



CAERPHILLY TOWN CENTRE COMMITTEE MEETING - 16TH FEBRUARY 2012

SUBJECT: AIR QUALITY UPDATE CAERPHILLY TOWN CENTRE

REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 Report for information only updating Members on air quality in Caerphilly Town Centre

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Council are currently investigating an area of Nantgarw Road that is failing the annual air quality objective for nitrogen dioxide.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 Links with the Caerphilly borough Community Strategy under the strategic theme of the Living Environment.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 As mentioned in the previous update to the Town Centre Management Group in September 2011, the Council are currently investigating an area of Nantgarw Road that is failing the annual air quality objective for nitrogen dioxide. At present continuous monitoring data is being gathered to inform a Detailed Assessment Report for this area. A minimum of 6 months continuous monitoring data is required to run the air quality model, which will predict the extent of the area that is failing the air quality objective. This information will then be used to define the boundaries of the new extended Caerphilly Town Centre Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). Data gathering in the Nantgarw Road area commenced during late September, so provided there are no equipment failures, the Council will be in a position to pass continuous data to our consultants (AEA) towards the end of March. The consultants have indicated that the report will take approximately 8-10 weeks to complete.

On receiving the completed Detailed Assessment report for Nantgarw Road, the Council will then need to extend the current AQMA, based on the report's recommendations to include any new areas failing the air quality objective. Any residents affected by the extension of the AQMA will be consulted prior to the new (extended) AQMA being declared.

The Council's Air Quality Action Plan is still currently on hold pending the Nantgarw Road Detailed Assessment report. Once the Detailed Assessment report is received, a meeting of the Air Quality Steering Group will be convened and the Action Plan can be completed for submission to Welsh Government.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Not defined.

6. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 None arising.

7. CONSULTATIONS

7.1 Not defined.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 Report for information only, but should any of the management group wish to discuss air quality in Caerphilly Town Centre further, then the author would be more than happy for them to contact her.

9. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Report to be noted.

10. STATUTORY POWER

10.1 Not defined.

Author: Maria Godfrey (Environmental Health Officer), Email: godfr@Caerphilly.gov.uk