

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AIR QUALITY STRATEGY****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to obtain Health and Wellbeing Board support for the Nottinghamshire Air Quality Strategy 2019-2029.

Information and Advice

2. Poor air quality is the largest environmental risk to public health in the UK. It shortens lives and reduces quality of life, particularly amongst the most vulnerable, the young and old, and those living with health conditions. There are 1000s of cases of respiratory and other diseases contributing to 217 years lived in disability per 100,000 residents, and 609 years of life lost per 100,000 residents in Nottinghamshire¹ that can be attributed to air pollutants. There are no safe levels of air pollution and any reduction will have a positive impact on local health & wellbeing. We can reduce this health impact and burden through coordinated action to reduce local emissions.
3. This new Nottinghamshire Air Quality Strategy 2019-2029 follows on from the previous air quality strategy for the county ["A Breath of Fresh Air"] developed in 2008 through the Nottinghamshire Environmental Protection Working Group (NEPWG). The issue of the impact of air pollution on health and wellbeing was previously brought to the attention of the Board in 2014 resulting in the development of a JSNA chapter. The new strategy was developed in 2018-2019 by a task and finish group comprising local Public Health, Environmental Health, Planning and Transport officers from Nottinghamshire including Nottingham City building on consultation and development work across system partners to refresh the strategy in 2016 through NEPWG.
4. The strategy is intended to cross local authority and other geographical boundaries to cover the whole of Nottinghamshire and Nottingham City as air pollution emitted in one area can affect people residing in neighbouring areas, and pollution is also emitted as people and goods move across and between areas. The strategy is structured with a vision, aims, objectives and cross cutting principles using an evidence-based framework which considers the NICE guidance and quality standard on air quality, Public Health England guidance and the national Clean Air Strategy 2019 and the NHS Long Term Plan. It is also in line with 2016 policy guidance in relation to the Environment Act 1995 which recommends that local authorities work together to develop local air quality strategies. The strategy period is proposed over 10

¹ Vs 205 years lived in disability per 100,000 & 525 per 100,000 in England. Estimated rate in 2017 from the Global Burden of Disease Study.

years to align with Local Development Plans, but would be reviewed periodically as new evidence develops and local circumstances change.

5. This Air Quality strategy is aligned with the Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2022 Ambitions, as action to improve air quality will help children have a good start in life and help achieve healthy and sustainable places. It also needs to be enacted through healthier decision making and will help reduce the burden on health and care services. Action on air quality is also aligned with the specific priorities of increased physical activity (through active travel) and utilising the planning system to improve health and wellbeing. Action on air quality also has wider co-benefits including those associated with mental wellbeing, economic development and climate change mitigation.
6. The Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board can play an important leadership role in ensuring that improving air quality is a high priority issue and all board organisations contribute to the delivery of the strategy. Table 1 lists a range of actions that board member organisations can make measurable improvement in, in relation to the Air Quality Strategy objectives.

Table 1 Example Actions that Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board members can make measurable improvements in to contribute to the Nottinghamshire Air Quality Strategy

Strategic Objective	Organisations	Action
1. Place making and Development for Good Air Quality	County Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring air quality considerations are incorporated into minerals plans and development management procedures. Working with planning authorities on transport related mitigations to air quality issues in relation to residential and commercial development. Providing Public Health Advice in relation to air quality in the planning process. Encouraging transfer to lower emission vehicles through the provision of electric vehicle charging infrastructure and promotional activities (for residents and businesses).
	District and Borough Councils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring air quality considerations are incorporated into local plans and development management procedures. Ensuring sustainable transport opportunities are integrated within plan-making and development proposals. Encouraging transfer to lower emission vehicles through the provision of electric vehicle charging infrastructure and promotional activities (for residents and businesses).
	NHS England CCGs/ICSSs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring NHS sites are planned to have minimal impact on local air quality.
	Healthwatch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate the development of places that have improve air quality and protect high risk groups from the health effects of air pollution.

2. Enable the Shift to Zero and Low Emission Transport & Reduce Emissions	County Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As transport authority, prioritise infrastructure improvements and transport service and system developments that enable shift to zero and low emission forms of transport. • Encourage and enable staff to travel to and from and at work by zero and low emission transport. • Transition to zero and low emission vehicle fleets. • Incentivise zero and low emission vehicle fleets through contracts. • Support the shift to zero and low emission forms of transport through the public health grant and through public health policy and technical advice.
	District and Borough Councils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equip and enable Environmental Health teams to monitor road vehicle emissions and lead on related action. • Encourage and enable staff to travel to and from and at work by zero and low emission transport. • Encourage and enable staff during their work duties to travel by zero and low emission transport. • Transition to zero and low emission vehicle fleets. • Incentivise zero and low emission vehicle fleets through contracts.
3.	NHS England CCGs/ICSSs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage and enable staff to travel to and from work by zero and low emission transport. • Enable and encourage patients and visitors to travel to and from NHS sites by zero and low emission transport. • Require NHS Trusts and other providers to transition to zero and low emission vehicle fleets in line with the NHS Long Term Plan. • Incentivise zero and low emission vehicle fleets through contracts.
	Healthwatch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage and enable staff to travel to and from and work by zero and low emission transport. • Encourage and enable staff during their work duties to travel by zero and low emission transport. • Advocate low and zero emission transport for patients.
	Police and Crime Commissioner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage and enable staff to travel to and from and at work by zero and low emission transport. • Encourage and enable non-reactive staff during their work duties to travel by zero and low emission transport. • Support the police to transition to zero and low emission vehicle fleets.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incentivise zero and low emission vehicle fleets through contracts.
4. Reduce, Minimise and Prevent Emissions from Industrial, Commercial, Agricultural and Domestic Sources and activity	County Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move to zero and low emission energy sources and invest in energy efficiency for facilities, buildings and premises. • Provide public health advice to environmental permitting pertaining to air quality impact.
	District and Borough Councils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through Environmental Health regulate, inspect and enforce action that ensures compliance with environmental permits. • Through Environmental Health enforce legislation to minimise emissions from commercial and domestic fuel. • Move to zero and low emission energy sources and invest in energy efficiency for facilities, buildings and premises. • Facilitate energy efficiency measure in social housing and enable residents to have alternatives to polluting solid fuel.
	NHS England CCGs/ICSSs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support NHS sites to phase out heating from coal and oil fuel in line with the NHS Plan. • Move to zero and low emission energy sources and invest in energy efficiency in NHS buildings.
	Police and Crime Commissioner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move to zero and low emission energy sources and invest in energy efficiency for facilities, buildings and premises.
5. Engagement and Communication for Behaviour Change	County Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable residents to make informed choices about their travel and transport and infrastructure improvements. • Support health and care staff to advise their clients and patients about air pollution risk. • Ensure social care staff working with high risk groups are aware of air pollution risk and advice. • Ensure public health initiatives that enable people to be more active, promote active travel.
	District and Borough Councils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support awareness raising, and behaviour change campaigns to staff and the public.
	NHS England CCGs/ICSSs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure front line staff that work with high risk groups in primary, community and secondary care can provide advice on what to do when air quality is poor.
	Healthwatch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help raise awareness for high risk groups on what people can do if they are concerned about air pollution.

Other Options Considered

7. No other options were considered.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

8. Although we know air pollution places a significant burden on the health and wellbeing of Nottinghamshire residents it is not an explicit priority in the Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2022. The Health & Wellbeing Board is well placed to oversee and lead on action around air quality in Nottinghamshire. It is therefore recommended that local action on air quality is monitored through the board's structures. This should not be a significant administrative burden as a specific air quality governance group will be established to coordinate and monitor the detailed action in the strategy. But a reporting mechanism back to the Health and Wellbeing Board will be beneficial to help unblock any issues as well as celebrate successes.
9. The organisations that make up the board can make a significant contribution to air quality as described in table 1. Therefore, board members should ensure that where relevant corporate, departmental and service plans are aligned with the air quality strategy.

Financial Considerations

10. The recommendations of this report will be financed through existing resources.

Statutory and Policy Implications

11. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1. To endorse the Nottinghamshire Air Quality Strategy 2019-2029.
2. To ensure that delivery of air quality strategy is aligned with the delivery of the Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy and is monitored through the Healthy and Sustainable Places group.
3. For Health and Wellbeing Board members to ensure that their organisations are delivering actions that contribute to deliver the Air Quality Strategy.

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (AK 13/5/2019)

12. The recommendation falls within the remit of the Health and Wellbeing Board by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (DG 13/05/2019)

13. There are no specific financial implications arising from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Nottinghamshire Environmental Protection Working Group (2008). [A Breath of Fresh Air for Nottinghamshire. An Air Quality Improvement strategy for the next Decade](#)

Nottinghamshire Health & Wellbeing Board, July 2014. [Report of the Director of Public Health. Air Quality and Health: delivering longer, healthier lives in Nottinghamshire County.](#)

Nottinghamshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (2015) [Air Quality Chapter](#)

See additional references in the Nottinghamshire Air Quality Strategy document.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

See also Chairs Report items:

2. National Clean Air Day 20 June 2019 – good news!
45. Improving outdoor air quality and health: review of interventions.