



Committee and Date

Cabinet

14 February 2018

## REVOCATION OF AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREAS

**Responsible Officer** Karen Collier, Regulatory Services Operations Manager  
e-mail: Karen.collier@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 251711

### 1. Summary

Cabinet to consider the revocation of two Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs), one in Heathgates, Shrewsbury and the other in Bayston Hill. The AQMAs are no longer required as measured levels of nitrogen dioxide are below nationally set Air Quality Objective Levels.

### 2. Recommendations

Cabinet authorises the Director of Public Health to revoke the Shrewsbury No.1 AQMA in Bayston Hill and the Shrewsbury No.2 AQMA centred around Heathgates Roundabout under section 83(2)(b) of the Environment Act 1995. The Orders are attached at Appendix 1 and 2.

## REPORT

### 3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

In preparing this report, consideration has been given to the impact on children and vulnerable adults, risk management, human rights, equalities, community and other consultation.

A general premise behind Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) is that they do not blight an area. It is important that where there is no likely exceedance of air quality national objective levels that AQMAs are not left in place. This will ensure that there is no blight on an area or a property.

### 4. Financial Implications

Revocation of the AQMAs will remove the need for additional monitoring and reporting which is resource intensive. Such work is not necessary because there is no likely exceedance of air quality national objective levels.

## 5. Background

Part IV of the Environment Act 1995 introduced a requirement on all local authorities to carry out duties in relation to local air quality management. All local authorities are obliged to regularly review and assess air quality in their areas, and to determine whether or not the air quality objectives for different pollutants are likely to be achieved. Where it is likely that air quality levels are such that certain pollutants are above specified levels 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 pursuit of the objectives.

Air quality objectives have been set for 7 pollutants, but only particulates (PM10 – particles less than 10 microns in diameter) and Nitrogen Dioxide are seen as a potential problem in most locations in the U.K.

In 2003, AQMAs were declared in Bayston Hill and Heathgates in Shrewsbury in line with duties prescribed in the Environment Act 1995. The AQMAs were both declared due to a likely breach of the annual mean Nitrogen Dioxide national air quality objective of 40  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . This was due to there being residential receptors presenting relevant exposure in close proximity to the busy roads.

A review of monitoring data from the Updating and Screening Assessment in 2015 highlighted the fact that the concentration of nitrogen dioxide had dropped in recent years. As a result, a detailed assessment was undertaken to establish if there was any likelihood of any national objective level being breached. A review of all monitoring was undertaken. The review demonstrated no breach of the annual nitrogen dioxide objective level.

No major development, which is considered likely to generate additional nitrogen dioxide, is proposed in the area and therefore it is not expected that pollution levels will significantly increase in future years. National data suggests that vehicle numbers will increase incrementally over future years however due to improvements in emission standards for vehicles entering the market these improvements are expected to compensate for increased traffic numbers. It is not expected that any significant increases in air pollutant are likely in future.

Regulatory Services have concluded that it is appropriate to revoke the Shrewsbury No.1 and Shrewsbury No.2 AQMAs using the appropriate legislation being an Order under section 83(2)(b) of the Environment Act 1995.

Consultation exercises with the owners of the houses within the AQMAs, Elected Members for the areas and Statutory Consultees have been carried out. No objections have been raised. DEFRA have accepted Regulatory Services' Detailed Assessment of the areas and accept the proposal to revoke the AQMAs.

Two AQMAs remain in Shropshire, one in Pound Street, Bridgnorth and the other covers Shrewsbury town centre.

## 6. Conclusions

Monitoring has shown that the Air Quality Objective for nitrogen dioxide in the Shrewsbury No.1 AQMA and Shrewsbury No.2 AQMA is not currently exceeded. Assessment indicates it is not likely to be exceeded in the future, and as such both should be revoked by order.

**List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)**

None

**Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)**

Robert Macey (Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services)

**Local Member**

Ted Clarke (Bayston Hill)

Kevin Pardy and Alan Mosley (Heathgates area)

**Appendices**

Appendix 1: Order Revoking Air Quality Management Area

APPENDIX 1



SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL  
ORDER 2016

ENVIRONMENT ACT 1995 PART IV SECTION 83(2)(b)  
ORDER REVOKING AN AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA

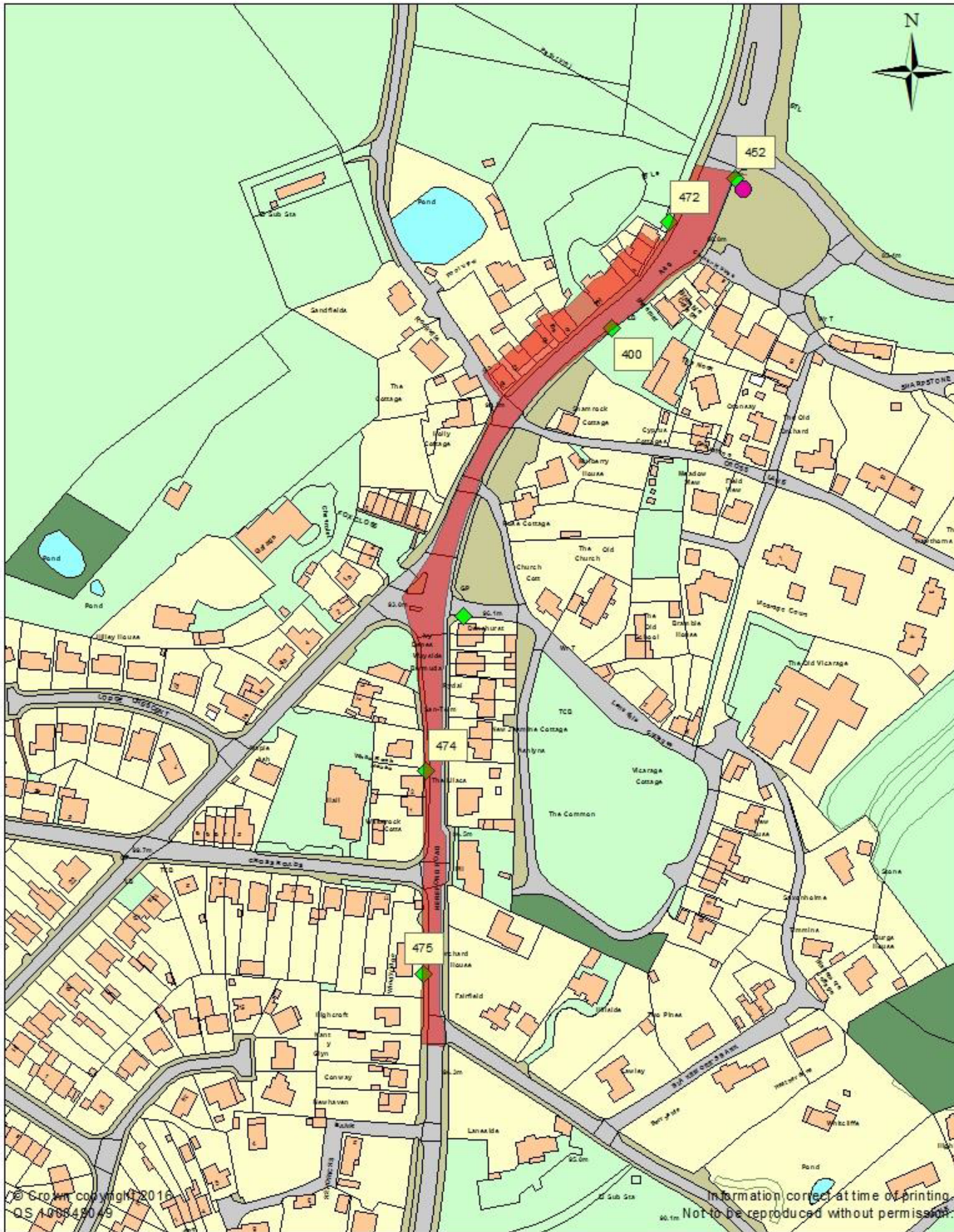
Shropshire Council, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by the Section 83(2)(b) of the Environment Act 1995 HEREBY makes the following order:-


1. This Order shall revoke the area known as **Shrewsbury No 1 AQMA** designated by Order in 2003 for likely breach of the annual mean nitrogen dioxide national objective level of  $40\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  at relevant receptors. Maps of the air quality management area to be revoked is found attached below.
2. The Order shall come into force on .....

Dated:.....

Signed:.....

Map showing the location of Shrewsbury No 1 AQMA marked by the red shaded area.



 <b>Shropshire Council</b>	Public Protection, Shropshire Council Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND
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SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL  
ORDER 2016

ENVIRONMENT ACT 1995 PART IV SECTION 83(2)(b)  
ORDER REVOKING AN AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA

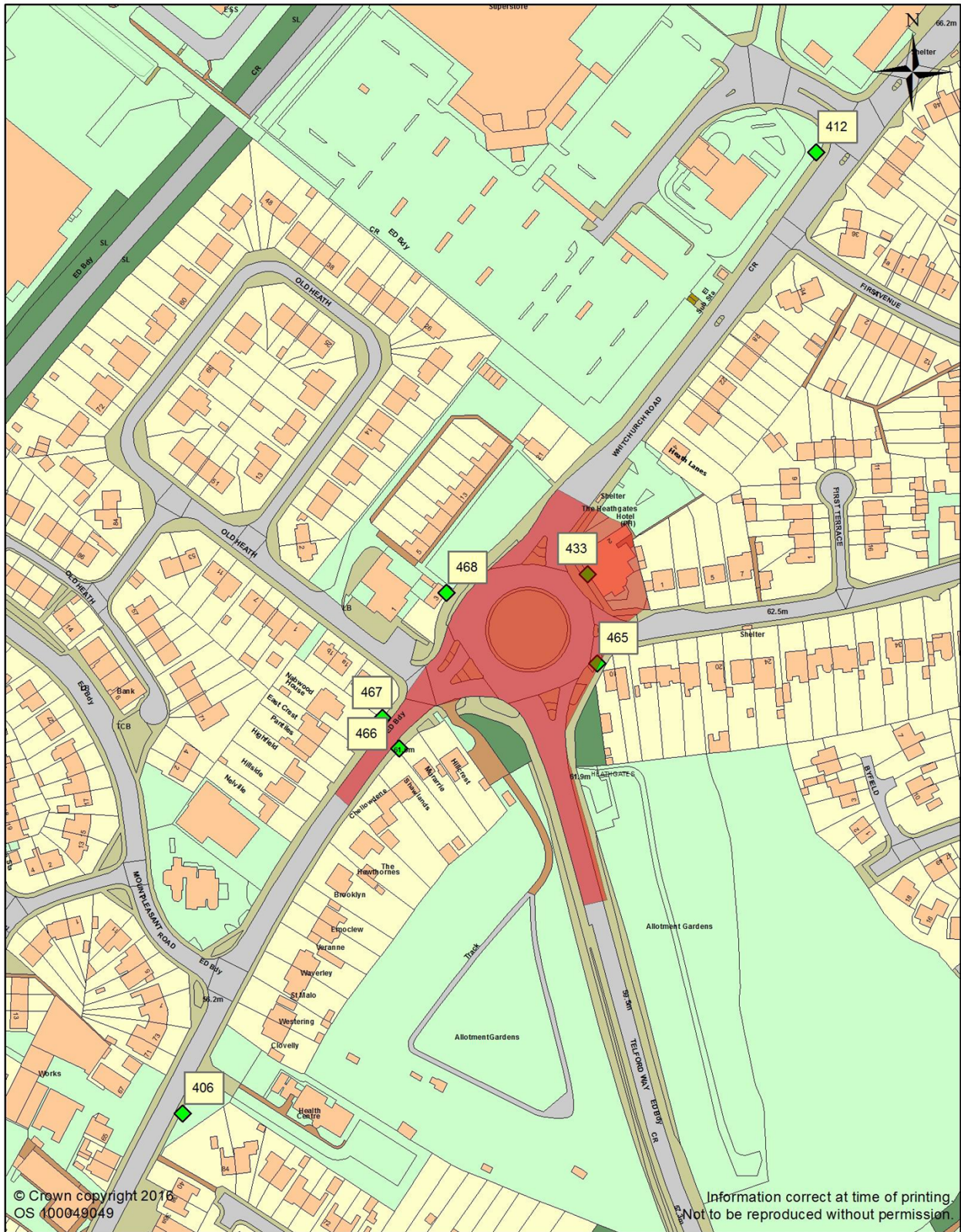
Shropshire Council, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by the Section 83(2)(b) of the Environment Act 1995 HEREBY makes the following order:-

- 3. This Order shall revoke the area known as **Shrewsbury No 2 AQMA** designated by Order in 2003 for likely breach of the annual mean nitrogen dioxide national objective level of 40µg/m<sup>3</sup> at relevant receptors. Maps of the air quality management area to be revoked is found attached below.
  
- 4. The Order shall come into force on .....

Dated:.....

Signed:.....

Map showing the location of Shrewsbury No 2 AQMA marked by the red shaded area.



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