

Uttlesford District Council



Saffron Walden Air Quality Draft Action Plan

Appendix 4 to draft air quality action plan : report on the public consultation

May 2016



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1. Executive summary

In common with many other market towns with growing populations, Saffron Walden suffers from traffic congestion and associated air pollution. Local authorities are required to assess air quality within their districts, and if any air quality objective is not likely to be achieved an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) to cover the affected area must be declared. An Action Plan must then be developed outlining measures aimed at improving air quality and maintain levels below the objective for the 5 year life of the plan.

UDC last produced an Air Quality Action Plan in 2009. Subsequent to further monitoring, a larger air quality management area has been designated to cover the central area of the town.

A further draft Action Plan has now been produced. This was made available to residents and statutory consultees who were asked to comment on the plan and the proposed measures which aim to reduce pollution levels within the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA).

In order to obtain as wide a body of opinion as possible the consultation was made available as an online survey and as paper feedback forms which could be collected from a number of points across the district. The consultation was additionally included as part of the Spring 2016 survey distributed to members of the council's dedicated citizens panel.

Air Quality Action Plan

Below is a list of the Air Quality Action Plan measures proposed by Uttlesford District Council.

Further information is available in the draft Air Quality Action Plan document. Links to the full document and to sections of the Action Plan which relate to the questionnaire may be found on the Uttlesford District Council website at: www.uttlesford.gov.uk/aqconsultation

Alternatively, paper copies of the draft Air Quality Action Plan may be viewed at the Council Offices in Saffron Walden, the Community Information Centres at Great Dunmow Library and at 7 Town Street, Thaxted.

Q1 For each Action Plan measure, please answer if you agree that the measure will be effective in improving air quality in Saffron Walden (Please select one option for each measure).

	Yes, I agree	No, I disagree	No opinion
1.To develop new policies where needed or transfer existing policies to the new Local Plan* which will seek to minimise the impact of air quality on the health of local communities and the environment. (*The Local Plan provides the basis for all planning decisions within the district.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.To produce a publicly available Technical Guidance document for air quality.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.To work with Essex County Council (ECC) to facilitate the provision of new cycle/pedestrian routes and cycle storage, and promote the routes available.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.To increase cycle storage on Uttlesford District Council (UDC) land in Saffron Walden where practical to do so.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.To assist ECC in working with local schools and businesses in the review and upgrading of existing travel plans or to assist individual schools or businesses to develop and promote those plans.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.To support the extension of phone signal coverage and broadband service to all parts of the district and enable improved access to superfast broadband.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.To carry out further work with ECC Highways to provide a scheme of measures aimed at improving junction capacity as part of the Local Plan, once adopted.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Results summary

The results from all consultation streams have been combined to provide an overview of public and statutory consultee opinion of the Saffron Walden Air Quality Draft Action Plan.

For the purposes of the consultation, residents and statutory consultees were asked to comment on these actions, which focus on improving transport infrastructure, encouraging residents and businesses to reduce car use or switch to non-car travel, and encouraging the uptake of low emission vehicles, amongst other proposals. The coalesced results across all survey strands - from the public, statutory consultees and the Citizens Panel survey - are given below:

Results priorities

Action plan measures

Consultees were asked to agree or disagree with a basket of 22 proposed measures. Overall all measures received approval, although for some there were also a relatively high levels of disapproval registered. The three most popular measures and the corresponding least popular ones are ranked in the tables below.

Most popular proposed measures	Yes, I agree	No, I disagree	Opinion difference
13.To support ECC in their work with bus service providers to offer integrated and accessible services, high quality facilities, and a frequent and reliable service linked to the rail service at Audley End. Information on Public Transport services to be readily available in UDC buildings and via the website.	87.13%	4.78%	+82.35%
18. To encourage ECC to set standards for new and existing buses under contract operating within the town.	83.21%	7.30%	+75.91%
19.To work with the operators of fleet vehicles within the town to facilitate the introduction of low emission vehicles.	82.35%	7.72%	+74.63%

Least popular proposed measures	Yes, I agree	No, I disagree	Opinion difference
9.To support targeted enforcement of parking restrictions on main routes through the town centre.	48.72%	40.66%	+8.06%
8.To work with ECC to reduce congestion by a range of measures ahead of the adoption of the Local Plan. These measures to include potential changes to junction configurations and signal controls, control of parking measures on main routes through Saffron Walden, and access into the centre of the town by HGVs.	48.18%	43.43%	+4.75%
16.To consider the provision of preferential charging for UDC controlled parking spaces for vehicles meeting low emission standards.	46.15%	37.00%	+9.15%

Those responding to the consultation were additionally asked to submit supporting comments on a number of points. A large number of open text responses were received and these are reported in full in an Excel workbook which is available separately. The headline results as indicative of the opinion expressed by the largest number of those who responded to each of these question areas are given below.

Percentage is based on number of participants who submitted a response to Q2 in Public Air Quality Survey and Q 3 in Citizens Panel Survey. Note that some respondents included several categories of response in their comment. Consequently the percentages do not add up to 100%

Comment area	Headline comment summary (top three by percentage return)
Q2 If there are further measures that you would like to see included to reduce emissions from traffic, please provide details	Restrict housing development (10.7%) Disagree with proposals (10.1%) Stop housing development on east side (10.1%)

Percentage is based on number of participants who submitted a response to Q3 in Public Air Quality Survey and Q4 in Citizens Panel Survey. Note that some respondents included several categories of response in their comment. Consequently the percentages do not add up to 100%

Comment area	Headline comment summary (top three by percentage return)
Q3 If there are further measures that you would like to see included to reduce exposure to air pollution, please provide details	Improve cycling facilities (21.51%) Improve public transport (15.05%) Ban HGVs from town centre (12.09%)

Percentage is based on number of participants who submitted a response to Q4 in Public Air Quality Survey and Q5 in Citizens Panel Survey. Note that some respondents included several categories of response in their comment. Consequently the percentages do not add up to 100%

Comment area	Headline comment summary (top three by percentage return)
Q4 If there are further measures that you would like to see included to encourage walking, cycling and use of public transport, please provide details	Improve public transport (28.80%) Improve/promote cycle paths (26.40%) Develop footpath access to Audley End (4.00%) and [Improve] Pavements and crossings (5.60%)

Percentage is based on number of participants who submitted a response to Q5 in Public Air Quality Survey and Q6 in Citizens Panel Survey. Note that some respondents included several categories of response in their comment. Consequently the percentages do not add up to 100%

Comment area	Headline comment summary (top three by percentage return)
Q5 If you have read the draft document, in your opinion, does the report contain sufficient information in a format which is readily understood by the public? If "No", please explain	Confusing language (21.5%) Not enough detail (16.9%) Insufficient clarity (13.8%)

Percentage is based on number of participants who submitted a response to Q6 in Public Air Quality Survey and Q7 in Citizens Panel Survey. Note that some respondents included several categories of response in their comment. Consequently the percentages do not add up to 100%

Comment area	Headline comment summary (top three by percentage return)
Q6 If you have any other relevant comments including views or information on the costs and benefits related to the proposed measures, please provide details	Comments too widely spread to report a headline via. See Excel workbook of comments which is available separately.

Results priority analysis

The previous Air Quality Action Plan, approved in 2009, contained a different set of outputs making direct comparison between consultation feedback on that document and this current draft plan difficult. The results of the present consultation are accordingly taken as standing alone and as a direct reflection of the document that was put before public and statutory consultees.

Action Plan measures:

Across the whole body of measures approved there was general approval with no headline result indicating overall disapproval or abstention. There was, though, in a number of cases some significant concern raised with a number of the measures and this is reflected in the relatively high negative feedback which, in many cases is reflected in the open text responses.

Overall, opportunities to work collaboratively with Essex County Council and other providers to integrate buses and sustainable vehicles into the transport network received the most support. Measure 13 “To support ECC in their work with bus service providers to offer integrated and accessible services, high quality facilities, and a frequent and reliable service” received the greatest general support with 87.13% of respondents agreeing with it. This was closely followed by measure 18 “To encourage ECC to set standards for new and existing buses under contract operating within the town” which warranted 83.21% support and measure 19 “To work with the operators of fleet vehicles within the town to facilitate the introduction of low emission vehicles” (82.25% support).

By comparison, proposals to enforce parking restrictions, reduce congestion and preferential charging for low emission vehicles all received relatively low levels of approbation. Measure 16 “To consider the provision of preferential charging for UDC controlled parking spaces for vehicles meeting low emission standards” was given only 46.15% support and measure 8 “To

work with ECC to reduce congestion by a range of measures ahead of the adoption of the Local Plan” gained just marginally more with 48.18%. Similarly, measure 9 “To support targeted enforcement of parking restrictions on main routes through the town centre” was approved by 48.72% of respondents.

Those measures that received low levels of support also saw a correspondingly high proportion of those offering an opinion voicing their disapproval for the proposed actions. So, measure 8 saw 43.43% disagreement; measure 9 40.66% and measure 16, was not supported by 37.00%.

Additional comments

Those responding to the consultation were additionally asked to submit supporting comments.. A large number of open text responses were received and these have been analysed and grouped thematically to provide a hierarchy or coalesced opinion. For each of the five open text comment options the most popular comment areas are show on the tables at page 7 and 8 of this report. It should be noted that a number of respondees chose to submit a standardised response provided by a local residents group. Whilst offering comment on a number of areas covered by the consultation, this standardised response also referred to measures not included in the draft plan. Full details of all comments are reported in an Excel workbook which is available separately.

2. Purpose methodology

The council is obliged to consult with the residents of the district and statutory consultees when setting out an Air Quality Action Plan. The results of this consultation will inform the decisions made by officers and councillors when formulating the content of the plan and the relevant management actions.

For the consultation a multi-directional approach was taken comprising a survey available to all residents as both an online and paper questionnaire together with targeted emails to statutory consultees and key local interest. A copy of the survey was also included in the spring Citizens Panel questionnaire.

The consultation was run over the period 19 January to 8 April 2016. Respondents were asked to indicate their agreement or disagreement with a portfolio of 22 proposed Air Quality Action Plan measures and to comment on the coverage of report in general.

The following consultative methods were employed, in all cases the same questions were asked:

- Targeted invitation to the consultation sent out to statutory consultees and local interest groups.
- Open public consultation. The survey was promoted on the council's website from 19 January to 8 April via an interactive form using the Snap 11 consultation platform. Paper copies were also distributed to the council's main contact points at the Great Dunmow Library, Thaxted CIC and the CSC in Saffron Walden.
- The Air Quality Action Plan questions were also included as part of Uttlesford Voices 12, the half yearly consultation questionnaire sent out to members of the Uttlesford Citizens Panel.

General promotion was carried out with direct mailings to the members of the Citizens Panel, a press release, exposure via the council's social media channels and prominent home feature promotion on the council's website.

By the close of the consultation period, 146 submissions had been received from the public and statutory consultees and 142 by members of the Citizens Panel. It should be remembered that not all respondents chose to answer all of the questions and that in a small number cases residents opted to submit a statement rather than selecting any of the stated spending options.

3. Survey results, detailed findings

3.1 Survey results across all steams

The results for each of the different consultation streams – telephone survey, public consultation and Citizens Panel survey – are reported below.

3.1.1 Public and statutory consultee survey results summary

A total of 146 submissions had been received from the public and statutory consultees.

Key results from the survey are as follows:

The headline priority for each action point is shaded in light red

Proposed measure	Yes, I agree	No, I disagree	No opinion
1. To develop new policies where needed or transfer existing policies to the new Local Plan* which will seek to minimise the impact of air quality on the health of local communities and the environment. (*The Local Plan provides the basis for all planning decisions within the district.)	56.80%	27.30%	15.80%
2. To produce a publicly available Technical Guidance document for air quality.	74.50%	13.90%	11.70%
3. To work with Essex County Council (ECC) to facilitate the provision of new cycle/pedestrian routes and cycle storage, and promote the routes available.	73.00%	20.60%	6.40%
4. To increase cycle storage on Uttlesford District Council (UDC) land in Saffron Walden where practical to do so.	67.90%	17.10%	15.00%
5. To assist ECC in working with local schools and businesses in the review and upgrading of existing travel plans or to assist individual schools or businesses to develop and promote those plans.	76.80%	12.30%	10.90%
6. To support the extension of phone signal coverage and broadband service to all parts of the	77.90%	11.40%	10.70%

district and enable improved access to superfast broadband.			
7. To carry out further work with ECC Highways to provide a scheme of measures aimed at improving junction capacity as part of the Local Plan, once adopted.	32.10%	65.70%	2.10%
8. To work with ECC to reduce congestion by a range of measures ahead of the adoption of the Local Plan. These measures to include potential changes to junction configurations and signal controls, control of parking measures on main routes through Saffron Walden, and access into the centre of the town by HGVs.	22.10%	77.10%	0.70%
9. To support targeted enforcement of parking restrictions on main routes through the town centre.	34.50%	61.90%	3.60%
10. To provide good signage to Swan Meadow car park, new amenities, leisure centre, food stores and Audley End.	71.50%	16.10%	12.40%
11. To review UDC travel plan and review opportunities for a shared travel plan with partner organisations using UDC facilities.	61.20%	15.80%	23.00%
12. To pursue options to install renewable energy technologies at suitable sites within the town, to review UDC fleet and building emissions.	78.70%	11.30%	9.90%
13. To support ECC in their work with bus service providers to offer integrated and accessible services, high quality facilities, and a frequent and reliable service linked to the rail service at Audley End. Information on Public Transport services to be readily available in UDC buildings and via the website.	88.60%	7.10%	4.30%
14. To identify opportunities to raise public awareness of air quality issues through education initiatives and publicity campaigns.	76.40%	11.40%	12.10%
15. To provide advice and raise awareness of car sharing and associated database software available to employers.	69.10%	17.30%	13.70%
16. To consider the provision of preferential charging for UDC controlled parking spaces for vehicles meeting low emission standards.	48.60%	41.40%	10.00%
17. To engage with the Uttlesford licensed operators' forum with the aim of introducing	77.50%	14.80%	7.70%

emission controls for licensed taxis operating within Saffron Walden.			
18. To encourage ECC to set standards for new and existing buses under contract operating within the town.	86.50%	8.50%	5.00%
19. To work with the operators of fleet vehicles within the town to facilitate the introduction of low emission vehicles.	84.30%	9.30%	6.40%
20. Extended provision of fast charge electric charging points on UDC owned parking spaces in the town.	60.40%	20.90%	18.70%
21. To work with ECC on introducing delivery time restrictions to High Street SW.	70.90%	22.70%	6.40%
22. To carry out additional monitoring of nitrogen dioxide (NO2) on the southern approach to High St/George St junction and review need for real time data. Read more>>	84.50%	8.50%	7.00%

Q5 If you have read the draft document, in your opinion, does the report contain sufficient information in a format which is readily understood by the public?		
Yes	No	Don't know
28.20%	52.70%	22.90%

Q5 If "Organisation" would you please tell us the name of the organisation that you represent?
Castle St Residents Association Stop Stansted Expansion Stansted Airport Sustainable Uttlesford

3.1.2 Citizens panel survey results summary

A total of 142 submissions had been received from the citizens panel.

Key results from the survey are as follows:

The headline priority for each action point is shaded in light red

Proposed measure	Yes, I agree	No, I disagree	No opinion
1. To develop new policies where needed or transfer existing policies to the new Local Plan* which will seek to minimise the impact of air quality on the health of local communities and the environment. *The Local Plan provides the basis for all planning decisions within the district.)	71.1%	4.4%	24.4%
2. To produce a publicly available Technical Guidance document for air quality.	70.4%	5.9%	23.7%
3. To work with Essex County Council (ECC) to facilitate the provision of new cycle/pedestrian routes and cycle storage, and promote the routes available.	73.7%	10.9%	15.3%
4. To increase cycle storage on Uttlesford District Council (UDC) land in Saffron Walden where practical to do so.	65.7%	9.0%	25.4%
5. To assist ECC in working with local schools and businesses in the review and upgrading of existing travel plans or to assist individual schools or businesses to develop and promote those plans.	85.2%	5.2%	9.6%
6. To support the extension of phone signal coverage and broadband service to all parts of the district and enable improved access to superfast broadband.	82.1%	3.7%	14.2%
7. To carry out further work with ECC Highways to provide a scheme of measures aimed at improving junction capacity as part of the Local Plan, once adopted.	83.0%	5.9%	11.1%
8. To work with ECC to reduce congestion by a range of measures ahead of the adoption of the Local Plan. These measures to include potential changes to junction configurations and signal controls, control of parking measures on main routes through Saffron Walden, and	75.4%	8.2%	16.4%

access into the centre of the town by HGVs.			
9. To support targeted enforcement of parking restrictions on main routes through the town centre.	63.4%	18.7%	17.9%
10. To provide good signage to Swan Meadow car park, new amenities, leisure centre, food stores and Audley End.	59.8%	9.1%	31.1%
11. To review UDC travel plan and review opportunities for a shared travel plan with partner organisations using UDC facilities.	51.5%	9.1%	39.4%
12. To pursue options to install renewable energy technologies at suitable sites within the town, to review UDC fleet and building emissions.	66.4%	9.9%	23.7%
13. To support ECC in their work with bus service providers to offer integrated and accessible services, high quality facilities, and a frequent and reliable service linked to the rail service at Audley End. Information on Public Transport services to be readily available in UDC buildings and via the website.	85.6%	2.3%	12.1%
14. To identify opportunities to raise public awareness of air quality issues through education initiatives and publicity campaigns.	63.8%	13.1%	23.1%
15. To provide advice and raise awareness of car sharing and associated database software available to employers.	53.4%	12.0%	34.6%
16. To consider the provision of preferential charging for UDC controlled parking spaces for vehicles meeting low emission standards.	43.6%	32.3%	24.1%
17. To engage with the Uttlesford licensed operators' forum with the aim of introducing emission controls for licensed taxis operating within Saffron Walden.	69.9%	11.3%	18.8%
18. To encourage ECC to set standards for new and existing buses under contract operating within the town.	79.7%	6.0%	14.3%
19. To work with the operators of fleet vehicles within the town to facilitate the introduction of low emission vehicles.	80.3%	6.1%	13.6%
20. Extended provision of fast charge electric charging points on UDC owned parking spaces	55.6%	12.0%	32.3%

in the town.			
21.To work with ECC on introducing delivery time restrictions to High Street SW.	57.8%	18.0%	24.2%
22. To carry out additional monitoring of nitrogen dioxide (NO2) on the southern approach to High St/George St junction and review need for real time data. Read more>>	62.9%	8.3%	28.8%

Q5 If you have read the draft document, in your opinion, does the report contain sufficient information in a format which is readily understood by the public?		
Yes	No	Don't know
42.20%	8.8%%	49.00%

3.2. Results analysis across all streams

This analysis comments on whether the responses received from public respondents are similar or different to those received via other consultation channels. Results are broadly in line with the views of residents across all consultation streams with only a variation in feedback rates against the proposed measures 7, 8 and 9. Public and statutory consultees disagreed with measures “To carry out further work with ECC Highways to provide a scheme of measures aimed at improving junction capacity as part of the Local Plan, once adopted” (65.70% disapproval), “To work with ECC to reduce congestion by a range of measures ahead of the adoption of the Local Plan” (77.10% disapproval) and “To support targeted enforcement of parking restrictions on main routes through the town centre” (61.90% disapproval) by relatively wide margins.

By comparison, members of the citizens panel endorsed these same measures with high levels of approval. These can be summarised as: “To carry out further work with ECC Highways to provide a scheme of measures aimed at improving junction capacity as part of the Local Plan, once adopted” (83.0% approval), “To work with ECC to reduce congestion by a range of measures ahead of the adoption of the Local Plan” (75.4% approval) and “To support targeted enforcement of parking restrictions on main routes through the town centre” (63.4% approval).

Given the high levels of approval from panellists generally the combined results accordingly show an overall opinion in favour of all measures, but with correspondingly relatively low rates of overall approval for a small number of measures, as noted above.

Comparative analysis of open text comments is difficult given the varied nature of the responses. All responses can be seen in an Excel workbook which is available separately.

The headline priority for each action point is shaded in light red

Proposed measure	Yes, I agree	No, I disagree	No opinion
1. To develop new policies where needed or transfer existing policies to the new Local Plan* which will seek to minimise the impact of air quality on the health of local communities and the environment. (*The Local Plan provides the basis for all planning decisions within the district.)	63.87%	16.06%	20.07%
2. To produce a publicly available Technical Guidance document for air quality.	72.43%	9.93%	17.65%
3. To work with Essex County Council (ECC) to facilitate the provision of new cycle/pedestrian routes and cycle storage, and promote the routes available.	73.38%	15.83%	10.79%
4. To increase cycle storage on Uttlesford District Council (UDC) land in Saffron Walden where practical to do so.	66.79%	13.14%	20.07%
5. To assist ECC in working with local schools and businesses in the review and upgrading of existing travel plans or to assist individual schools or businesses to develop and promote those plans.	80.95%	8.79%	10.26%
6. To support the extension of phone signal coverage and broadband service to all parts of the district and enable improved access to superfast broadband.	79.93%	7.66%	12.41%
7. To carry out further work with ECC Highways to provide a scheme of measures aimed at improving junction capacity as part of the Local Plan, once adopted.	57.09%	36.36%	6.55%
8. To work with ECC to reduce congestion by a range of measures ahead of the adoption of the Local Plan. These measures to include potential changes to junction configurations and signal controls, control of parking measures on main routes through Saffron Walden, and access into the centre of the town by HGVs.	48.18%	43.43%	8.39%
9. To support targeted enforcement of parking restrictions on main routes through the town centre.	48.72%	40.66%	10.62%
10. To provide good signage to Swan Meadow car park, new amenities, leisure centre, food	65.80%	12.64%	21.56%

stores and Audley End.			
11. To review UDC travel plan and review opportunities for a shared travel plan with partner organisations using UDC facilities.	56.46%	12.55%	31.00%
12. To pursue options to install renewable energy technologies at suitable sites within the town, to review UDC fleet and building emissions.	72.79%	10.66%	16.54%
13. To support ECC in their work with bus service providers to offer integrated and accessible services, high quality facilities, and a frequent and reliable service linked to the rail service at Audley End. Information on Public Transport services to be readily available in UDC buildings and via the website.	87.13%	4.78%	8.09%
14. To identify opportunities to raise public awareness of air quality issues through education initiatives and publicity campaigns.	70.37%	12.22%	17.41%
15. To provide advice and raise awareness of car sharing and associated database software available to employers.	61.40%	14.71%	23.90%
16. To consider the provision of preferential charging for UDC controlled parking spaces for vehicles meeting low emission standards.	46.15%	37.00%	16.85%
17. To engage with the Uttlesford licensed operators' forum with the aim of introducing emission controls for licensed taxis operating within Saffron Walden.	73.82%	13.09%	13.09%
18. To encourage ECC to set standards for new and existing buses under contract operating within the town.	83.21%	7.30%	9.49%
19. To work with the operators of fleet vehicles within the town to facilitate the introduction of low emission vehicles.	82.35%	7.72%	9.93%
20. Extended provision of fast charge electric charging points on UDC owned parking spaces in the town.	58.09%	16.54%	25.37%
21. To work with ECC on introducing delivery time restrictions to High Street SW.	64.68%	20.45%	14.87%
22. To carry out additional monitoring of nitrogen dioxide (NO ₂) on the southern approach to High St/George St junction and review need for real time data. Read more>>	74.09%	8.39%	17.52%

4. Appendices

4.1 Open text responses received

Text responses were provided either in answer to the open text questions, or by separate letter/email. These comments have been collated into an Excel workbook which is available separately.

4.2 Questionnaire

Questionnaire forms for the public and Citizens Panel followed an identical format.



Uttlesford District Council

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Air Quality - Draft Action Plan Consultation

Uttlesford District Council Air Quality Consultation January 2016

Air Quality Action Plan

Below is a list of the Air Quality Action Plan measures proposed by Uttlesford District Council.

Further information is available in the draft Air Quality Action Plan document. Links to the full document and to sections of the Action Plan which relate to the questionnaire may also be found on the Uttlesford District Council website at: www.uttlesford.gov.uk/aqconsultation

Alternatively, paper copies of the draft Air Quality Action Plan may be viewed at the Council Offices in Saffron Walden, the Community Information Centres at Great Dunmow Library and at 7 Town Street, Thaxted.

Q1 For each Action Plan measure, please answer if you agree that the measure will be effective in improving air quality in Saffron Walden (Please select one option for each measure).

	Yes, I agree	No, I disagree	No opinion
1.To develop new policies where needed or transfer existing policies to the new Local Plan* which will seek to minimise the impact of air quality on the health of local communities and the environment. (*The Local Plan provides the basis for all planning decisions within the district.) Read more>>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.To produce a publicly available Technical Guidance document for air quality. Read more>>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3.To work with Essex County Council (ECC) to facilitate the provision of new cycle/pedestrian routes and cycle storage, and promote the routes available. Read more>>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4.To increase cycle storage on Uttlesford District Council (UDC) land in Saffron Walden where practical to do so. Read more>>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5.To assist ECC in working with local schools and businesses in the review and upgrading of existing travel plans or to assist individual schools or businesses to develop and promote those plans. Read more>>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6.To support the extension of phone signal coverage and broadband service to all parts of the district and enable improved access to superfast broadband. Read more>>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7.To carry out further work with ECC Highways to provide a scheme of measures aimed at improving junction capacity as part of the Local Plan, once adopted. Read more>>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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and organisations are being asked for their views on plans to improve air quality in Saffron Walden. other market towns with growing populations, Saffron Walden suffers from traffic congestion and associated air quality issues, which is a serious public health challenge.

In 2009 an Air Quality Action Plan was developed to tackle poor air quality. Subsequently, a larger air quality management area has been developed covering the central area of the town.

This consultation has been developed outlining measures aimed at improving air quality in Saffron Walden over the life of the plan. The results from this survey will be combined with other information to help finalise an Action Plan for adoption later in 2016.

Uttlesford District Council Air Quality Consultation >>

[Air Quality Action Plan 2016 \[2Mb\]](#)

The Air Quality Action Plan Survey can access the relevant sections of the Draft Action Plan below:

- [Action Plan 2016 - Executive Summary \[37kb\]](#)
- [Action Plan 2016 - Proposed Action Plan Measures \[30kb\]](#)
- [2016 - Local Plan \(Proposed Actions 1 and 2\) \[32kb\]](#)
- [2016 - Essex Local Transport Plan \(Proposed Actions 3 - 6\) \[24kb\]](#)
- [2016 - Traffic Management \(Proposed Actions 7 - 10\) \[25kb\]](#)
- [2016 - Corporate Action by UDC \(Proposed Action 11-14\) \[26kb\]](#)
- [2016 - Proposed Actions 15 - 20 \[39kb\]](#)
- [2016 - Proposed Actions 21 - 22 \[19kb\]](#)

Uttlesford District Council Air Quality Consultation January 2016



**London Road
Saffron Walden
Essex CB11 4ER**

January 2016

In common with many other market towns with growing populations, Saffron Walden suffers from traffic congestion and associated air pollution. Uttlesford District Council last produced an Air Quality Action Plan in 2009 to tackle poor air quality. Subsequently, a larger air quality management area has been set up to cover the central area of the town.

A further draft Action Plan has been developed outlining measures aimed at improving air quality in Saffron Walden over the life of the plan. The Council would like to give all those interested the opportunity to contribute to the Action Plan. The results from this survey will be combined with other consultation work and will help to finalise an Action Plan for adoption later in 2016.

Links to the relevant sections of the draft Action Plan may be found on the Uttlesford District Council website at:

www.uttlesford.gov.uk/aqconsultation

Please consider the draft Action Plan when entering your responses to the questions in the survey. Your comments are welcomed and responses will be valid even if you only answer part of the questionnaire.

The questionnaire should only take about 10 minutes to complete. All the information you provide will be kept entirely confidential. It will only be used by Uttlesford District Council and the main findings from the survey will be published on the council website. However, your own views and opinions will not be passed on to anyone else.

Please complete this questionnaire by ticking the appropriate box(es) for each question and return your completed questionnaire in the prepaid envelope provided by:

Friday 8 April 2016 at 4.30pm

If you require this publication in an alternative format and/or language or have any questions or queries about this questionnaire, please contact:
Louise Milns or Bruce Tice at Uttlesford District Council on 01799 510670 or email consultation@uttlesford.gov.uk

UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Telephone (01799) 510510 Fax (01799) 510550 Textphone Users 18001
Email: uconnect@uttlesford.gov.uk Website www.uttlesford.gov.uk

Air Quality Action Plan

Below is a list of the Air Quality Action Plan measures proposed by Uttlesford District Council.

Further information is available in the draft Air Quality Action Plan document. Links to the full document and to sections of the Action Plan which relate to the questionnaire may be found on the Uttlesford District Council website at: www.uttlesford.gov.uk/aqconsultation

Alternatively, paper copies of the draft Air Quality Action Plan may be viewed at the Council Offices in Saffron Walden, the Community Information Centres at Great Dunmow Library and at 7 Town Street, Thaxted.

Q1 For each Action Plan measure, please answer if you agree that the measure will be effective in improving air quality in Saffron Walden (Please select one option for each measure).

	Yes, I agree	No, I disagree	No opinion
1.To develop new policies where needed or transfer existing policies to the new Local Plan* which will seek to minimise the impact of air quality on the health of local communities and the environment. (*The Local Plan provides the basis for all planning decisions within the district.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.To produce a publicly available Technical Guidance document for air quality.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.To work with Essex County Council (ECC) to facilitate the provision of new cycle/pedestrian routes and cycle storage, and promote the routes available.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.To increase cycle storage on Uttlesford District Council (UDC) land in Saffron Walden where practical to do so.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.To assist ECC in working with local schools and businesses in the review and upgrading of existing travel plans or to assist individual schools or businesses to develop and promote those plans.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.To support the extension of phone signal coverage and broadband service to all parts of the district and enable improved access to superfast broadband.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.To carry out further work with ECC Highways to provide a scheme of measures aimed at improving junction capacity as part of the Local Plan, once adopted.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Yes, I agree	No, I disagree	No opinion
8.To work with ECC to reduce congestion by a range of measures ahead of the adoption of the Local Plan. These measures to include potential changes to junction configurations and signal controls, control of parking measures on main routes through Saffron Walden, and access into the centre of the town by HGVs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9.To support targeted enforcement of parking restrictions on main routes through the town centre.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10.To provide good signage to Swan Meadow car park, new amenities, leisure centre, food stores and Audley End.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11.To review UDC travel plan and review opportunities for a shared travel plan with partner organisations using UDC facilities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12.To pursue options to install renewable energy technologies at suitable sites within the town, to review UDC fleet and building emissions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13.To support ECC in their work with bus service providers to offer integrated and accessible services, high quality facilities, and a frequent and reliable service linked to the rail service at Audley End. Information on Public Transport services to be readily available in UDC buildings and via the website.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. To identify opportunities to raise public awareness of air quality issues through education initiatives and publicity campaigns.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15.To provide advice and raise awareness of car sharing and associated database software available to employers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.To consider the provision of preferential charging for UDC controlled parking spaces for vehicles meeting low emission standards.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Continued on next page

	Yes, I agree	No, I disagree	No opinion
17.To engage with the Uttlesford licensed operators' forum with the aim of introducing emission controls for licensed taxis operating within Saffron Walden.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. To encourage ECC to set standards for new and existing buses under contract operating within the town.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19.To work with the operators of fleet vehicles within the town to facilitate the introduction of low emission vehicles.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Extended provision of fast charge electric charging points on UDC owned parking spaces in the town.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21.To work with ECC on introducing delivery time restrictions to High Street SW.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22.To carry out additional monitoring of nitrogen dioxide (NO2) on the southern approach to HighSt/George St junction and review need for real time data.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Your Comments

Q2 If there are further measures that you would like to see included to reduce emissions from traffic, please provide details in the box below:

Q3 If there are further measures that you would like to see included to reduce exposure to air pollution, please provide details in the box below:

Q4 If there are further measures that you would like to see included to encourage walking, cycling and use of public transport, please provide details in the box below:

Q5 If you have read the draft document, in your opinion, does the report contain sufficient information in a format which is readily understood by the public?

Yes No Don't know

If "No", please explain in the box below:

Q6 If you have any other relevant comments including views or information on the costs and benefits related to the proposed measures, please provide details in the box below:

About You

Q7 In what capacity are you responding to this consultation?

Member of Public Organisation

Q8 If "Organisation" would you please tell us the name of the organisation that you represent?

Q9 If "Member of Public" please enter your full post code:

Thank you very much for completing this questionnaire

Now please return your questionnaire in the prepaid envelope by:

Friday 8 April 2016 at 4.30pm

If you require this publication in an alternative format and/or language, please contact us on 01799 510670

4.3 Profiling

Public survey

Organisations

Q8	Castle St Residents Association
	Stop Stansted Expansion
	Stansted Airport
	Sustainable Uttlesford

Geographical distribution

In total 125 members of the public provided postcode details. These have been plotted to a mapping system and the distribution is shown graphically

Saffron Walden AQMA Consultation 2016



Citizens Panel

The Citizens panel is profiled so as to represent in microcosm then macrocosm of the district for all of the principal protected characteristics and as recorded by the Census 2011 and subsequent revised datasets.