



HEALTH SOCIAL CARE & WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 5TH DECEMBER 2017

SUBJECT: HAFOD-YR-YNYS AIR QUALITY ACTION PLAN

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR, SOCIAL SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the development of the Hafod-yr-ynys Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) and presents the final draft AQAP.
- 1.2 To seek any views and recommendations on the Hafod-yr-ynys Air Quality Action Plan prior to presentation to Cabinet.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 This report provides information on the progress of the production of the Hafod-yr-ynys AQAP and presents a final draft of the document for acceptance by members of the committee.
- 2.2 The national nitrogen dioxide air quality objectives are being exceeded at receptor locations on Hafod-yr-ynys Road. The local authority is required to designate any area failing the national air quality objectives as an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and produce an AQAP which details measures to bring the pollutant back within acceptable limits.
- 2.3 The draft AQAP for Hafod-yr-ynys has recently been through a public consultation process. The 21 responses that were received are included at Appendix 2. The final draft AQAP has been updated in light of consultation responses received and is attached at Appendix 1. The consultation responses received have not altered the overall content of the plan, however minor amendments have been made.
- 2.4 Members are asked to consider the draft Hafod-yr-ynys AQAP and provide any views and comments prior to presentation to Cabinet for approval.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) is a statutory requirement. Addressing air quality contributes to the Healthier Caerphilly and Greener Caerphilly priorities within the Caerphilly Local service Board single integrated plan, Caerphilly Delivers.
- 3.2 Addressing air quality contributes to the following Well-being goals within the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015:
 - A prosperous Wales
 - A resilient Wales
 - A healthier Wales
 - A more equal Wales
 - A Wales of cohesive communities
 - A globally responsible Wales.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 All local authorities are required by the Environment Act 1995 to review and assess air quality within their area for present and future years. Previous reports to the Health, Social Care and Well-being Scrutiny Committee have provided information on the air quality monitoring being undertaken within Hafod-yr-ynys. Under the provisions of the Environment Act 1995, the Government has established a set of national objectives for specific pollutants having regard to scientific and national evidence on the effects on health. Local Authorities are required to carry out reviews to determine whether there is compliance with these objectives and if there is not, to incorporate management controls to improve air quality bringing it within the acceptable levels.
- 4.2 The Hafod-yr-ynys Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) was declared in November 2013 following a Detailed Assessment which confirmed that monitoring results were continuing to fail the air quality objective for nitrogen dioxide. A Further Assessment report was undertaken and submitted to Welsh Government in April 2015. Further air quality monitoring, modelling, and assessment has been undertaken following completion of the £1.3 million Crumlin Junction improvements.
- 4.3 An air quality steering group meeting was held with residents of Hafod-yr-ynys and key stakeholders on 9th March 2017 where officers of the authority discussed the contents of the draft action plan. The draft air quality action plan consultation process commenced in June 2017 and concluded on the 31st August 2017. The Council received 21 responses to the consultation which are summarised in Appendix 2 attached to the report. There were no recommendations to remove any proposed options, however the merits of the suggestion from Public Health Wales that the introduction of a low emission zone be considered are still being assessed.
- 4.4 Welsh Government have recommended that the authority undertake further traffic and air quality monitoring within the area to better refine the air quality model. It is accepted that more detailed air quality and traffic data will bring a better understanding of the current exceedance situation, not only in terms of overall source apportionment, but in terms of the emission profile linked to specific vehicle classes. Consequently, additional nitrogen dioxide diffusion tubes have been placed in the locality and options for an additional continuous air quality monitoring station are also being explored. An emissions monitoring survey has recently been undertaken with a view to providing an analysis of the vehicle types/numbers giving rise to the greatest concentrations. Proposals for a more detailed traffic survey including detailed speed, queue lengths and fleet composition are also being developed together with a wide scale origin and destination survey to understand the vehicle users of the route and how behaviour could change as a result of potential measures.
- 4.5 The Action Plan is a living document and actions will be subject to review as and when required. As monitoring and actions progress, updates will be provided to residents, key stakeholders and Welsh Government. Environmental Health are working very closely with Welsh Government officials in respect of this project to ensure that any actions progressed in this area not only improve the air quality and subsequently public health, but also complement the national NO₂ Plan for the UK, in which Hafod-yr-ynys and Cardiff feature.
- 4.6 Members are asked to consider the draft Hafod-yr-ynys AQAP and provide any views and comments prior to presentation to Cabinet for approval.

5. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

- 5.1 Local Air Quality Management contributes to the Well-being Goals as set out in Links to Strategy above. The service's activity in this regard is consistent with the five ways of working as defined within the sustainable development principle in the Act in that it is focussed on preventing harm to public health. The service follows a statutory process in relation to Local

Air Quality Management and uses a range of strategies, activities and interventions that ensure an integrated and balanced approach to service delivery. This process seeks to balance the need for proactive intervention programmes with the need to promote, educate and inform both key stakeholders and the public; collaborating with them to promote and improve air quality over the long term.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no equalities implications arising directly from this report.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. However as you will note from the table of options within the action plan, significant internal and external investment will be required to take some of the larger infrastructure options forward. The additional traffic counts, air quality monitoring and modelling work will be realised utilising existing Environmental Health revenue budgets as far as possible and support is also being sought from Welsh Government.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no personnel implications associated with this report.

9. CONSULTATIONS

9.1 The report has been sent to the consultees listed below and all comments received have been reflected within the report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider and make any recommendations to Cabinet on the draft Hafod-yr-ynys AQAP attached at Appendix 1.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 (1) To mitigate any potential impacts on health and to comply with the statutory obligations on the Local Authority.
- (2) To ensure that the Local Air Quality Management process is progressed effectively.

12. STATUTORY POWER

12.1 The Environment Act 1995 s.83.1.

Author: Maria Godfrey, Team Leader Pollution Control & Emergency Planning
Consultees: Cllr Eluned Stenner, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Environment
Cllr Lyndon Binding, Chair of Health Social Care & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee
Cllr June Gale, Vice Chair of Health Social Care & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee
Cllr Mike Davies, Local Ward Member – Crumlin
Cllr Carl Thomas, Local Ward Member - Crumlin
Dave Street, Corporate Director, Social Services

Rob Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection
Social Services Senior Management Team
Ceri Edwards, Environmental Health Manager
Lisa Lane, Corporate Solicitor
Anwen Cullinane, Senior Policy Officer (Equalities and Welsh Language)
Mike Eedy, Finance Manager
Shaun Watkins, HR Manager
Dean Smith, Principal Engineer
Marcus Lloyd, Deputy Head of Programmes
Tim Stephens, Development Control Manager
Rhian Kyte, Strategic Planning Team Leader

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Final Draft of Hafod-yr-ynys AQAP

Appendix 2: Summary of Consultation Responses