

Local Authority:	Exeter City Council
Reference:	ASR19-0067
Date of issue	August 2019

Annual Status Report

The Report sets out the Annual Status Report, which forms part of the Review & Assessment process required under the Environment Act 1995 and subsequent Regulations.

Exeter City Council has one Air Quality Management Area AQMA; Exeter AQMA (2011) declared for exceedances of NO₂ annual mean and 1-Hour Mean air quality objectives (AQO). The AQMA has an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) that was published in 2018.

The Council undertook automatic monitoring of NO₂, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} at one continuous monitoring station and PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} at another continuous monitoring station in 2018. The council also undertook non-automatic NO₂ diffusion monitoring at 71 monitoring locations in 2018, an increase from 4 in 2017. Eight monitoring sites recorded NO₂ annual mean concentrations in excess of the annual Air Quality Objective (AQO) of 40 µg/m³ and all are located within the AQMA. Six are at locations of relevant exposure but two are not and once distance corrected to the nearest receptor, only one of them exceeded at the façade of the nearest receptor. The maximum annual mean concentration measured across the network was 61.68 µg/m³ at DT57 East Wonford Hill. The annual mean at DT57 was in exceedance of 60 µg/m³ suggesting that this monitoring location may also be in exceedance of the 1-hour mean AQO. There have been no exceedances of PM₁₀ objectives at either of the continuous monitoring sites. The number of sites where measured concentrations were above the objective has increased since 2016 however, 36 of the 67 sites in the Council recorded concentrations that were the same as 2016 or lower. The Council has acknowledged that hotspots of pollution still remain within the City and need to be addressed in the new AQAP. Despite the fact the AQAM boundary was originally created to encompass a larger area than just those that exceeded, the Council has no current plans to amend the AQMA and reduce the size of the AQMA area.

The Council have published their new AQAP in 2018 which include 17 new measures to tackle air quality. The main priorities for the Council in the coming year are to continue to progress the actions in the AQAP, Sport England Local Delivery Pilot programme, and to assist Devon County Council in the development of plans for the Heavitree corridor. There have also been ten new NO₂ monitoring locations installed in 2019 in areas of significant

Local Authority:	Exeter City Council
Reference:	ASR19-0067
Date of issue	August 2019

new housing development and in suburban areas to quantify pollution levels to which residents are exposed in typical housing locations.

The Council will be taking measures described in the AQAP that will address PM_{2.5} as well as NO₂. Approximately 60% of Exeter is designated as Smoke Control Areas and these designations are likely to restrict PM_{2.5} emissions in these areas. The Council has also updated their continuous monitoring sites in August 2018 to include PM_{2.5} monitoring.

QA/QC of monitoring data is shown in the report for bias adjustment (where the national factor is used) and annualisation and distance corrections were completed for monitoring sites where necessary

On the basis of the evidence provided by the local authority the conclusions reached are acceptable for all sources and pollutants, with the provisos listed in the commentary below.

Following the completion of this report, Exeter City Council should submit an Annual Status Report in 2020.

Local Authority:	Exeter City Council
Reference:	ASR19-0067
Date of issue	August 2019

Commentary

The report is well structured, detailed, and provides the information specified in the Guidance. The following comments are designed to help inform future reports.

1. In 2018 there have been exceedances of the annual mean NO₂ objective at eight diffusion tube sites within the AQMA. There is no exceedance of the hourly mean NO₂ objective, however at one site annual mean concentrations exceed the 60 µg/m³, the proxy for exceedance of the hourly mean objective. The Council has no current plans to amend the AQMA and reduce the size of the area it encompasses which is a decision that is supported.
2. The Council has published their new AQAP in 2018 that contains 17 new measures to tackle air quality. An update on the progress of these measures should be included in the next reporting year.
3. Annualisation calculations have been conducted for monitoring locations where necessary however, example calculations are not shown throughout the report and should be shown in future reporting years. For further guidance please refer to LAQM Technical Guidance 16 (TG16).
4. Distance correction calculations have been conducted for monitoring locations where necessary however, example calculations are not shown throughout the report and should be shown in future reporting years. For further guidance please refer to TG16.
5. Future reports should draw on the Public Health Outcomes Framework tools to provide better context as to the extent of PM_{2.5} emissions and the impact they have on the local population. For further guidance please refer to TG16.
6. The new template for 2019 was not used for the report and details such as the page footers say 2018 rather than 2019. Care should be taken to ensure the new reporting template is used and that typing errors are removed in future reports.
7. There have been four new diffusion tube sites added to the monitoring network in 2018 and a further ten have been added in 2019. It is encouraging to see that the Council is taking an active approach to reviewing and amending their monitoring program as necessary. This should be continued on a regular basis to ensure monitoring is taking place at all areas of potential exceedance at locations of relevant exposure.

Local Authority:	Exeter City Council
Reference:	ASR19-0067
Date of issue	August 2019

8. It is encouraging to see the council responding to the comments raised in the previous reporting year.
9. The Council have listed a number of measures and priorities for the next year and the council should provide an update on the progress of these in the next reporting year.

This commentary is not designed to deal with every aspect of the report. It highlights a number of issues that should help the local authority either in completing Annual Status Report adequately (if required) or in carrying out future Review & Assessment work.

Issues specifically related to this appraisal can be followed up by returning the attached comment form to Defra, Welsh Assembly Government, Scottish Government or DOE, as appropriate.

For any other queries please contact the Local Air Quality Management Helpdesk:

Telephone: 0800 0327 953

Email: LAQMHelpdesk@uk.bureauveritas.com

Local Authority:	Exeter City Council
Reference:	ASR19-0067
Date of issue	August 2019

Appraisal Response Comment Form

Contact Name:	
Contact Telephone number:	
Contact email address:	

Comments on appraisal/Further information: