

FINANCE & PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

12th September 2023
Answers to Questions from the meeting

PERFORMANCE MONITORING – QUESTIONS (minute 2023/24 14).

from the Head of Regulatory Services and Community Safety regarding the location of Air Quality Management Areas, whether the air quality had improved in Loughborough Town Centre since pedestrianisation, and decreased in Shepshed since the opening of the incinerator

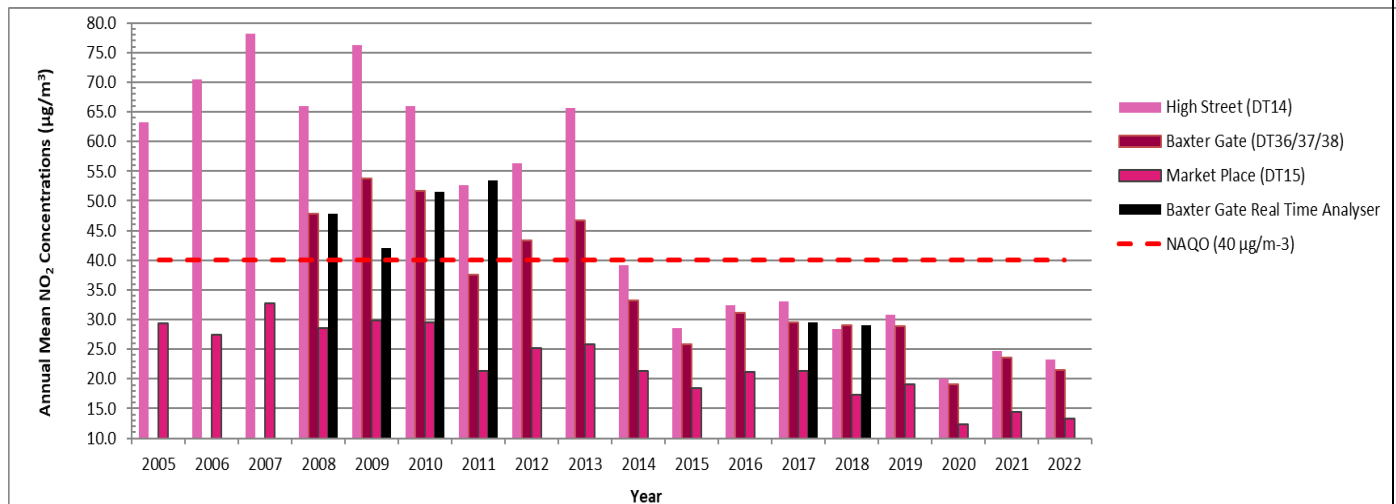
Officer/Cabinet Lead Member (Blackshaw) response:

Our air quality data is available in our LAQM Annual Status Report (ASR) for 2023 on our website at <http://www.charnwood.gov.uk/pages/airpollution> This report summarises our monitoring for 2022.

The National Air Quality Objective for Nitrogen Dioxide (NO_2) is an annual mean of $40 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. The report confirms that NO_2 concentrations (the main pollutant associated with motor vehicles) were compliant with the national NO_2 Air Quality Objectives for all monitoring locations across Charnwood.

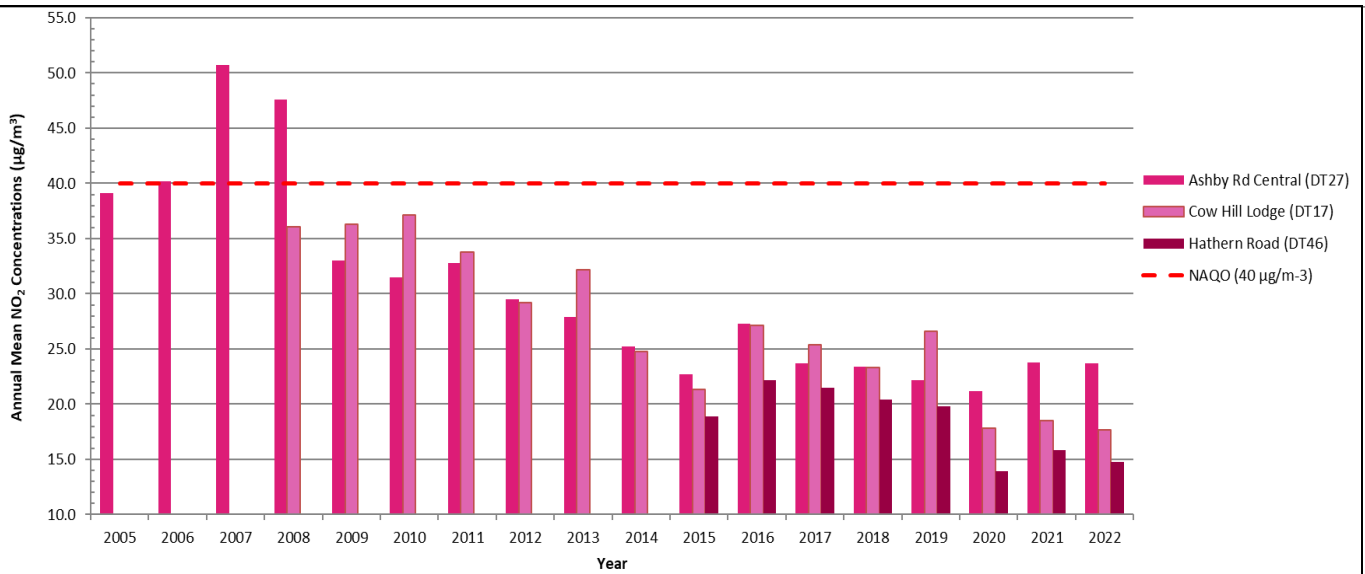
Specifically for Loughborough, the Graph below show the trend in annual mean NO_2 concentrations measured in the town centre following the opening of the inner relief road in November 2014.

As can be seen, NO_2 levels have decreased significantly being above the annual mean objective before the inner relief road opened and compliant with the annual mean objective since 2014.



Plot of NO_2 Concentration against Year for Loughborough Town Centre sites

Trends in annual mean NO_2 concentrations for Shepshed are shown in the graph below and also show a decrease.



Plot of NO₂ Concentration against Year for Shepshed sites

Additional monitoring is now being undertaken around the incinerator using a continuous sensor to monitor PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} concentrations. This unit has been located to the east of Shepshed / M1 J23 towards Loughborough. There is not yet enough data to plot any long-term trends since the incinerator opened. We therefore have no evidence to suggest that air quality has decreased.

The mean concentrations for particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) obtained so far, can be summarised as follows:

Air Quality Objective	2022	2023 YTD
Annual mean [PM _{2.5}] = 20 µg/m ³	11.24	8.18
Annual mean [PM ₁₀] = 40 µg/m ³	13.28	11.98
No. Of exceedance of 24-hour mean [PM ₁₀] = 50 µg/m ³ [x35 permitted annually]	2	0

from the Income Officer / Head of Finance why the quarterly collection rate for sundry invoices in Q1 was below target by 30%.

Officer/Cabinet Lead Member (Ashcroft) response:

Response provided separately to the Committee – EXEMPT - It is recommended that members of the public be excluded from this information on the grounds that they will involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 and it is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

from the Head of Contracts, Leisure, Waste and Environment further details regarding the number of open spaces outside of Loughborough that are maintained by the Council or parishes.

Officer/Cabinet Lead Member (A Gray) response:

- a. The number of CBC owned open spaces inside Loughborough = 607 (a list is available upon request)
- b. The number of CBC owned open spaces outside Loughborough = 640 (a list is available upon request)

The Council doesn't hold a complete set of records for open spaces owned by other bodies within the Borough.

COUNCIL ASSETS UPDATE (minute 2023/24, 15).

from the Director of Housing and Wellbeing as to why two garage sites / parking areas were not in the Garage Site Review.

Officer/Cabinet Lead Member (Hamilton) response:

The draft document considered sites with the potential for building 4 or more properties on them. The sites at Church Lane (5 garages) and Martin Court (2 garages) were therefore noted in the summary of sites, however due to their relatively small size a more detailed appraisal was not undertaken. It is likely the garages at Martin Court will fall substantively under the review of sheltered accommodation, rather than the review of garage sites.

REVENUE MONITORING POSITION (minute 2023/24, 16)

From the Director of Finance, Governance and Contracts/Insurance officer to provide details of insurance cover for cyber-attacks.

Officer/Cabinet Lead Member (Ashcroft) response:

Response provided separately to the Committee – EXEMPT - *It is recommended that members of the public be excluded from this information on the grounds that they will involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 and it is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.*