Air Quality Strategy

2026 – 2031

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1 AN AIR QUALITY STRATEGY FOR STRATFORD-ON-AVON

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Clean air is vital for a good quality of life and wellbeing and for the environment in which we live. Currently poor air pollution is the greatest environmental risk to human health in the UK. Although air quality in Stratford on Avon is relatively good, Stratford-on-Avon District Council are committed to improving air quality across the district for those that live, work and visit here.

This Air Quality Strategy provides the overarching framework through which we will manage the quality of our air and reduce exposure to emissions within the District. The strategy aims to guide and inform Council policy and ensures a co-ordinated approach to continual improvement. The measures and actions in this document have been developed having regard to current legislation, national policy and other best practice documents relating to air quality.

As well as guiding and committing the Council to take steps to improve air quality in our District, our intention is that this strategy will inform residents, businesses and other stakeholders of the impacts of air quality and what actions they can take as individuals.

1.2 STRATEGY AIMS:

- Take decisions as a district local authority to improve air quality in Stratford on Avon and lead by example looking at our own services, assets and fleets
- To monitor and assess air quality across the District.
- ensuring compliance with legislation, which includes industrial process environmental permits, clean air and statutory nuisance control
- Reducing emissions from road transport, which including promotion of alternative and active travel and supporting low emission transport.
- Reducing emissions from wood burning and improving indoor air quality, which includes public information on domestic heating, damp and mould
- Managing emissions and pollution exposure from developments, which involves working with the planning system
- Raise awareness of air quality issues in our communities and encouraging behavioural change to benefit us all.
- Work closely with a range of partners, stakeholders and communities to improve local air quality
- To keep abreast of local, regional and national air quality issues including emerging concerns and changes to guidance and legislation.

1.3 HOW DOES THE AQS ALIGN WITH OTHER KEY POLICIES

1.3.1 SDC Council Plan 2023-2027

The Council plan sets out the vision for Council, outlining priorities for delivery and focus. This air quality strategy supports the following aims:

- To enable those living and working in the district to live more environmentally sustainable lifestyles
- To facilitate more opportunities for residents to use alternative modes of transport
- To ensure that development is meeting local needs, attractive, environmentally sustainable and fit for purpose
- To be a Local Authority leader in the reduction of our own carbon footprint
- To proactively foster partnership working with others to influence areas where the Council cannot deliver success alone

1.3.2 Climate Change Emergency

A Climate Emergency was declared by Stratford-on-Avon District Council in 2019 with councillors pledging to take local action to contribute to national carbon neutral targets through the development of practices and policies, with an aim to be carbon neutral in the District by 2030.

Air quality and climate change are sometimes viewed as two separate issues, particularly as air quality is generally assessed on a local scale, while the impacts of climate change are viewed in a global context. The two areas are however closely connected with many of the processes which release carbon and contribute to climate change also emitting other pollutants to the air which are harmful to health.

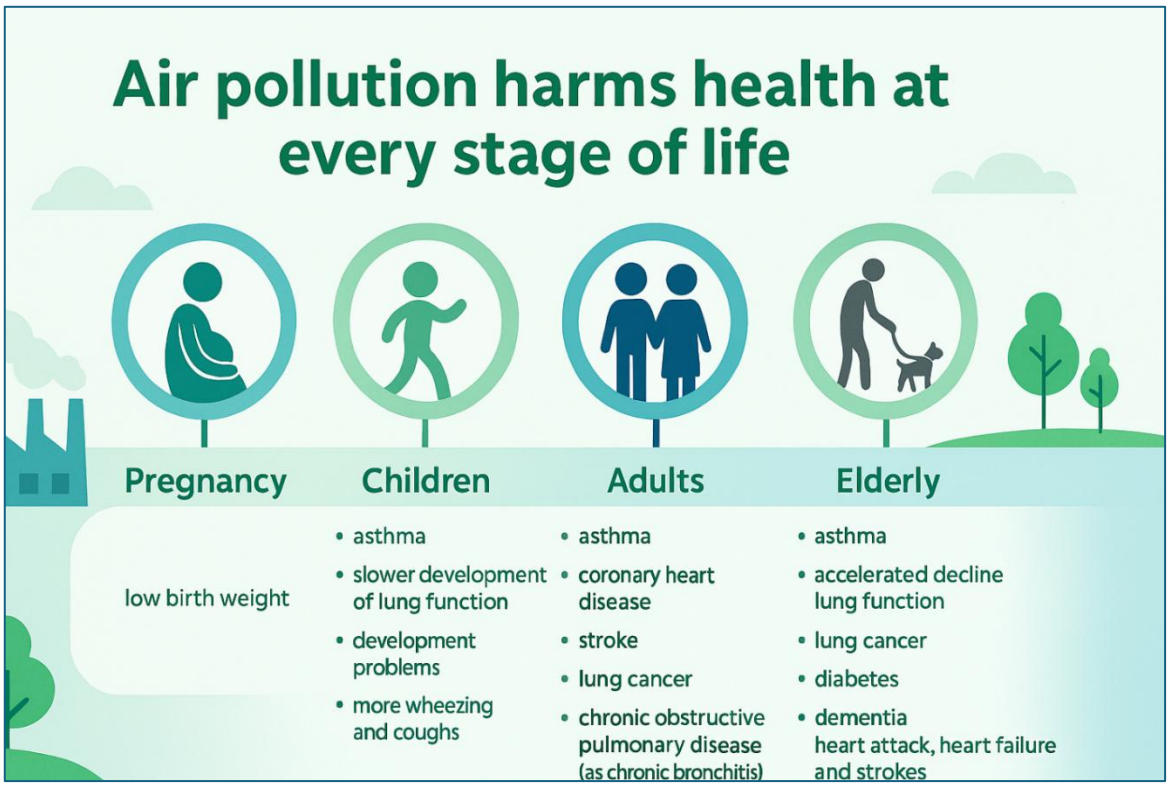
Many of the measures in this Strategy will share a co-benefit with climate change mitigation and adaptation measures, contributing both to reduction in greenhouse gases and an improvement in air quality.

2. WHY DO WE NEED TO IMPROVE AIR QUALITY?

2.1 AIR QUALITY AND HEALTH RISKS

Air quality is the term we use to describe how polluted the air we breathe is. Poor air quality is caused by pollution of the air by chemical and physical agents and is the largest environmental risk to public health in the UK[1].

Air pollution can affect anyone throughout their lifetime; those most vulnerable to health risks are children, the elderly, pregnant women and those with pre-existing health conditions, this is shown in the diagram below.



The World Health Organisation (WHO)[2] have shown that long-term exposure to air pollution can reduce life expectancy through impacts on lung, heart and circulatory conditions. There is also growing evidence that air pollution is associated with other long-term ailments which are related to reduced life expectancy such as stroke, lung cancer, respiratory conditions and cardiovascular disease, dementia, diabetes, and adverse pregnancy outcomes. Whilst air quality has improved in England over recent decades, it is estimated that man-made air pollution results in 28,000 – 36,000 deaths in the UK and costs the NHS £1.6 billion each year.

[1] https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/air-pollution-applying-all-our-health/air-pollution-applying-all-our-health

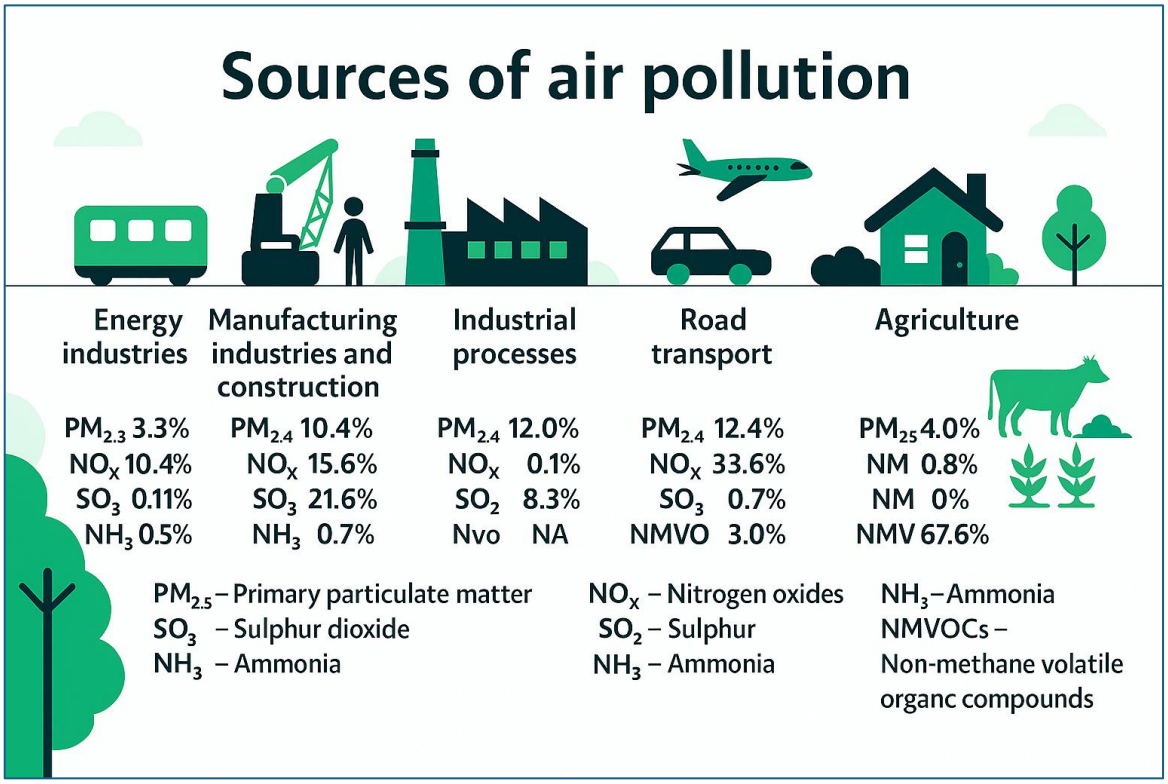
[2] https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/ambient-(outdoor)-air-quality-and-health

2.2 SOURCES OF AIR POLLUTION

Air pollution comes from many sources and can travel long distances, combining to cause local pollution levels. The UK government has committed to improve air quality by reducing air pollution emissions of 5 key pollutants:

- Particulate matter (PM or PM2.5)
- Nitrogen oxide (NO_x)
- Sulphur dioxide (SO_2)
- Ammonia (NH_2)
- Non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOCs)

The primary sources of air pollution within the UK are shown in the diagram below.



The two pollutants that currently have the greatest impact on health at current levels are particulate matter or 'particulates' (PM2.5 / PM10) and nitrogen oxides (NOx).

2.2.2 Particulate matter (PM)

Particulate matter is a generic term used to describe a complex mixture of solid and liquid particles of varying size, shape, and composition. The main sources of man-made PM are domestic wood and coal burning (38%), industrial combustion (16%), road transport (12%) and industrial processes (13%), however it can also come from natural sources such as pollen, sea spray and desert dust.

When reporting UK emissions, PM is classified according to particle size: PM10 refers to particles smaller than 10 micrometres in diameter, while PM2.5 refers to finer particles smaller than 2.5 micrometres. The tiny particles within PM2.5 are a

greater health risk because they can be inhaled deep into the lungs and transported around the body.

Recent trends in air pollution show that while there has been a steady decline in most outdoor air pollutants, PM2.5 has stalled in the last decade and is identified in the Chief Medical Officer's 2022 annual report as an area that needs particular attention

The Environmental Targets (Fine Particulate Matter) (England) Regulations 2023 introduced two new targets for PM2.5 in air. The two targets are designed to work together to drive actions that both reduce concentrations where they are highest and to reduce the overall pollution levels that everyone is exposed to.

	Interim target for 2028	**Legally binding target for 2040**
PM2.5 annual mean concentration	12 ug/m3	10 ug/m3
PM2.5 population exposure	22% reduction in exposure compared to 2018	35% reduction in exposure compared to 2018

2.2.3 Nitrogen Oxides (NOx)

Nitrogen Oxides are a group of gases that are predominantly formed during the combustion of fossil fuels, the main gas of concern in terms of air pollution is nitrogen dioxide (NO_2). The largest sources of NO_2 are road transport (30% in 2023), energy generation, such as power stations and refineries (19%), domestic and industrial combustion (23%) and 'other' transport such as rail and shipping (16%). Exposure to concentrations of NO_2 can cause inflammation of the airways and increase susceptibility to respiratory infections and allergens.

The national air quality objectives for NO_2 are as follows:

UK Legal target value	
Annual NO_2	40 ug/m^3
Hourly NO_2	50 ug/m^3

2.3 AIR QUALITY LEGAL FRAMEWORK

2.3.1 National Air Quality Strategy

In 2023 the Government introduced a national Air Quality Strategy[3] framework for local authority delivery which set out a framework for local authorities to deliver air quality improvement measures for their communities and to contribute

[3] Air Quality Strategy - Framework for local authority delivery

to national long-term air quality goals. The framework includes a particular focus on fine particulate matter (PM2.5).

The strategy sets out the responsibilities and expectations of local authorities in respect to air quality, in summary:

- Assess and report annually on the quality of air in their area and address any exceedances in their area through air quality management areas and action plans. This is completed as part of the Local Air Quality Management Framework[4]
- Take a proactive approach and preventative action to improve air quality through a local Air Quality Strategy
- Prioritise reduction of population exposure informed by monitoring and assessment to address any areas experiencing disproportionately high levels of pollution
- Contribute to achievement of the legally binding targets in The Environmental Targets (Fine Particulate Matter) (England) Regulations 2023.
- Integrate climate change mitigation and adaptation measures with measures which improve air quality.

2.4 AIR QUALITY IN STRATFORD-ON-AVON

Air pollution within the district is predominantly caused by road traffic emissions originating from major roads including the M40, A46. A3400, A422 and A4390 that pass through and around the area. Other sources include domestic burning, industrial processes and agriculture.

Within Stratford-on-Avon the fraction of mortality attributable to particulate air pollution is 4.6 which is lower than the Warwickshire figure of 5.1 and the national level of 5.2 (Coventry and Warwickshire Health Protection, 2025).

2.4.1 Air Monitoring

Stratford-on-Avon District Council monitor air quality within the District to ensure that concentrations are not exceeding national objectives and to track changes over time. Monitoring is undertaken in line with the requirements of the Local Air Quality Framework and DEFRA's best practice guidelines. The results are published annually and are available on our website[5]
We also own three AQMesh low-cost air quality sensors which monitor real time NO2 and PM levels. Data from these sensors is publicly available to review on the Council's website[6].

2.4.2 NO_2

Monitoring for NO_2 is undertaken using a network of diffusion tubes at 18 monitoring locations which are currently focussed in Stratford-upon-Avon and Studley where two AQMAs were declared. NO_2 levels continue to fall in the district with the maximum recorded concentration in 2025 being 25.6 ug/m^3 which is well below the national AQO of 40ug/m^3. The fall in NO_2 has resulted in the two AQMAs in the district being revoked in October 2025. Following the revocation of

[4] https://laqm.defra.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/LAQM-Policy-Guidance-2022.pdf
[5] Air Quality | Stratford-on-Avon District Council
[6] Air Quality Monitors | Stratford-on-Avon District Council

the AQMAs we will now be reviewing monitoring locations to provide wider coverage of the whole District rather than just focussing on Stratford and Studley.

2.4.3 Particulates and other pollutants

particulate matter, sulphur dioxide, ozone, carbon monoxide are measured at a national level by DEFRA through their Automatic Urban and Rural Network[7]. Data from the network is provided in real time to the public on their website[8]. There are 200 national sites, the closest sites to the district are in Leamington Spa and Worcester. SDC do not undertake specific monitoring due to the DEFRA data showing the AQOs are not close to being exceeded in the area.

The maximum predicted PM2.5 background concentration as measured by DEFRA is well below the current annual mean target of 20ug/m3 at 7.6ug/m3 which is a decrease of 3.2ug/m3 from 2023, bringing it below the mean target of 10ug/m3 which is to be achieved by 2040.

The air quality in Stratford-on-Avon is generally good with NO2 levels decreasing over recent years, however there is always room for further improvement. The introduction of new guidance and exposure reduction targets by the Government for particulate matter places further expectations on local authorities to implement measures to reduce air pollution in their areas.

[7] https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/networks/network-info?view=aurn

[8] Latest measured levels based on data provided by the Environment Agency - DEFRA UK Air - GOV.UK

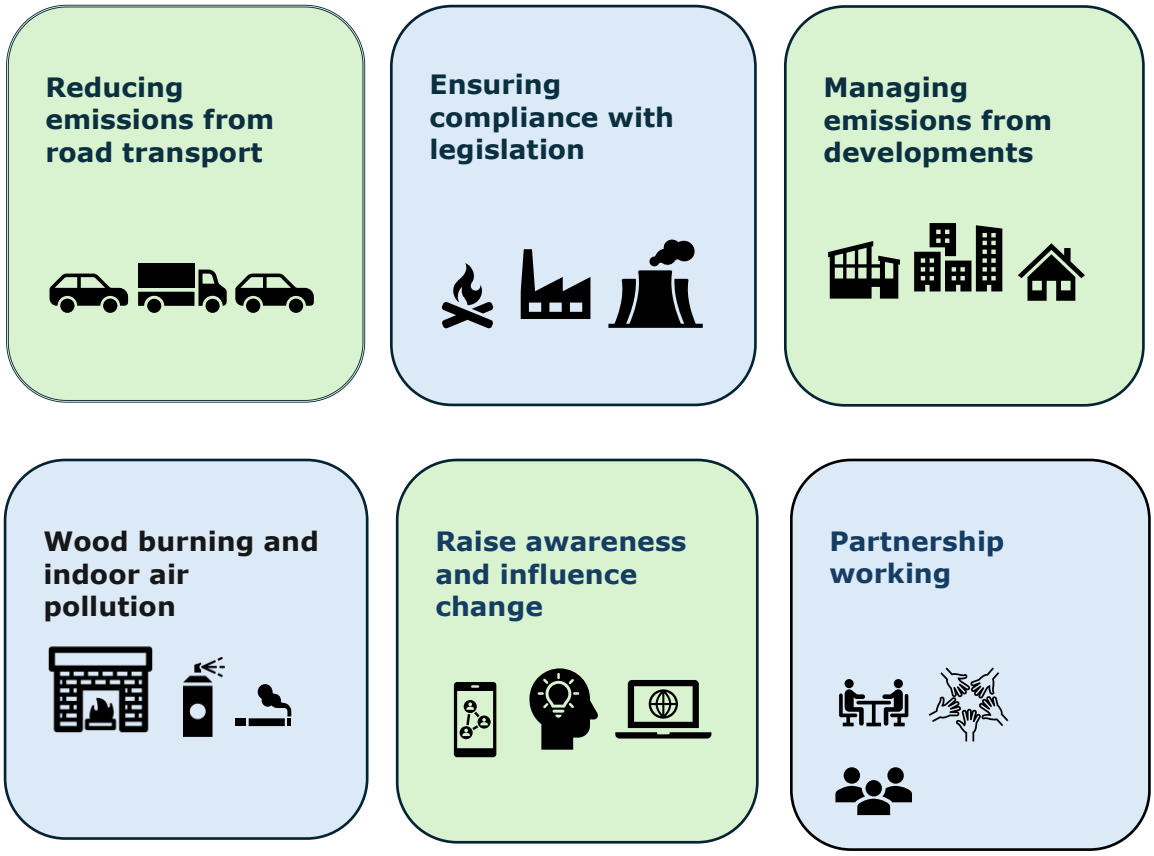
3.0 ACTION AREAS

This Air Quality Strategy focuses on six key action areas to improve local air quality and reduce pollution exposure across the district.

The identified areas draw on existing actions from other plans, policies and strategies as well as committing The Council to future and ongoing actions and goals to manage air quality for our residents.

The two-tier nature of Warwickshire means that some areas of action such as those relating to the transport network are the responsibility of Warwickshire County Council. How such measures relate to SDC are also included for completeness.

Strategy actions fall within the following six areas:



Further details of each action area and the commitments within each area can be found in the following chapters. A table summarising all key commitments within this air quality strategy can be found in Appendix 1.

4.0 REDUCING EMISSIONS FROM ROAD TRANSPORT.

NO_2 and CO_2 emissions are released from petrol and diesel vehicle exhausts, vehicles also create particulate emissions from brake and tyre wear, and road abrasion. The 2025 Annual Status Report identified road transport as the largest source of air pollution originating within Stratford on Avon. The road network is used by both by residents and workers on their day-to-day journeys and is seasonally impacted by tourism and visitors to the surrounding areas. In addition, car ownership in households in Stratford on Avon is higher than the national average, 87.2% compared to 78% respectively.

Air pollution from road transport is highest in urban areas, along roadsides and in areas of heavy traffic. As well as impacting residents who live close to busy roads, vehicle emissions also impact pedestrians, cyclists and also those inside of the vehicle.

Warwickshire County Council is the transport authority which covers Stratford-on-Avon, therefore working with WCC is critical to reducing emissions from transport.

4.1 WHAT WE ARE ALREADY DOING

4.1.1 Warwickshire Local Transport plan

The environment is one of the four key themes of the transport plan around which policy and interventions are designed[9]. Encouraging travel choices which contribute to Carbon Net Zero and leaving no negative impacts on our environment are encouraged in the following aims:

ACTIVE TRAVEL
Promoting the use of active travel to reduce emissions on short journeys and to promote mental and physical wellbeing

PUBLIC TRANSPORT
Promoting the use of public transport instead of private vehicles for medium and long journeys. Where possible to supply the necessary infrastructure

MOTOR VEHICLES
Where private vehicles are necessary for medium and long-distance journeys we want to promote the change to more sustainable modes such as zero-emission vehicles

Further details of the transport plan and current active travel schemes[10] can be found on the WCC website.

4.1.2 Electric vehicle charging points

In conjunction with WCC, SDC has rolled out a programme of charging points for electric vehicles across the district including in Arden Street car park; Bridgeway Multi-Storey Car Park; Church Street car park; Bulls Head Yard car park (Alcester) and Wood Street car park (Southam).

[9] https://api.warwickshire.gov.uk/documents/WCCC-1980322935-2491
[10] Active Travel schemes – Warwickshire County Council

4.1.3 Public transport

The use of public transport is promoted and supported with relevant links on the SDC website. Stratford on Avon District Council in conjunction with Warwickshire County Council continued to promote the free 'Park and Ride' initiative during 2024, which operates public bus service with circa 700 free parking spaces including designated Electric Vehicle (EV) bays to further encourage sustainable transport uptake.

4.1.4 Promotion of alternative transport for Tourists

SDC are part of the *Visit Shakespeare's England* tourist partnership. Low carbon, active and public transport methods are promoted on their website for visitors to the area.

4.1.5 Council services fleet

Contracts for waste collection, street cleansing and grounds maintenance require each provider to aim to be as close as possible to net zero carbon and zero air pollution by 2030. All waste collection vehicles use Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) grounds maintenance vehicles use a combination of HVO fuel and Aspen2 (petrol substitute) fuel while street cleansing vehicles are either electric or use HVO fuel.

4.1.6 E-cargo bike scheme:

A free e-cargo bike scheme was launched in 2022, aimed at encouraging businesses and organisations to use electric bikes instead of cars for local deliveries and everyday transport.

4.1.7 Taxi's

The current taxi policy requires all newly licensed vehicles to be less than 3 years old. Whilst this has primarily been introduced for safety reasoning, newer vehicles will by default have lower emissions and better environmental standards than older vehicles.

4.1.8 Trips by SDC employees

The council has adopted a flexible approach to working from home, additionally an increasing number of meetings and training with external agencies are undertaken online. Both measures reduce the number of road trips by employees for work purposes.

4.2 WHAT WE WILL DO NEXT

We will work with partners to encourage the shift to more sustainable and less polluting modes of transport through the following actions:

4.2.1 EV Charging

Further rolling out of EV charging points across the district, including SDC owned car parks. Progress will be reported in the annual Climate Change and Nature Recovery Delivery Plan.

4.2.2 Support sustainable and active transport schemes

We will continue to promote sustainable and active transportation options such as bus, rail, cycling and walking for residents, business and visitors

4.2.3 Taxi Licensing

Review the Taxi Licensing Policy, considering recommendations and incentives for electric and hybrid vehicles to limit emissions.

4.2.4 Lead by example – Council fleet procurement

Continue to incorporate emissions criteria when considering future Council fleet procurement and encourage the same with businesses and other organisations who work with or provide services for the Council. Encourage our staff to use most sustainable transport methods both for commuting and work visits.

5.0 ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

Stratford-on-Avon District Council monitor and regulate emissions that contribute to poor air quality through the Local Air Quality Management monitoring and assessment, The Environmental Permitting regime and the assessment of reports of nuisance smoke and dust emissions. These regimes cover emissions from many sources of air pollution including traffic, industrial premises and domestic burning.

5.1 WHAT WE ARE ALREADY DOING:

5.1.1 Local Air Quality Management (LAQM)
SDC monitor NO2 through a network of diffusion tubes in line with DEFRA's requirements and an annual status report is submitted approval. The annual review allows SDC to determine if any areas are exceeding national objectives and produce an action plan where required.

5.1.2 Industrial premises: Environmental Permitting
Local authorities regulate small industries which can cause air pollution under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016. Operators must obtain an environmental permit which sets out air quality standards and conditions of operation to limit harmful emissions. Once the permit is obtained, premises are regularly inspected to ensure compliance.

5.1.3 Statutory nuisance and anti-social behaviour
The council has a duty to investigate all complaints of statutory nuisance received from members of the public. These include emissions of smoke, fumes/gases and dust. We work with both domestic and commercial premises to discuss issues and assess whether emissions meet the legal definition of nuisance encouraging voluntary actions where possible. Where unreasonable impacts are established, formal enforcement powers can be used to require abatement or improvement actions if voluntary action cannot be agreed.

5.2 WHAT WE WILL DO NEXT:

5.2.1 Fulfil our statutory duties for local air quality management
We will continue to achieve this by:

- Maintaining a nitrogen dioxide monitoring network utilising diffusion tubes, reviewing locations each year.
- Undertaken an annual assessment to determine compliance with national objectives and take any further measures required.

5.2.2 Low-Cost Air quality sensors
We will review the most effective use of SDC's low-cost air quality sensors

5.2.3 Continue to regulate and inspect industrial premises within the district as required by the Environmental Permitting Regime.

5.2.4 The Clean Air Act 1993
Respond to reports of dark smoke within the remit of The Clean Air Act 1993.

5.2.5 Statutory Nuisance
Investigate and respond to complaints received by members of the public through the Statutory Nuisance regime

6.0 MANAGING EMISSIONS FROM DEVELOPMENTS

The planning system has an important role to play in improving air quality and reducing exposure to air pollution. This is through both the development of local planning policies and the determination of individual planning applications.

Air quality should be considered at the earliest stages of planning and design and is a material planning consideration; paragraph 187 of the National Planning Policy Framework states that new and existing development should not contribute to unacceptable risk from air pollution and where possible should help to improve local air quality.

Currently relevant new developments assess air quality at the application stage following guidance from EPUK and IAQM. Mitigation is required when a scheme is likely to lead to an exceedance of a legal limit. New interim guidance[11] on planning which includes the need to assess PM2.5s has been published, the approach in this guidance ensures that appropriate mitigation measures are implement from the design stage to reduce population exposure even when limits are not exceeded.

6.1 WHAT WE ARE ALREADY DOING

6.1.1 AQ planning guidance

An air quality Supplementary planning document[12] (SPD) and associated guidance for developers was adopted in 2019. This sets out the requirements for assessment of air quality as part of planning applications in line with government guidance. The level of health assessment and mitigation required to prevent detrimental impacts from individual developments is explained.

6.1.2 Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure

SDC also have a Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure SPD[13] which provides guidance on achieving a good standard of biodiversity and green infrastructure in new development. The benefits of green infrastructure include provision of safe walking and cycling networks and the improvement of local air quality

6.1.3 Climate Change SPD

The Climate change adaptation and mitigation SPD[14] also contributes to the improvement of air quality through guidance on areas such as sustainable transportation, vehicle charging, energy efficiency and sustainable home heating and power production.

6.1.4 Construction Management

A Construction management plan (CMP) template[15] has been published on the SDC website which includes detailed recommended measures for developers to control dust and odour as well as emissions from generators on building sites. Developers are encouraged to use the template or include measures in line with its contents in their own CMPS.

[11] PM_{2.5} Targets: Interim Planning Guidance - DEFRA UK Air - GOV.UK
[12] Development Requirements SPD Part R - Air Quality
[13] PART N Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure.pdf
[14] Development Requirements SPD: Part V - Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation
[15] Construction Management Plan template April 2022.pdf

6.2 WHAT WE WILL DO NEXT

6.2.1 Update the Air Quality SPD

Environmental Health and Licensing will review the current AQ SPD to ensure it is up to date with current guidance and policy including interim guidance on PM2.5s.

6.2.2 Assessment of planning applications

We will continue to assess planning applications for air quality impact to ensure developments, wherever possible secure improvements to or mitigate their impacts on air quality

6.2.3 Working with planners on future policies

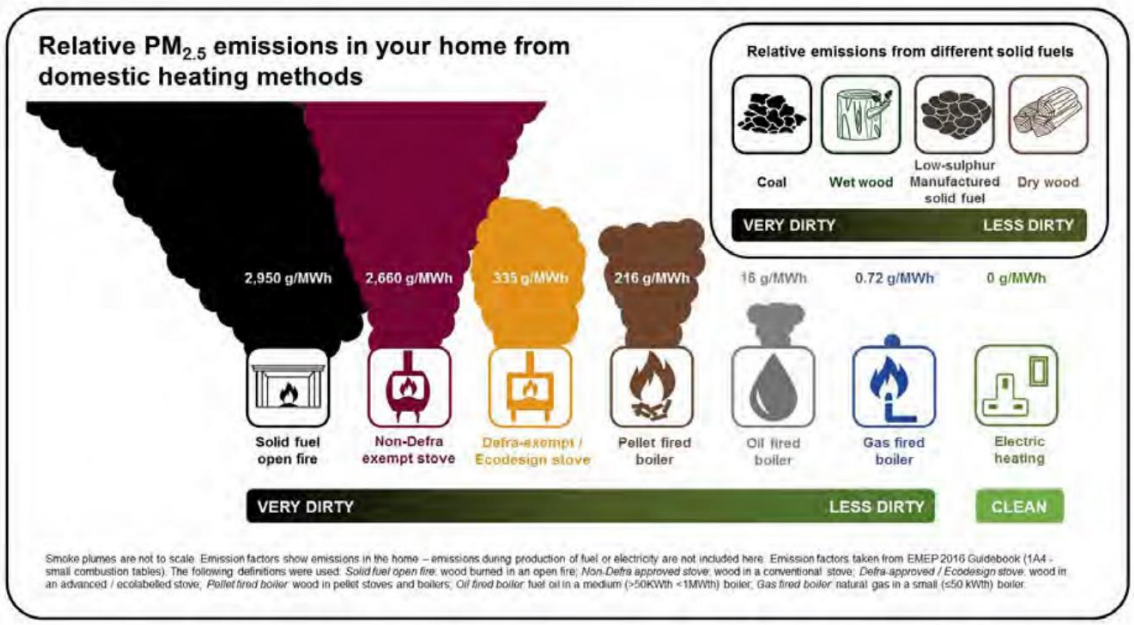
Ensure that any future planning policy considers air quality and incorporates relevant policies wherever appropriate.

7.0 WOOD BURNING AND INDOOR AIR QUALITY

Many people are unaware that emissions in the home increase personal exposure to pollutants and contribute significantly to our overall national emissions. People spend 80 – 90% of their time indoors, whether that's at home, in school or workplaces. This means that poor indoor air quality can have a significant impact on our health, wellbeing and quality of life. Sources of indoor pollution in a home include emissions from household products, cooking, damp and mould and smoking.

In addition to the above sources one of the largest sources of emissions from homes which contributes to both indoor and outdoor air quality are the use of wood burning stoves and other solid fuel using appliances.

Wood burners have become a popular method of heating our homes. In some households wood burners are the primary source of heating, however the majority of households use them in addition to a central heating system. Multiple studies have shown that wood burners can increase PM2.5 levels drastically within indoor spaces and are also the biggest source of outdoor PM2.5 in the UK. Not all stoves are equal however in terms of emissions as demonstrated in the figure below.



Whilst SDC advocate not using wood burning stoves unless absolutely necessary, if they are used, our advice for reducing the air quality and health impacts of burning wood in your home is:

BURN CLEANER

Burn cleaner fuels such as authorised fuels or dry, well-seasoned wood with low moisture content

BURN BETTER

Use efficient low emission appliances, service and clean them regularly

BURN DIFFERENT

If possible, switch heating source to no or low emission fuels, such as renewable, electric or gas

Further information can be found here Burn Better, Breathe Better: Reduce the negative impact your stove or open fire can have on your health - DEFRA UK Air - GOV.UK,

7.1 WHAT WE ARE ALREADY DOING

7.1.1 Clean Air Night

We regularly promote Global Action Plan's annual Clean Air Night on the Council's social media channels. The aim of the night is to educate members of the public about the health risk and air quality impacts associated with the use of wood burning stoves.

7.1.2 Housing advice on damp and mould

Following the introduction of new government guidance on Damp and Mould in 2023, the SDC Housing team has produced a Damp and Mould Action plan and has increased information provided to both the public and landlords on the SDC website and in paper form at a number of locations in the district[16].

7.1.3 Improving energy efficiency

Ensuring an efficient and sustainable method of heating your home reduces harmful indoor air pollution and energy costs. Transitioning to more energy efficient heating methods can be expensive. Advice and information on current initiatives to support this can be found on the SDC website[17].

7.2 WHAT WE WILL DO NEXT

7.2.1 Raise awareness of the impact of wood burners and other solid fuel appliances

We will use our website and social media channels to raise awareness of the impact of wood burners and provide information on proper usage practices to reduce their impact.

7.2.2 Provide information on alternatives to wood burning

We will look for opportunities to provide accessible, reliable information for any resident considering alternatives to wood burners to minimise their air quality impacts and climate footprints

7.2.3 Damp and Mould Action Plan

Continue to implement the Damp and Mould Action Plan within the Private Sector Housing team

[16] Microsoft Word - Damp and Mould Plan 2024.docx

[17] Energy & Warmth | Stratford-on-Avon District Council

8.0 RAISE AWARENESS AND INFLUENCE CHANGE

Every person can make changes which can help our air quality. In order to do this it is important that residents, community organisations and businesses in the District have access to good quality, reliable information. This will enable people to make informed decisions around behavioural changes they can make to reduce air pollution they or their family members are exposed to.

Behaviour change and awareness relates to many of the areas already addressed in this strategy including transport and wood burning. In additional to previously listed measures, we have identified additional actions to support this action area.

8.1 WHAT WE ARE ALREADY DOING

8.1.1 Community Climate and Nature Fund

A Community Climate Change Fund (CCCF) was established by The Council in 2023 to enable the delivery of climate change focussed projects within the communities of Stratford-on-Avon District. Successful projects to date include the installation of an air source heat pump at Snitterfield Village Hall and assistance with a solar panel system in Shotteswell Village Hall. Further Information can be found here Community Climate and Nature Fund | Stratford-on-Avon District Council

8.2 WHAT WE WILL DO NEXT

8.2.1 Produce a dedicated air quality website

We are committed to making it easier for our residents to access important air quality information. We plan to produce a single webpage dedicated to providing information, resources and links to all things air quality. This will provide an easily accessible resource to inform and sign post residents to raise awareness and influence behaviour change.

8.2.2 Community engagement

The Council will seek to engage with local community groups on air quality issues to provide helpful information to encourage behaviour change.

8.2.3 Engage with local schools

We will engage with local schools and work with the County Council to educate young people on the changes they can make to improve air quality and promote sustainable transport to school projects such as bicycle buses and car sharing.

8.2.4 Continue to participate and promote national and local awareness programmes

We commit to continuing to promote national campaigns and local initiatives such as Clean Air Day and active travel schemes

9.0 PARTNERSHIP WORKING

Reductions in air pollution can only be achieved with co-operation, collaboration and commitment from a range of national and local stakeholders as well as members of the public.

Partnership working allows the sharing of information to increase knowledge and understanding of local issues and allows the pooling of resources to achieve greater effectiveness and efficiencies.

9.1 WHAT WE ARE ALREADY DOING

9.1.1 Coventry and Warwickshire Air Quality Alliance

We are part of the Coventry and Warwickshire Air Quality Alliance. This is a group of local authority officers from Environmental Health, Transportation and Public Health who meet quarterly to share information and best practice and achieve a collaboration approach to improve air quality across the region.

9.1.2 Working with WCC Public Health to produce air quality literacy training for Council members and officers

We are currently part of a group of local authority officer producing training materials to improve air quality literacy across the Warwickshire Councils. This is part of a wider public health environmental behaviour change plan

9.2 WHAT WE WILL DO NEXT

9.2.1 Seek out new opportunities for partnership working

We will seek opportunities for partnership working at all levels, including continuation of existing partnerships and co-operative working across departments at Stratford-on-Avon District Council. To Include:

- Continued membership with Coventry and Warwickshire Air Quality Alliance
- Liaison and Co-operation with Warwickshire Public Health
- Working with planning in respect to production of new air quality and planning guidance
- Liaison with SDC Climate Control team to investigate shared opportunities
- Work with housing sector to minimise domestic sources of pollution

9.2.2 Working with WCC

Increase communication with transportation services at WCC to improve and review the effectiveness of the NO2 diffusion tube network to focus monitoring on high risk heavy traffic areas.

10.0 Monitoring and Review

Monitoring and review is essential to track the performance of the actions set out in this strategy and ensure accountability. Responding to air quality challenges in an iterative process which can change due to variation in circumstance, legislation and guidance. The monitoring and review process is essential to enable a prompt and effective response to the air quality challenges in the District and will allow for continued improvement.

The Air Quality Strategy will be subject to an in-depth review every five years to assess progress and reflect and update necessary actions. Progress on the detailed actions in the strategy as well assessment of on-going monitoring and compliance with national objectives will be reported in our Annual Status Report submitted to DEFRA and made available on the SDC website.

Appendix 1 Air Quality Strategy Commitments

Action Area	Key commitments
Reducing Emissions from Road Transport	Further provision of EV charging points in conjunction with WCC
	Support and promote sustainable and active transport schemes
	Consideration of promotion of electric and hybrid vehicles as part of the Taxi Policy
	Consideration of emissions criteria when procuring new Council fleet
Ensuring compliance with legislation	Fulfil statutory LAQM duties
	Review the effective use of SDC low-cost air quality sensors
	Regulate and inspect industrial premises under The Environmental Permitting Regime
	Respond to reports of dark smoke under the Clean Air Act 1993
	Investigate and response to complaints of statutory nuisance
Managing emissions from development	Review and update the air quality supplementary planning guidance
	Assess planning applications for air quality impacts and mitigation requirements
	Work with planners to influence future policy in respect to AQ
Wood burning and indoor air quality	Raise awareness of the impact of wood burners and other solid fuel appliances
	Provide information on alternatives to wood burning
Raising awareness and influencing change	Produce a dedicated air quality website
	Seek opportunities for community engagement
	Engage with local schools
	Continue to participate and promote national and local awareness programmes
Partnership working	Seek out new opportunities and maintain existing partnership working relationships

If you find the text in this booklet difficult to read we can supply it in a format better suited to your needs.

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