

**Detailed Assessment of Air Quality, Saffron Walden  
Environment Committee, item 11**

**Committee:** Environment

**Date:** 23/01/2007

**Title:** Detailed Assessment of Air Quality,  
Saffron Walden

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**Agenda Item**

**11**

Item for  
decision

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**Summary**

This report draws Members' attention to a Detailed Assessment of Air Quality in Saffron Walden which concludes that annual mean levels of Nitrogen Dioxide are above the National Objective in three 'hotspots' and recommends that the Council starts the process of declaring an Air Quality Management Area or Areas, and consults widely on the precise boundary of the Area(s). The report also recommends that a Steering Group be established to develop and take forward an Action Plan with the aim of reducing Nitrogen Dioxide levels to below the National Objective.

**Recommendations**

1. That (an) Air Quality Management Order(s) should be designated within the relevant area(s) identified under section 83(1) of the Environment Act 1995, by means of an official order.
2. Draft boundary(s) for the AQMA(s) should be detailed at this stage of the review and assessment process for wider consultation purposes.
3. Consultation on the formal boundary of the AQMA(s) should be carried out following the publication of the report.
4. The formal boundary of any AQMA(s) should be finalised and the formal AQMA order completed in April 2007.
5. A Saffron Walden Air Quality Steering Group be established to take forward the development and implementation of an air quality action plan in pursuit of the relevant air quality objectives.

**Background Papers**

None

**Impact**

Communication/Consultation	<b>Saffron Walden Residents, Businesses and Visitors</b>
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Community Safety	<b>None</b>
Equalities	<b>None</b>
Finance	<b>None</b>
Human Rights	<b>None</b>
Legal implications	<b>An Order declaring Air Quality Management Area(s) will be needed</b>
Ward-specific impacts	<b>All Saffron Walden Wards</b>
Workforce/Workplace	<b>None</b>

**Situation**

- 1 The Detailed Assessment of Air Quality in Saffron Walden is attached as Appendix 1

**Risk Analysis**

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
<b>That air quality standards will continue to be exceeded in some parts of Saffron Walden</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>The development of an Action Plan to reduce road traffic pollution to below the National Standard for nitrogen dioxide</b>