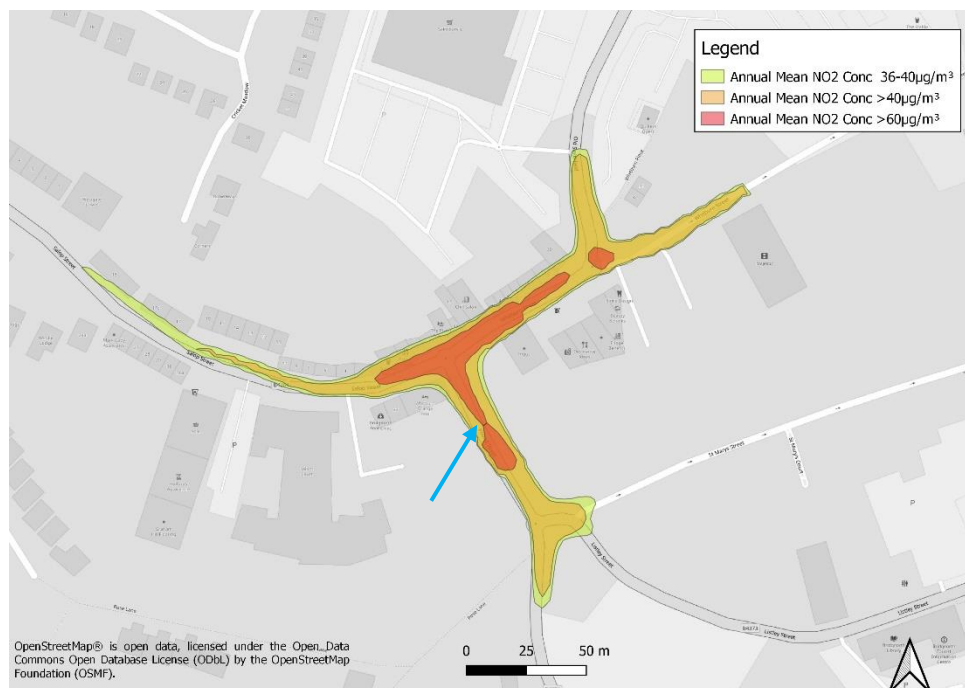

Figure 1: Initial modelling of emissions in Bridgnorth Pound Street AQMA

It is notable that Figure 1 shows a significant build-up of emissions >60ug/m^3 below the pedestrian crossing on Pound Street (indicated by blue arrow), and confirms that highest emissions are centred around the current roundabout junction and road features. This will direct the next steps of determining appropriate measures to reduce emissions and smooth the flow of traffic in the area.
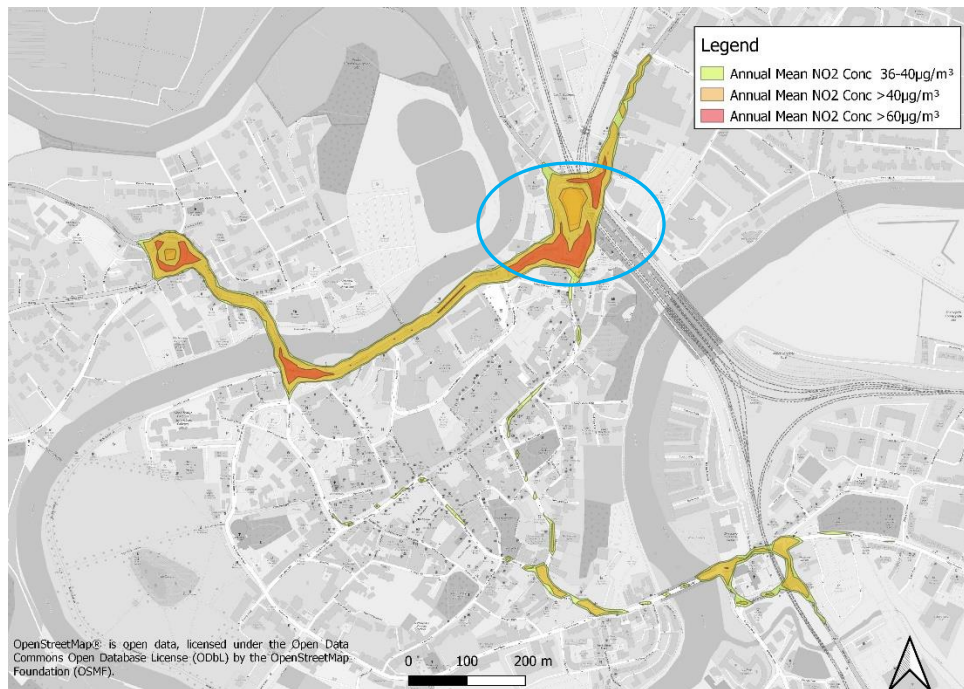
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Figure 2: Initial modelling of NO$_2$ emissions in Shrewsbury AQMA.

Figure 2 shows similar trends across the larger Shrewsbury AQMA. Highest emissions are localised around the Castle Foregate/Chester Street gyratory (indicated by blue circle) and other junctions within the AQMA. It is proposed that the extent of the AQMA boundary may be amended/ reduced in light of the limited areas of emissions in the wider town centre area.

Bureau Veritas will be presenting further detailed analysis to the officer-led Air Quality Steering Group in the coming weeks and the project will be moving into the next phase of reviewing and quantifying existing measures that are likely to impact upon emissions (i.e, Movement Strategy, Shrewsbury Big Town Plan) and identifying new interventions/measures that may be required. This will then allow a full assessment of the available measures, and a determination of the most appropriate action plan to take forward.

Further updates and reports will be provided to the HWBB as the project progresses.

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