

# Chichester District Council

CABINET

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## Rumbolds Hill, Midhurst Air Quality Management Area Public Consultation

### 1. Contacts

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### 2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That Cabinet approves in principle the proposed Air Quality Management Area, as illustrated in Appendix 1, in line with the Council's statutory Local Air Quality Management duties.
- 2.2 That Cabinet authorises commencement of a public consultation exercise regarding the proposed Air Quality Management Area.

### 3. Background

- 3.1 Local authorities have a statutory duty to designate those parts of their areas, where any of the nationally prescribed Air Quality Objectives (AQO) are not being achieved or likely to be achieved, as Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA). This applies only to those locations where members of the public might reasonably be exposed. Under Section 83(1) of the Environment Act 1995, local authorities have to designate these AQMA's 'by means of an order'.
- 3.2 The Council has been measuring Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) at Rumbolds Hill, Midhurst since 2015 and recorded non-compliance with the UK annual mean Objective for NO<sub>2</sub> every year. The monitoring data is presented in the Council's statutory 'Annual Status Report 2019'. The Council has recently commissioned computerised air quality modelling for Rumbolds Hill which suggests borderline compliance with the standard until 2025. Nevertheless, good quality monitoring data is always considered of more value than modelling data as evidence of non-compliance with AQO.

### 4. Outcomes to be Achieved

- 4.1 Subject to the subsequent declaration of the AQMA the outcome will be the integration of actions to improve air quality at Rumbolds Hill into a revised Air Quality

Action Plan in 2020.

## 5. Proposal

- 5.1 Given the assessed likely continued non-compliance with the relevant AQO then the declaration of an AQMA is necessary. The proposed area to be covered by the AQMA is shown on the map in Appendix 1.
- 5.2 The consultation period will be four weeks and the list of consultees is identified at Appendix 2.

## 6. Alternatives Considered

- 6.1 Where authorities have evidence that air quality fails an AQO then declaration of an AQMA is a statutory duty. The monitoring data at Rumbolds Hill is unequivocal in suggesting that the declaration AQMA is necessary. As such no alternatives are considered appropriate.

## 7. Resource and Legal Implications

- 7.1 The AQMA consultation, declaration and related revised AQAP are within existing staff resource and financial resources.
- 7.2 Under Section 83(1) of the Environment Act 1995, local authorities have to designate AQMA's 'by means of an order' where any of the prescribed AQOs are not likely to be met.

## 8. Consultation

- 8.1 A full list of consultees is at Appendix 2.
- 8.2 The consultation period will be for four weeks. The results of the consultation will be included in a future report to Cabinet which will include the draft order for declaration of the AQMA.

## Community Impact and Corporate Risks

- 9.2 The proposed declaration of the Rumbolds Hill AQMA is a statutory duty for the District Council. Nevertheless the matter relates to local traffic emissions where WSCC are the relevant Highway Authority. Options for improving air quality in this location will be the subject of future discussion with WSCC nevertheless the AQMA declaration does not guarantee any significant intervention.

## 9. Other Implications

	Yes	No
<b>Crime and Disorder</b>		✓
<b>Climate Change and Biodiversity</b> Once the AQMA is declared then the related AQAP will propose measures to improve air quality in the AQMA. Measures that tackle air pollution generally have a positive impact in tackling	✓	

climate change.		
<b>Human Rights and Equality Impact</b>		✓
<b>Safeguarding and Early Help</b>		✓
<b>General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)</b>		✓
<b>Health and Wellbeing</b> Actions proposed to tackle air pollution and emissions have a positive impact on health and wellbeing. Non-car modes of travel such as cycling and walking are well documented to be beneficial in relation to a wide range of physical and mental health issues. Reduced emissions are directly linked to lower exposure to pollution and a wide range of beneficial health and environmental effects.	✓	
<b>Other</b> (please specify)		✓

## 10. Appendices

Appendix 1: Proposed geographic extent of the Rumbolds Hill AQMA.  
Appendix 2: List of consultees.

## 11. Background Papers

None