

Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) in Merseyside

Knowsley MBC

AQMAs

No AQMA's have yet been declared within Knowsley.

Main pollutants of concern and contributory sources in Knowsley

Road traffic sources - particularly on the M57 which contains a high percentage of heavy goods freight traffic on its way to the Port of Liverpool which contributes to levels of nitrogen dioxide and PM10.

Nitrogen dioxide is emitted from numerous Industrial sources across the Borough.

Liverpool CC

AQMAs

An update screening assessment (USA) in November 2006 identified six hotspots outside the existing two AQMA's that required a detailed assessment (DA). The detailed assessment was undertaken in April 2007 and four sites were confirmed as requiring declaration as they would fail to meet the national standard for Nitrogen Dioxide.

Taking into consideration the conclusions of both the USA (2006) and the DA (2007), Liverpool City Council (LCC) decided that a citywide declaration would be the best way forward.

Since 2008, LCC has declared the whole of the city and its boundaries as an AQMA, and we have undertaken a Further Assessment for this newly declared AQMA.

The latest USA in 2009 concluded that LCC is not required to carry out any Detailed Review and Assessments for nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, benzene, 1,3-butadiene, lead or Sulphur dioxide.

The USA did indicate however that Nitrogen Dioxide concentrations will exceed the national air quality objective of 40 µg/m³ at most of the locations where the monitoring by diffusion tubes took place in 2008.

Therefore the USA 2009 concluded that LCC have proceeded correctly by declaring the whole of the city and its boundaries as an AQMA.

As a result of the city wide declaration, the original Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) developed in 2005 as a result of the original AQMA declarations has been reviewed and updated. The updated AQAP was sent to Defra for approval in November 2010 and has since been accepted by Defra. This document is now in the public domain.

Main pollutants of concern and contributory sources in Liverpool

Poor air quality exists in terms of nitrogen dioxide throughout the city but particularly the north of the city is affected by various sources including road transport – especially buses, LGVs and HGVs, congestion due to poor traffic management and sheer volume of traffic, freight movement and to a lesser extent industrial sources.

Sefton MBC

AQMAs

The 2008 Detailed Assessment Update concluded that it would be necessary to declare three AQMA's in Sefton at the following locations:

- An AQMA for nitrogen dioxide based around the location of the junction of the A5036 Princess Way with the A565 Crosby Road South in Seaforth.
- An AQMA for PM₁₀ and nitrogen dioxide based around the location of the junction of the A5058 Millers Bridge with the A565 Derby Road in Bootle.
- An AQMA for PM₁₀ based around the location of Waterloo Primary School, Crosby Road North in Waterloo along a section of the A565.

The 2009 USA concluded that it would be necessary to carry out a Detailed Assessment for nitrogen dioxide at three locations

- Hawthorne Road, Litherland (opposite KFC).
- South Road, Waterloo (at the junction with Crosby Road North next to the Liver Hotel)
- The junction of Litherland Road with Marsh Lane, Bootle.

The Detailed Assessment concluded that it would be necessary to declare AQMAs at South Road and Hawthorne Road and the process of declaration is underway

Main pollutants of concern and contributory sources in Sefton

Air quality in the Millers Bridge and Princess Way AQMAs is affected by the high numbers of heavy goods vehicles travelling to and from the Port, which contribute to elevated levels of nitrogen dioxide and PM₁₀. Fugitive dust emissions from industrial processes within the Port also contribute to elevated levels of PM₁₀ in the Millers Bridge AQMA.

The most important influence on the Crosby Road North AQMA and the two new AQMAs is thought to be the volume of general traffic.

St Helens MBC

AQMAs

Monitoring data in the 2008 Progress Report identified an exceedance at Southworth Road, and also an exceedance at High Street, Newton-le-Willows. After discussions with DEFRA, it was decided that these two areas should be declared as Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA's). The orders were made on the 30th April 2009.

AQMA Number 1 is an area 70m either side of the M6 motorway, which encompasses 2 residential properties at Park Cottages and 5 residential properties on Southworth Road (declared on elevated nitrogen dioxide).

AQMA Number 2 is along the High Street, Newton-le-Willows and encompasses both residential and business properties directly fronting the road. The carriageway is less than 10m and several properties are less than 5m from the kerbside (declared on elevated nitrogen dioxide).

Furthermore, St Helens Councils Updating and Screening Assessment (USA) 2009 and monitoring undertaken across the Borough, showed potential exceedences of the annual mean nitrogen dioxide objectives at six locations.

Subsequent detailed assessments have been undertaken and it is possible that up to two further AQMA's will be declared in the near future, whilst the remaining four areas included in the detailed assessment will be subject to further diffusion tube monitoring.

Main pollutants of concern and contributory sources in St Helens

The main source for the M6 AQMA is believed to be the volume of traffic and HGVs on the M6 contributing to elevated NO₂ levels.

For the High Street, the cause is a combination of the volume of traffic and the street canyon effect with properties close to the kerbside.

For the areas currently being considered by the detailed assessments, the causes are varied and include traffic volume, standing traffic/congestion and traffic management issues, and street canyon effects.

Wirral MBC

AQMAs

There are currently no AQMA's declared in Wirral.

Main pollutants of concern and contributory sources in Wirral

The main pollutant of concern in Wirral is nitrogen dioxide along heavily trafficked arterial routes.