

Chichester District Council

THE CABINET

10 January 2023

Grant for Air Quality Analyser

1. Contacts

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2. Recommendation

- 2.1. That Cabinet approve the receipt and expenditure of DEFRA grant awarded for air quality monitoring (£26,400) as described in paragraph 3.2 below.**

3. Background

- 3.1 The District Council has an air quality monitoring station at the A27 Stockbridge Roundabout, Chichester where particulate matter known as PM10 is monitored. The Environment Act 2021 has now moved the focus on air quality to include very small particulates, called PM2.5 with the Act introducing new air quality targets for PM2.5.
- 3.2 In December 2022, officers were advised that a Sussex Air bid for DEFRA Air Quality funding had been successful, with £26,400 being awarded to the District Council for a dual PM2.5 and PM10 particulate analyser. Sussex Air is a collective of Sussex local authorities delivering air quality work. Through Sussex Air, a purchase price of £26,400 for the analyser was secured which was valid until 30 December 2022. Approval of the expenditure is now required from Cabinet and officers will seek to secure the analyser at this price.
- 3.3 The grant award includes installation costs and consumables for the 1st year. Servicing and maintenance are not included in the grant, but existing service budget covers this as the new dual filter will replace the current PM10 analyser.

4. Outcomes to be achieved

- 4.1 The new monitoring equipment will enable the Council to continue to monitor PM10 but also introduce the monitoring of PM2.5. The monitoring results will be reported to DEFRA on an annual basis to enable Government to report on the new national air quality targets.
- 4.2 The data will also enable the council to continue to evidence air quality standards which are integral to developing actions in the Council's approved Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP).

5. Proposal

- 5.1. To receive and authorise the spend of the DEFRA grant to fund a dual analyser for PM10 and PM2.5 for the A27 Stockbridge Roundabout Air Quality Monitoring Station.

6. Alternatives considered

- 6.1. By not accepting the grant, the Council will continue to monitor PM10 but will be unable to monitor the new binding air quality target for PM2.5 or report levels via the annual monitoring return to DEFRA. This option is not recommended.

7. Resource and legal implications

- 7.1 The work arising from the installation of the analyser and the on-going monitoring can be managed within existing resources.

8. Consultation

- 8.1 None.

9. Community impact and corporate risks

- 9.1 Air quality is a key aspect of public health and locally, there is significant public interest in the local air quality. There is a corporate risk should the council not be able to report on the air quality targets arising from the Environment Act 2021.

10. Other Implications

	Yes	No
Crime and Disorder		x
Climate Change and Biodiversity		x
Human Rights and Equality Impact		x
Safeguarding and Early Help		x
General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)		x
Health and Wellbeing		x
Other (please specify)		x

11. Background Papers

None

12. Appendices

None