

2020 Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR)

In fulfilment of Part IV of the Environment Act 1995 Local Air Quality Management

July 2020

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Executive Summary: Air Quality in Our Area Air Quality in Wealden

Air pollution is associated with a number of adverse health impacts. It is recognised as a contributing factor in the onset of heart disease and cancer. Additionally, air pollution particularly affects the most vulnerable in society: children and older people, and those with heart and lung conditions. There is also often a strong correlation with equalities issues, because areas with poor air quality are also often the less affluent areas^{1,2}.

The annual health cost to society of the impacts of particulate matter alone in the UK is estimated to be around $\pounds 16$ billion³.

The District of Wealden is the largest district in East Sussex, and one of the most rural districts in England. Road traffic is the dominant source of air pollution in the area, the major routes being the A22, the A26, the A267, the A259, the A27 and the A272. The main pollutants of concern with respect to road traffic are nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}). Currently, there are no areas in Wealden where members of the public are exposed to levels of these pollutants in excess of the UK Air Quality Objectives.

Wealden District Council manages local air quality in close collaboration with East Sussex County Council (which contributed to monitoring until 2014) and with the Sussex Air Quality Partnership (Sussex Air). The partnership provides assistance to members and information to the public via its website with recent air quality data, news updates, educational resources, links and other services such as airAlert.

In recent years, local monitoring has identified high levels of NO₂ at two roadside locations (A267 East of Cross in Hand (W7), and West of Boship Roundabout (W8)), in areas where members of the public are not affected. In March 2017 the A267 East of Cross in Hand monitoring location changed due to difficult access and it not being a representative site. The site was moved further down the same road and nearer to residential properties. In 2017 and 2018, concentrations at the nearest sensitive

¹ Environmental equity, air quality, socioeconomic status and respiratory health, 2010

² Air quality and social deprivation in the UK: an environmental inequalities analysis, 2006

³ Defra. Abatement cost guidance for valuing changes in air quality, May 2013

receptors for both locations achieved the UK air quality objective for annual mean NO₂, with concentrations lower than 40 μ g/m³.

Two new locations for monitoring NO₂ were introduced in May 2017 in Forest Row (W9 and W10). In 2019, the annual mean NO₂ observed at W10 was 28.6 μ g/m³ (and W9 was 9.5 μ g/m³) and 26.8 μ g/m³ after distance correction (W9 was 9.5 μ g/m³ after distance correction).

PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} are not monitored in Wealden District, but data from neighbouring Eastbourne suggests concentrations are consistently well below the UK annual mean objectives, decreasing slightly but with year-to-year variations. The number of days with high PM₁₀ concentrations (above the 24-hour objective) overall decreased between 2012 and 2019. PM_{2.5} seems to have no trend.

As in other suburban and rural areas of East Sussex, ozone (O_3) is of considerable concern. O_3 is monitored in two locations in Wealden: Isfield and Lullington Heath. Annual average O_3 levels at Lullington Heath have increased since 2011. The number of days with high ozone concentrations (above the 8-hour objective) has decreased since 2011 at Isfield, with significant year-to-year variability and an increase from 2018 to 2019 is observed at Lullington Heath.

Sulphur dioxide (SO₂) is also measured at the Lullington Heath station. However, in recent years there have been no exceedances of any of the three UK Air Quality Objectives (15-minute, 1-hour and 24-hour).

Two-thirds of the District is designated as the High Weald and Sussex Downs Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) with 34 other conservations areas. The impact of traffic-related air pollution on some of these areas has been assessed in past years. The impact of traffic on the Ashdown Forest Special Protection Area (SPA) and SAC is currently being monitored, and the results will be examined in future years.

Actions to Improve Air Quality

Wealden District Council is helping the public to avoid the worst effects of O₃ pollution by informing the public of pollution events through the airAlert pollution warning service using the O₃ monitoring data obtained from two monitoring stations within the Council. This service is provided and maintained through the Sussex Air partnership.

Energise was established as a public/private sector partnership by local authorities across Sussex, Surrey and Kent and was led by the Sussex Air Partnership, to help support the promotion of electric vehicle uptake in the region, by making access simpler. Charging points are located in the Wealden District at Selmeston Services (A27), Wealden District Council offices in Hailsham, Herstmonceux Integrated Health Centre, Crowborough Station, and Forest Row Parish Council.

Wealden District Council seeks to mitigate the air quality impacts from development in the district, in particular in the areas of ecological importance. The Council screens development proposals for significant air quality impacts on conservation areas such as the Ashdown Forest, and is working to reduce the current traffic levels around the Forest by identifying Suitable Alternative Natural Green Spaces (SANGS), and by implementing, with partner authorities and organisations, a Strategic Access Management and Monitoring Strategy (SAMMS). There is also a guidance note for developers on reducing traffic-related impacts on the Ashdown Forest.

Wealden District Council also contributes to the Air Quality and Emissions Mitigation Guidance for Sussex. The guidance supports the principles of the Sussex Air Quality Partnership to improve air quality across Sussex and encourage emissions reductions to improve the environment and health of the population. Other actions being implemented to improve public health include promoting active modes of transport like walking, cycling and using public transport, as well as car clubs and car sharing.

In 2019, Wealden District Council also had constructive discussions with Planning Policy to ensure air quality mitigation requirements are integrated as policy into the future Local Plan. The Council increased the use of the Air Quality Guidance produced by Sussex Air to apply conditions to major planning applications. This has ensured that air quality mitigation cost calculations have been undertaken and measures to improve air quality are starting to get integrated into major developments.

Conclusions and Priorities

This Annual Status Report confirms that concentrations within Wealden continue to be well within the NO₂ annual mean air quality objective at relevant locations. No significant changes in emissions sources within the Council's area have been identified in the last year.

The priorities for the coming year will be to continue monitoring in the area and continue to implement measures to increase sustainable travel options and improve transport infrastructure. The Council will ensure assessment and mitigation measures for new developments, particularly those allocated around the main urban centres. The Council will also consider additional monitoring points in these areas of new development. The Council will continue discussions with Planning Policy to ensure that air quality mitigation requirements become policy in the new Local Plan and continue work with Sussex Air and other Local Authorities.

The main challenge for air quality management in Wealden is balancing the planned population growth in the District with conservation of the natural habitats that constitute most of the District's territory. Two-thirds of the District is designated as the High Weald and Sussex Downs AONB, along with 34 other conservations areas. Wealden District Council will address this challenge by managing a sustainable level of development, and monitoring pollution impacts on conservation areas such as the Ashdown Forest. A risk that a post Covid-19 lack of funds for LAs and other public bodies, plus the need to recover the economy, will increase the use of fossil fuels and in the short term, reduce the importance of improving air quality. Similarly, with Brexit and the added financial impact that this will add to the financial impact. Ultimately, in the short term this might reduce the amount of 'buy in' to air quality improvements by Council members. Equally, there's an opportunity that post Covid-19, that home working within the Council and other organisations will continue to a much greater extent than previously, thereby inadvertently improving air quality.

Local Engagement and How to get Involved

Everyone concerned about air quality in Wealden and the rest of Sussex can find real-time information on pollution levels on the Sussex Air website <u>sussex-air.net</u>, and sign up for advance warnings with the airAlert service at airalert.info. Warnings

are provided by text or voice message, email, or using an Android or iOS app. The service is also available to schools and is a great way to get everyone engaged in thinking about the importance of air quality.

Large and small businesses in the vicinity of the Ashdown Forest and elsewhere can help reduce air pollution by adopting 'smarter choices' for traffic, as detailed in the Council's Guidance Note⁴.

Drivers planning to replace their vehicles are encouraged to consider low and ultralow emission vehicles, such as electric cars, plug-in hybrids and extended-range electric vehicles. The Energise Network provides members with access to more than 150 electric vehicle charging points across the South East. These include most local authority charge points in Kent, Surrey and Sussex, plus a number of Southern Rail fast chargers. For a map of the charging points and details on how to join, please visit <u>energisenetwork.co.uk</u>. The reduction in using cars to travel to work, further home working and increasing walking and cycling post Covid-19 are all encouraged.

⁴ Wealden District Council (2013). Guidance note on reducing nitrogen deposition at the Ashdown Forest Special Area of Conservation and Special Protection Area. Available at: http://www.wealden.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.aspx?IID=12452&sID=3484

Table of Contents

Execut	ive S	ummary: Air Quality in Our Area	i
Air Q	uality	in Wealden	i
Actio	ns to l	mprove Air Quality	ii
Conc	lusion	s and Priorities	iv
Local	l Enga	gement and How to get Involved	iv
1 Lo	ocal A	Air Quality Management	1
2 Ac	ctions	s to Improve Air Quality	2
2.1	Air	Quality Management Areas	2
2.2	Pro	gress and Impact of Measures to address Air Quality in Wealden	4
2.3	PM	2.5 – Local Authority Approach to Reducing Emissions and/or	
Conc	entrat	ions	.17
3 Ai	i <mark>r Qu</mark> a	ality Monitoring Data and Comparison with Air Quality	
Objecti	ives a	Ind National Compliance	18
3.1	Sun	nmary of Monitoring Undertaken	.18
3.1	1.1	Automatic Monitoring Sites	. 18
3.1	1.2	Non-Automatic Monitoring Sites	. 18
3.2	Indi	vidual Pollutants	.19
3.2	2.1	Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂)	. 19
3.2	2.2	Particulate Matter (PM ₁₀)	
3.2		Particulate Matter (PM _{2.5})	
3.2		Sulphur Dioxide (SO ₂)	
3.2		Ozone (O ₃)	
		Monitoring Results	
Append	dix B	Full Monthly Diffusion Tube Results for 2019	45
Append	dix C	Supporting Technical Information / Air Quality Monitoring	
Data Q	A/QC		47
Append	dix D	Map(s) of Monitoring Locations and AQMAs	51
Append	dix E:	Summary of Air Quality Objectives in England	52
Glossa	ry of	Terms	53
Referen	nces		54

List of Tables

Table 2.1 – Declared Air Quality Management Areas	3
Table 2.2 – Progress on Measures to Improve Air Quality	12

List of Figures

Figure 1: Trends in Annual Mean NO ₂ Concentrations measured at Automatic	
Monitoring Sites	21
Figure 2: Trends in Annual Mean NO2 Concentrations measured at Diffusion Tube	
Monitoring Sites	22
Figure 3: Trends in Annual Mean Particulate Matter (PM10) Concentrations measu	
at Automatic Monitoring Sites	23
Figure 4: Trends in Number of Exceedances of the 24-Hour Mean Particulate Matt	er
(PM ₁₀) Objective measured at Automatic Monitoring Sites	24
Figure 5: Trends in Annual Mean Particulate Matter (PM2.5) Concentrations measu	red
at Automatic Monitoring Sites	25
Figure 6: Trends in Annual Mean O ₃ Concentrations measured at Automatic	
Monitoring Sites	26
Figure 7: Trends in Number of Days Exceeding the Running 8-Hour Mean Ozone	
(O ₃) Objective	27

1 Local Air Quality Management

This report provides an overview of air quality in Wealden during 2019. It fulfils the requirements of Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) as set out in Part IV of the Environment Act (1995) and the relevant Policy and Technical Guidance documents.

The LAQM process places an obligation on all local authorities to regularly review and assess air quality in their areas, and to determine whether or not the air quality objectives are likely to be achieved. Where an exceedance is considered likely the local authority must declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and prepare an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) setting out the measures it intends to put in place in pursuit of the objectives. This Annual Status Report (ASR) is an annual requirement showing the strategies employed by Wealden District Council to improve air quality and any progress that has been made.

The statutory air quality objectives applicable to LAQM in England can be found in Table E.1 in Appendix E.

2 Actions to Improve Air Quality

2.1 Air Quality Management Areas

Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) are declared when there is an exceedance or likely exceedance of an air quality objective. After declaration, the authority must prepare an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) within 12-18 months setting out measures it intends to put in place in pursuit of compliance with the objectives.

Wealden currently does not have any AQMAs. Therefore, no formal Air Quality Action Plan has been set up and implemented for the District. For reference, a map of Wealden's monitoring locations is available in Appendix D.

Table 2.1 – Declared Air Quality Management Areas

AQMA Name	Date of Declaration	Pollutants and Air Quality Objectives	City / Town	One Line Description	Is air quality in the AQMA influenced by roads		at a location	Action Plan		
	Declaration				controlled by Highways England?	At Declaration	Now	Name	Date of Publication	Link
Wealden Dis	trict has no decl	lared AQMAs.								

Wealden District Council confirm the information on UK-AIR regarding their AQMA(s) is up to date

2.2 Progress and Impact of Measures to address Air Quality in Wealden

Defra's appraisal of last year's ASR concluded that the report as acceptable with the following comments:

- Example calculations for data corrections, alongside thorough discussion of the 2018 monitoring results, has been included which is useful and encouraged for all future reports. Percentiles are only required when the data capture at the relevant automatic monitoring site is below 85%. Ensure that the correct bias adjustment factor for diffusion tubes is presented throughout the report; Table C.1 within the ASR report and Table B.1 within the ASR spreadsheet.
- 2. Distance correction has been completed at every diffusion tube location, this only needs to be completed at monitoring sites that have an annual mean NO_2 concentration greater than $36\mu g/m^3$.
- 3. The maps provided within the ASR are clear with all monitoring sites labelled as referenced in the results tables.
- 4. The report provides excellent discussion of progress and the actions the Council have taken during the reporting period, and that the Council plan to take in the future to improve local air quality. It is encouraging that links with East Sussex County Council and Sussex Air are resulting in collaboration on measures and funding received across neighbouring authorities.
- 5. It is encouraging to see the Council are continuing to work towards implementing a wide range of mitigation measures as detailed within Table 2.2. It would be beneficial for the Council, in terms of tracking progress, if objective KPIs and reduction targets were included against each measure.
- 6. The same measures specific to PM_{2.5} have been included with the 2019 ASR as where within the 2018 ASR. It is stated that further measures will be considered in future years, therefore it is expected that details of these measures and a more detailed discussion of PM_{2.5} Issues, alongside drawing links to the Public Health Outcomes Framework will be included within the 2020 ASR.
- 7. As experienced within 2018, there have been exceedances of the O₃ running 8-hour mean objective within the Borough. Although O₃ is a trans-boundary pollutant the Council have been, and are encouraged to continue, developing measures to better inform the public of the potential dangers associated with high O₃ concentrations. The

Council are encouraged to continue to develop specific measures for this pollutant, working in partnership with neighbouring Boroughs and Sussex Air.

8. As per in 2018, this is an excellent report; it is well written, concise and most importantly clearly communicates the issues and actions the Council are taking to improve local air quality. The report acts as a good first point of reference for members of the Public.

Wealden is committed to continue monitoring and in May 2017 added another 2 diffusion tubes in Forest Row, where the A22 runs through the centre of the town. All main urban conurbations within the district are now being monitored.

As new major developments are built within the district, ongoing consideration will be given to additional monitoring locations.

The map of monitoring sites in Appendix D has been updated with the most recent names and locations.

Wealden District Council is a member of the Sussex Air Quality Partnership (Sussex Air), which produced an air quality strategic plan 2010 to 2015⁵. Wealden District Council contributed to the development of this strategy, which aims to provide a consistent approach to air quality across a number of district councils.

This plan has 5 key objectives:

- 1. Provide advice and support and improve the expertise and knowledge base
- 2. Project development and implementation
- 3. Partnership working
- 4. Develop cross cutting work on health improvement, climate change, environment and transport
- 5. Communicate air quality issues and initiatives in Sussex.

Wealden District Council has taken forward a number of direct measures during the current reporting year of 2019 in pursuit of improving local air quality and improving public awareness of air quality issues, in close collaboration with the Sussex Air Quality Partnership. Details of all measures completed, in progress or planned are set out in Table 2.2.

⁵ Sussex Air Quality Partnership Air Quality Strategic Plan 2010 http://www.sussex-air.net/Reports/SAQP_Vision_Strategy_2015.pdf

Key completed measures regarding awareness raising and transport related measures are:

1. Website improvements

Wealden District Council supports the Sussex Air Quality website (<u>http://www.sussex-air.net</u>), which provides access to air quality statistics and relevant local information and improves public awareness of air quality.

2. Promotion of airAlert service

Wealden District Council supports the airAlert air pollution warning service, offered by the Sussex Air Quality Partnership to vulnerable people, schools, health professionals and the general public in Sussex. The airAlert service provides warnings based on O₃ levels monitored inside the Wealden District both at Isfield and Lullington Heath. In June 2019 the service had 989 registered subscribers, 70 of which were from Wealden District.

3. Local O₃ monitoring

High O_3 levels can cause difficulty breathing in vulnerable people with existing lung or heart conditions. Wealden District Council monitors O_3 levels at their Isfield rural monitoring station. Data from this station is available on the Sussex-Air website and feeds the airAlert service.

4. Updated Guidance

Wealden District Council contributed to the Air Quality and Emissions Mitigation Guidance for Sussex, first published in 2013 and revised in 2019⁶. The guidance is helping to mitigate potential air quality impacts from developments across Sussex. It is also contributing to public health by promoting active modes of transportation like walking, cycling and using public transport, as well as car clubs and car sharing. Additional mitigations are provided on the updated guidance including contribution to low emission vehicle refuelling infrastructure, low emission bus service provision or waste collection services, bike/e-bike hire service, contribution to renewable fuel and energy generation projects and incentives for the take-up of low emission technologies and fuels.

⁶ Air Quality and emissions mitigation guidance for Sussex(2019). Available at: <u>http://www.sussex-air.net/Reports/Sussex_AQ_Guidance_2019.pdf</u>

5. Energise Network.

Energise was established as a public/private sector partnership by local authorities across Sussex, Surrey and Kent and was led by the Sussex Air Partnership, to help support the promotion of electric vehicle uptake in the region, by making access simpler. Electric car charging points are now located in the Wealden District at Selmeston Services (A27), Wealden District Council offices in Hailsham, Herstmonceux Integrated Health Centre, Crowborough Station, and Forest Row Parish Council.

Following the adoption of the Core Strategy Local Plan⁷ in 2013, Wealden District Council has been assessing the air quality impacts of new traffic and development on protected natural habitats in the District, in particular the Pevensey Levels (Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Ramsar site) and the Ashdown Forest (SAC and Special Protection Area (SPA)). The Local Plan was revised in January 2019 and the submitted version⁸ concludes that so far as the Pevensey Levels SAC and Ramsar Site are concerned, there is no adverse effect from air quality impacts of the Wealden Local Plan alone and in combination with other plans and projects (without the need for mitigation). Planning Policy AF2 in the updated Local Plan refers to Air Quality Mitigation for developments that result in the net increase in traffic movements across roads adjacent to Ashdown Forest SAC or Lewes Downs SAC. The package of measures includes air quality monitoring, reduction of local transport emissions, provision of electric charging points within public areas and provision of schemes to reduce the use of petrol and diesel vehicles. In order to mitigate the impacts of development, the Council:

- Supports provision of an off-line A27 to provide an alternative route to roads • crossing the Ashdown Forest SAC and Lewes Downs SAC;
- Supports the reinstatement of the Lewes to Uckfield Train Line and an • upgrade to Uckfield- Buxted - Crowborough- Tunbridge Wells Railway line including services; and
- Supports creation of Polegate Parkway Station/ or alternative parking capacity in South Wealden.

⁷ Wealden District (Incorporating Part of the South Downs National Park) (2013). Core Strategy Local Plan. Available at: http://www.wealden.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.aspx?IID=14756&sID=2829. ⁸ Wealden Local Plan- January 2019. Available at: <u>http://www.wealden.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.aspx?IID=25367&sID=6726</u>

Key completed measures regarding protected habitats are:

1. Pevensey Levels Assessment

In 2009, Wealden District Council commissioned a study⁹ to assess the predicted air quality impact on the Pevensey Levels due to increases in traffic on the A259 associated with planned population growth up to 2026. The conclusion was that an increase in nitrogen deposition and NOx concentrations is likely, but these will still be below the Critical Levels set by the Habitats Directive¹⁰, therefore there is unlikely to be a significant effect on the SAC and Ramsar site.

2. Ashdown Forest Impact Mitigation

Wealden District Council currently screens all new development proposals for significant effects on levels of nitrogen deposition on Ashdown Forest, focusing on traffic emissions, and where appropriate, requires mitigation measures to be implemented¹¹. The main mitigation strategy proposed by Wealden District Council is the identification of Suitable Alternative Natural Green Spaces (SANGS), and the implementation of a Strategic Access Management and Monitoring Strategy (SAMMS). In 2013, Wealden District Council published a guideline document¹² to help identify SANGS sites, and a guidance note¹³ for small scale developments on reducing traffic impacts on Ashdown Forest.

3. Ashdown Forest monitoring

Wealden District Council is investigating the impact of nitrogen deposition upon the Ashdown Forest SAC, so that the effects of development can be more fully understood and mitigated as appropriate. The Air Quality Report¹⁴ completed for Wealden District Council in 2013 proposed a methodology for air quality and ecological monitoring. On 30th April 2014, Wealden District Council awarded a

⁹ Rother District Council, Hastings Borough Council. Wealden District Council and Eastbourne Borough Council (2009). Appropriate Assessment and Air Quality Local to the Pevensey Levels Ramsar Site. Available at: <u>http://www.wealden.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.aspx?IID=14305&sID=5509</u>

¹⁰ EC Habitats Directive 1992, interpreted into British law by the Conservation (Natural Habitats &c) Regulations 1994 (as amended in 2007).

¹¹ Wealden District Council website. Ashdown Forest Special Protection Area, Special Area of Protection and Site of Special Scientific Interest.

http://www.wealden.gov.uk/Wealden/Residents/Planning_and_Building_Control/Planning_Development_Management/Agen ts_and_Parish_Council_Information/Planning_Agents_Ashdown_Forest.aspx_. Retrieved July 2016:

¹² Wealden District Council (2013). Guidelines for the creation of Suitable Alternative Natural Green Space (SANGS). Available at: <u>http://www.wealden.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.aspx?IID=13843&sID=3484</u>

¹³ Wealden District Council (2013). Guidance note on reducing nitrogen deposition at the Ashdown Forest Special Area of Conservation and Special Protection Area. Available at: <u>http://www.wealden.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.aspx?IID=12452&sID=3484</u>

 ¹⁴ Wealden District Council (2013). Ashdown Forest SAC. Method for Air Quality Monitoring and Assessment of Nitrogen Deposition .Available at: <u>http://www.wealden.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.aspx?IID=13088&sID=3484</u>

contract to Ecus Ltd, supported by Air Quality Consultants Ltd, to implement a monitoring, modelling and assessment programme which will run for a number of years¹⁵. Monitoring began in the summer of 2014, and the Year 1 interim report has been published in February 2016¹⁶. Monitoring has now been completed, and the report based on the monitoring and modelling carried out by Air Quality Consultants¹⁷ concludes that the critical load for nitrogen deposition is predicted to be exceeded across almost the entire SAC for many future scenarios assessed, and therefore careful consideration will be necessary when balancing the need for development and environment/habitat protection in the District.

Wealden District Council expects the following measures to continue over the course of the next reporting year:

- Screening planning applications for air quality impacts based on the guidance documents;
- 2. Informing the public of high air pollution events via the Sussex Air website and the airAlert service;
- 3. Monitoring at LAQM sites (Ashdown Forest monitoring has been completed);
- 4. Supporting low emission vehicles through the Energise network.

East Sussex County Council successfully bid for a £1.4m grant from the AAfG to deliver a programme of active travel across East Sussex from 2017-2020, and South Wealden is a focus growth area for the programme.

Two of the 4 key objectives of AAfG are:

- Demonstrate an alignment to health, air quality and reduced carbon emissions and improve air quality; and
- Increase walking and cycling by 2% per year and increase the proportion of people completing 30 minutes of physical activity/day.

¹⁵ Wealden District Council website, Ashdown Forest Monitoring FAQs: <u>http://www.wealden.gov.uk/Wealden/Residents/Planning_and_Building_Control/Planning_Policy/Evidence_Base/PPolicy_Ashdown_Forest_Monitoring_FAQs.aspx</u> Retrieved July 2016.

¹⁶ Air Quality Consultants (2016). Interim Report Year 1: Ashdown Forest Air Quality Monitoring and Modelling. <u>http://www.wealden.gov.uk/Wealden/Residents/Planning_and_Building_Control/Planning_Policy/CoreStrategy/CoreStrategy/Library/Planning_Evidence_Base_Habitat_Regulations_Assessment.aspx</u>

¹⁷ Air Quality Consultants (2018). Ashdown Forest Air Quality Monitoring and Modelling Volume 1, available at:

http://www.wealden.gov.uk/Wealden/Residents/Planning_and_Building_Control/Planning_Policy/Evidence_Base/Planning_Evid ence_Base_Habitat_Regulations_Assessment.aspx

Project applications will be required to meet with the overall AAfG programme objectives of local economic growth and increased levels of physical activity through:

- Increasing the number of people walking or cycling to work, education or training establishments;
- Providing support to people who are physically inactive, and those with chronic health conditions and who want to increase their levels of physical activity;
- Increasing travel choices for people who are long term unemployed to access work.

Wealden DC is also working with East Sussex County Council (ESCC) to improve local air quality through the local Transport Plan (LTP3)¹⁸.

Wealden's strategic planning objective SPO7 (Sustainable Transport) as appropriate within the Core Strategy relates to promoting sustainable travel and reducing the need to travel by car which reflects the overall objectives of Local Transport Plan.

In Uckfield, further significant developments at Ridgewood (1,000 new homes and additional employment/retail development) will add strain to the existing road network – to that end, improvements have been made to Uckfield town centre and Uckfield Railway Station, including improvements to the High Street to make it more attractive for pedestrians, cyclists and bus users and enhancement of Uckfield bus station. These works are being funded from development contributions from residential developments already completed.

Further improvements to improve access for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users from residential areas to the town centre and other key trip attractors in the town are required and will augment the investment already being made in the town centre enhancements.

Further actions included in the Local Transport Plan relevant to Wealden include:

- Improvements to the Hempstead Lane junction to alleviate traffic congestion on the A271 and Hailsham town centre;
- Enhancements to the Cuckoo trail cycle and pedestrian route to Eastbourne;

¹⁸ Available at: <u>https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/localtransportplan/ltp3/downloadltp3</u>

- Improvements for all road users including public transport along the A2270 corridor into Eastbourne town centre;
- Bus Corridor improvements on the A259 and A2021.

In relation to the Ashdown Forest Special Protection Area (SPA)¹⁹, from within the Local Plan, air quality mitigation measures are necessary for identified development within the Plan to take place if they lead to an increase in local traffic movements, including financial contributions and other measures including appropriate electric vehicle charging infrastructure, guaranteed high speed broadband connections and the provision of electric public transport, cycling and walking schemes to reduce the use of petrol and diesel vehicles.

The Council will also work with Natural England, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and neighbouring authorities to jointly progress a Site Nitrogen Action Plan (SNAP), which will proactively seek to further reduce levels of nitrogen deposition over the longer term.

Wealden District Council's priorities for the coming year are to continue to implement changes to transport networks and road layout, and policies to keep shifting towards more sustainable forms of transport. Wealden will continue to monitor air quality across the district and keep the public informed, and will continue to protect public health by providing real-time O₃ measurements on the Sussex Air website and alerting the general public in advance of pollution events through the airAlert service.

The principal challenge that Wealden District Council anticipates facing is balancing the planned population growth in the District with conservation of the natural habitats that constitute most of the District's territory. Wealden District Council will address this challenge by managing a sustainable level of development, and monitoring pollution impacts on conservation areas such as Ashdown Forest.

¹⁹ Wealden Habitats Directive AQ Reports for Ashdown Forest, available at:

http://www.wealden.gov.uk/Wealden/Residents/Planning_and_Building_Control/Planning_Policy/CoreStrategy/CoreStrategyLibr ary/Planning_Evidence_Base_Habitat_Regulations_Assessment.aspx

Table 2.2 – Progress on Measures to Improve Air Quality

Measure No.	Measure	EU Category	EU Classification	Organisations involved and Funding Source	Planning Phase	Implementation Phase	Key Performance Indicator	Reduction in Pollutant / Emission from Measure	Progress to Date	Estimated / Actual Completion Date	Comments / Barriers to implementa tion
1	Air Quality and Emissions Mitigation Guidance for Sussex	Policy Guidance and Development Control	Air Quality Planning and Policy Guidance	Sussex Air Quality Partnership	N/A	2014	N/A	N/A	Guidance revised in 2019	2014	Under review by the partnership.
2	Air Quality Strategic Plan 2010	Policy Guidance and Development Control	Regional Groups Co- ordinating programmes to develop Area wide Strategies to reduce emissions and improve air quality	Sussex Air Quality Partnership	N/A	2010 - 2015	N/A	N/A	Completed - Plan published and currently implemented	2010	None.
3	Sussex Air website	Public Information	Via the Internet	Sussex Air Quality Partnership	N/A	2012-ongoing	N/A	N/A	The website is online and reporting on monitored pollution levels	2012 - Ongoing	Under review by the partnership.
4	airAlert	Public Information	Via other mechanisms	Sussex Air Quality Partnership	N/A	2011 - Ongoing	989 registered subscribers, 70 from Wealden District	N/A	The service is running and the number of subscribers increasing every year	2011 - Ongoing	None.
5	Energise Network	Promoting Low Emission Transport	Procuring alternative Refuelling infrastructure to promote Low Emission Vehicles, EV recharging, Gas fuel recharging	Sussex Air Quality Partnership and various LAs in Sussex & Kent	N/A	2014 - Ongoing	5 charging points installed in Wealden District	N/A	The service is running, and several charging points are available in Wealden District	2014 - Ongoing	None.

Measure No.	Measure	EU Category	EU Classification	Organisations involved and Funding Source	Planning Phase	Implementation Phase	Key Performance Indicator	Reduction in Pollutant / Emission from Measure	Progress to Date	Estimated / Actual Completion Date	Comments / Barriers to implementa tion
6	SANGS guidelines	Policy Guidance and Development Control	Air Quality Planning and Policy Guidance	Wealden District Council	N/A	2013	N/A	N/A	Guideline document to help identify SANGS sites published.	2013	None.
7	Nitrogen Reduction Guidance	Policy Guidance and Development Control	Air Quality Planning and Policy Guidance	Wealden District Council	N/A	2013	N/A	N/A	Guidance note published for small scale developments on reducing traffic impacts on Ashdown Forest.	2013	None.
8	Ashdown Forest Monitoring	Other	Other	Wealden District Council	2013	2014 - 2017	N/A	N/A	Monitoring started 2014	2017	None.
9	Publicly available advice on sustainability	Public Information	Via the Internet	Wealden District Council	N/A	2017 - ongoing	N/A	N/A	The website is online and fully available and includes policies on Sustainable Transport and Climate Change.	2017 - ongoing	None.
10	Encouraging home working using IT solutions	Promoting Travel Alternatives	Encourage / Facilitate home-working	Wealden District Council	N/A	2017 - ongoing	N/A	N/A	IT solutions in place for WDC staff wishing to home-work	2017 - ongoing	None.
11	Employee tax incentive scheme for purchasing bikes	Promoting Travel Alternatives	Promotion of cycling	Wealden District Council	N/A	2017 - ongoing	N/A	N/A	Regular Workplace Health initiatives with Sustrans to encourage cycling including tax incentive via salary sacrifice scheme	2017 - ongoing	None.
12	Car sharing for employees and associated priority staff parking	Promoting Travel Alternatives	Workplace Travel Planning	Wealden District Council	N/A	2017 - ongoing	N/A	N/A	Ongoing Regular workplace health initiatives to encourage walking. Priority for car sharers for parking.	2017 - ongoing	None.

Measure No.	Measure	EU Category	EU Classification	Organisations involved and Funding Source	Planning Phase	Implementation Phase	Key Performance Indicator	Reduction in Pollutant / Emission from Measure	Progress to Date	Estimated / Actual Completion Date	Comments / Barriers to implementa tion
13	Implementatio n of ESCC Local Transport Plan 3	Traffic Management	Strategic highway improvements, Re-prioritising road space away from cars, including Access management, Selective vehicle priority, high vehicle occupancy lane	East Sussex County Council & Wealden District Council	pre-2016	2016 - 2021	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	2016 - ongoing	Under review
14	Bus route improvements in Wealden	Transport Planning and Infrastructure	Bus route improvements	East Sussex County Council & Wealden District Council	pre-2016	2016 - 2021	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	2016 - ongoing	Under review
15	Cycle network improvements in Wealden	Transport Planning and Infrastructure	Cycle network	East Sussex County Council & Wealden District Council	pre-2016	2016 - 2021	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	2016 - ongoing	Under review
16	Public transport improvements in Wealden	Transport Planning and Infrastructure	Public transport improvements- interchanges stations and services	East Sussex County Council & Wealden District Council	pre-2016	2016 - 2021	N/A	N/A	Ongoing Infrastructure projects to be funded wholly or partly by CIL Chargeable Development for improvements to release additional road capacity and road safety measures.	2016 - ongoing	Under review
17	Introduction of tariffs for new developments to reduce the impact of cumulative	Policy Guidance and Development Control	Other policy	Wealden District Council	N/A	2018- ongoing	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	2018-Ongoing	None

Measure No.	Measure	EU Category	EU Classification	Organisations involved and Funding Source	Planning Phase	Implementation Phase	Key Performance Indicator	Reduction in Pollutant / Emission from Measure	Progress to Date	Estimated / Actual Completion Date	Comments / Barriers to implementa tion
	development upon the Ashdown Forest SPA/SAC										
18	Commitment to a sustainable procurement strategy	Policy Guidance and Development Control	Sustainable Procurement Guidance	Wealden District Council	N/A	2014	N/A	N/A	WDC encourages key suppliers to demonstrate an awareness of sustainability issues and to promote practices that are consistence with their policies. ²⁰	2014-2017	None
19	Promote health activities and encourage public to participate	Public Information	Via Other	Wealden District Council	N/A	2018	N/A	N/A	Introduced various 'Healthy Wealden' activities to encourage use of the Cuckoo Trail in 2018	2018-Ongoing	None
20	Ensuring air quality mitigation is policy in the new local plan	Policy Guidance and Development Control	Air Quality Planning and Policy Guidance	Wealden District Council			N/A	N/A		Ongoing	
21	Use of Sussex Air Guidance and incorporation of planning conditions on major plans	Policy Guidance and Development Control	Other policy	Wealden District Council			N/A	N/A		Ongoing	
22	Support and involvement with Sussex Air and it's initiatives	Policy Guidance and Development Control	Regional Groups Co- ordinating programmes to develop Area wide Strategies to reduce	Wealden District Council			N/A	N/A		Ongoing	

²⁰ Wealden Procurement Strategy. http://www.wealden.gov.uk/Wealden/Business/Tenders_and_Procurement/Procurement_Selling_to_Wealden_District_Council.aspx

Measure No.	Measure	EU Category	EU Classification	Organisations involved and Funding Source	Planning Phase	Implementation Phase	Key Performance Indicator	Reduction in Pollutant / Emission from Measure	Progress to Date	Estimated / Actual Completion Date	Comments / Barriers to implementa tion
			emissions and improve air quality								

2.3 PM_{2.5} – Local Authority Approach to Reducing Emissions and/or Concentrations

As detailed in Policy Guidance LAQM.PG16 (Chapter 7), local authorities are expected to work towards reducing emissions and/or concentrations of PM_{2.5} (particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of 2.5µm or less). There is clear evidence that PM_{2.5} has a significant impact on human health, including premature mortality, allergic reactions, and cardiovascular diseases.

Wealden District Council currently does not undertake PM_{2.5} monitoring within the district. Concentrations monitored at the Holly Place urban background site in Eastbourne indicate that levels are well within required levels.

Wealden District Council is taking the following measures to address PM_{2.5}:

- Supporting the Energise Network of electric vehicle charging points, together with the Sussex Air Quality Partnership;
- Requiring the assessment of PM_{2.5} as part of Air Quality Assessments for planning applications.

Although there are no new specific measures targeting PM_{2.5} currently, it is expected that the combination of actions and that are currently in force or coming into force will help to bring about a reduction in PM_{2.5}. However, discussions are being held with Public Health and other Local Authorities as part of Sussex Air to devise policies that will specifically target the reduction in PM_{2.5}. Further measures will be considered in future years and reported on subsequent annual reports.

3 Air Quality Monitoring Data and Comparison with Air Quality Objectives and National Compliance

3.1 Summary of Monitoring Undertaken

3.1.1 Automatic Monitoring Sites

This section sets out what monitoring has taken place and how it compares with objectives.

During 2019, automatic (continuous) monitoring was undertaken at two sites in Wealden District: Isfield (for O₃) and Lullington Heath (for NO₂, SO₂ and O₃). Particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) was not monitored in the district, so this report includes the results from two sites in the neighbouring Eastbourne District: Devonshire Park and Holly Place for information. Table A.1 in Appendix A shows the details of the sites.

Wealden - Lullington Heath and Eastbourne - Holly Place are part of the Automatic Urban and Rural Network (AURN), managed by the Environment Agency. National monitoring results are available at <u>https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/</u>.

Wealden - Isfield and Eastbourne - Devonshire Park are part of the Sussex Air Quality Monitoring Network (SAQMN), managed on behalf of Sussex Air by King's College London Environmental Research Group (KCL-ERG). Regional monitoring results are available at <u>www.sussex-air.net</u>.

Maps showing the location of the monitoring sites are provided in Appendix D. Further details on how the monitors are calibrated and how the data has been adjusted are included in Appendix C.

3.1.2 Non-Automatic Monitoring Sites

Wealden District Council undertook non- automatic (passive) monitoring of NO₂ at 10 sites during 2019. Table A.2 in Appendix A shows the details of the sites.

The towns of Crowborough and Uckfield each contain one roadside site (W2 and W4 respectively) and two urban background sites (W1 and W3), whilst two roadside sites are operated in Polegate (W5) and Hailsham (W6, installed in 2012). The original diffusion tube network has been operational since 2001. Two further roadside sites (W7 and W8) – previously operated by ESCC – are currently maintained by Wealden

District Council. Due to site W7 not being representative of relevant exposure and being difficult to access, the decision was taken to relocate the site further down the same road and nearer to residential properties as a kerbside location in March 2017. Two new diffusion tube sites were also added in May 2017. One is at a kerbside location (W10) on the main road (A22) that runs through Forest Row. The other is a background location at 14 Riverside, Forest Row (W9).

Data capture for 2019 was generally good; the lowest data capture during the monitoring period was 83%, recorded at diffusion tube location W10 (therefore no annualisation was required for any diffusion tubes).

Maps showing the location of the monitoring sites are provided in Appendix D: Map(s) of Monitoring Locations and AQMAs. Further details on Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) for the diffusion tubes, including bias adjustments and any other adjustments applied (e.g. "annualisation" and/or distance correction), are included in Appendix C.

3.2 Individual Pollutants

The air quality monitoring results presented in this section are, where relevant, adjusted for bias, "annualisation" and distance correction. Further details on adjustments are provided in Appendix C.

3.2.1 Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂)

Table A.3 in Appendix A compares the ratified and adjusted monitored NO₂ annual mean concentrations for the past 5 years with the air quality objective of $40\mu g/m^3$. For diffusion tubes, the full 2019 dataset of monthly mean values is provided in Appendix B.

The results indicate that the annual mean NO₂ concentrations at the Wealden -Lullington Heath and Eastbourne - Holly Place automatic monitoring sites were both well within the UK air quality objective ($40 \ \mu g/m^3$) between 2015 to 2019. No valid data was available from the Eastbourne - Devonshire Park station for 2015 or 2016; however, annual mean NO₂ concentrations between 2017, 2018 and 2019, were well below the annual mean objective. After correcting for distance to the nearest sensitive receptors, the monitored annual mean NO₂ concentrations in 2019 ranged from 11.4 μ g/m³ (locations W1 and W3) to 29.0 μ g/m³ (location W10), below the objective of 40 μ g/m³.

For diffusion tubes, the full 2019 dataset of monthly mean values is provided in Appendix B, which includes the distance-corrected concentrations.

Table A.4 in Appendix A compares the ratified continuous monitored NO₂ hourly mean concentrations for the past 5 years with the air quality objective of $200\mu g/m^3$, not to be exceeded more than 18 times per year.

Neither of the automatic monitoring sites exceeded the 200 μ g/m³ standard on any occasion in 2019, nor in any year since 2015. The results indicate that the 1-hour NO₂ air quality objective is unlikely to be exceeded at any location in the district.

Diffusion tubes do not provide hourly measurements of NO₂; however, the Defra Technical Guidance states that where annual mean NO₂ concentrations measured by diffusion tubes exceed 60 μ g/m³ there is a likelihood that the 1-hour objective may be exceeded. All of the annual mean NO₂ concentrations at diffusion tube monitoring locations between 2015 and 2019, inclusive, were well below 60 μ g/m³ and so the 1-hour objective is very unlikely to have been exceeded.

Figure 1 shows the trend in NO₂ concentrations monitored at the Wealden -Lullington Heath, Eastbourne - Devonshire Park and Eastbourne - Holly Place automatic monitoring stations. The results indicate there is a gradual downward trend in NO₂ concentrations over the time period shown, with little variation from year to year. Concentrations have also been well below the annual mean air quality objective of 40 μ g/m³ in all years.

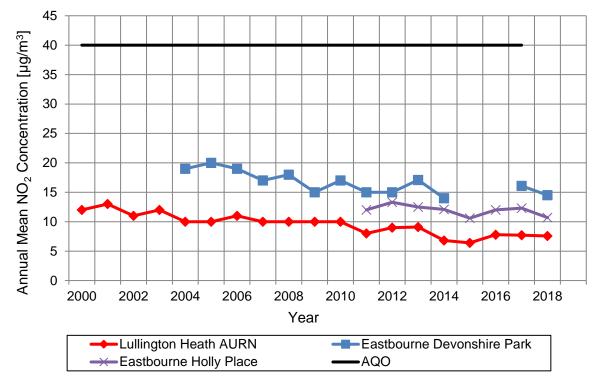


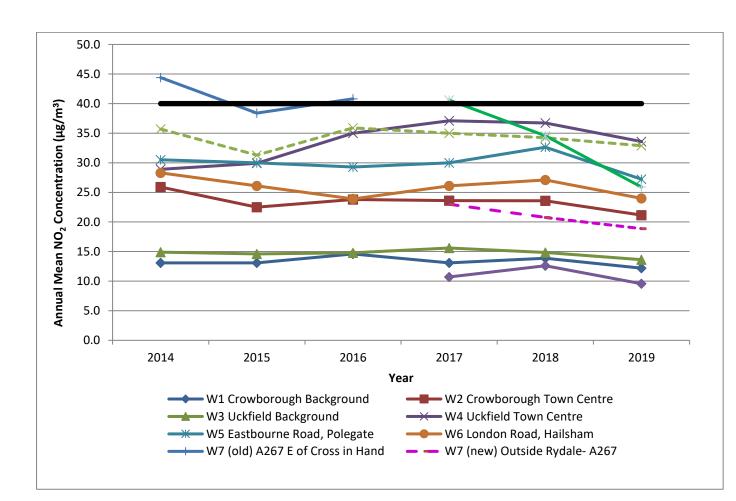
Figure 1: Trends in Annual Mean NO₂ Concentrations measured at Automatic Monitoring Sites

Figure 2 shows trends in annual mean NO₂ concentrations measured at nonautomatic (diffusion tube) sites. The W7 (A267 East of Cross in Hand) and W8 (A22 West of Boship Roundabout) sites are located outside town centres by busy A-roads, and have historically recorded the highest values. They showed a trend for gradually decreasing concentrations between 2014 and 2015, although concentrations were higher again in 2016 (for W8 only) and then decreasing between 2016 to 2019. Due to general difficulties accessing the W7 site, this site was relocated in 2017 to a new location (outside Rydale, A267), where the concentration monitored in 2017, 2018 and 2019 are much lower (23.0 μ g/m³, 20.8 μ g/m³ and 19.0 μ g/m³ respectively) than in previous years at the A267 East of Cross in Hand location, and more representative of relevant exposure.

In addition, annual mean NO₂ concentrations at W4 (Uckfield Town Centre), have increased significantly between 2014 (28.9 μ g/m³) and 2019 (33.7 μ g/m³).

At other roadside sites, there has been some year-to-year variability, but generally no significant increasing or decreasing trend in concentrations. Annual average NO₂ concentrations at the background diffusion tube sites (W1 and W3), also show very little overall trend. The trend in concentrations at the new background site, W9, decreased from 10.7 μ g/m³ in 2017 to 9.6 μ g/m³ in 2019 and W10 decreased from

40.6 μ g/m³ in 2017 to 31.0 μ g/m³ in 2019. Both W9 and W10 will be monitored over the coming years.





3.2.2 Particulate Matter (PM₁₀)

There has been no PM_{10} monitoring undertaken within the Council's area. Concentrations monitored at two urban background sites in Eastbourne (Devonshire Park and Holly Place) are therefore provided for indicative purposes. No data are available for Eastbourne Holly Place for 2017 and 2018 as the PM_{10} analyser was withdrawn on 4th January 2017. However, 2019 data shows the lowest PM_{10} concentration of 15.5 µg/m³ since 2010.

Table A.5 in Appendix A compares the ratified and adjusted monitored PM_{10} annual mean concentrations for the past 5 years with the air quality objective of $40\mu g/m^3$. The results indicate that annual mean PM_{10} concentrations were well below the UK air quality objective between 2015 and 2019.

Figure 3 shows the trend in annual mean PM₁₀ concentrations. A slight decreasing trend is apparent from concentrations recorded at Holly Place between 2010 and 2016, but with considerable year on year variability. However, the longer-term data (2001 to 2014 and 2017 to 2019) at Devonshire Park shows a varying trend with an increase from 2004 to 2011 and decrease from 2011 to 2019. Concentrations have been consistently well below the annual mean air quality objective.

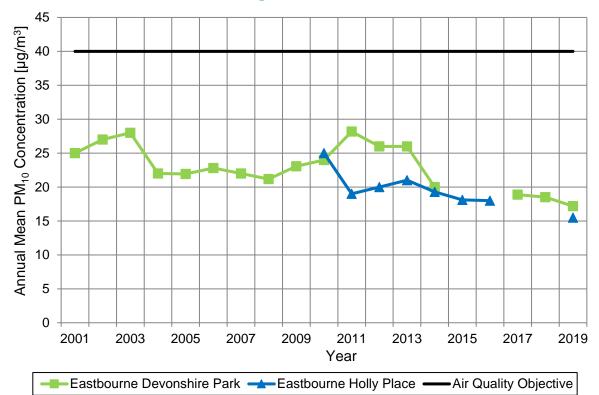
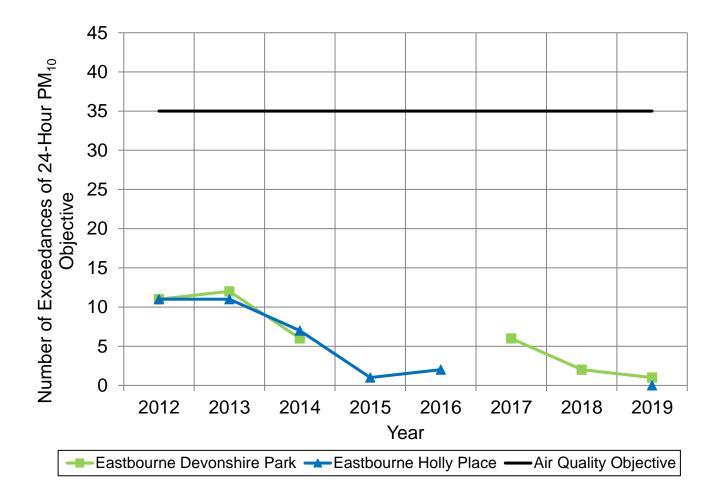


Figure 3: Trends in Annual Mean Particulate Matter (PM₁₀) Concentrations measured at Automatic Monitoring Sites

Table A.6 in Appendix A compares the ratified continuous monitored PM_{10} daily mean concentrations for the past 5 years with the air quality objective of $50\mu g/m^3$, not to be exceeded more than 35 times per year. These results show that both Eastbourne sites achieved the daily PM_{10} objective every year from 2015 to 2019.

Figure 4 shows the trend in number of exceedances of the daily mean PM_{10} objective. The number of days which exceeded the objective has generally been decreasing at both sites between 2012 and 2019.

Figure 4: Trends in Number of Exceedances of the 24-Hour Mean Particulate Matter (PM₁₀) Objective measured at Automatic Monitoring Sites



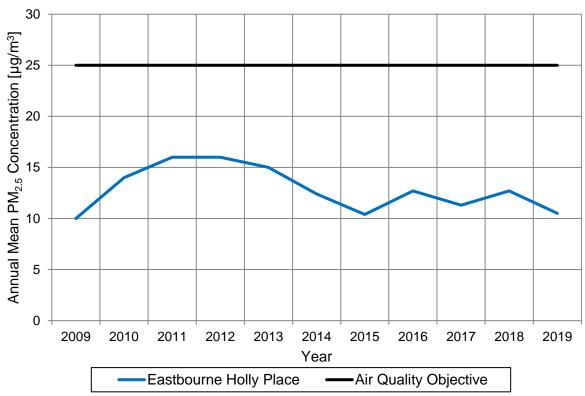
3.2.3 Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5})

There is no PM_{2.5} monitoring undertaken within Wealden District. Concentrations monitored at the Holly Place urban background site in Eastbourne are therefore provided for indicative purposes.

Table A.7 in Appendix A presents the ratified and adjusted monitored $PM_{2.5}$ annual mean concentrations for the past 5 years. Between 2015 and 2019, the measured levels have varied between 10.4 µg/m³ and 12.7 µg/m³, below the Air Quality Objective of 25 µg/m³.

Figure 5 shows the trend in annual mean $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations. No clear trend is evident in the results between 2009 and 2019.





3.2.4 Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂)

Table A.8 in Appendix A compares the ratified continuous monitored SO₂ concentrations at the Lullington Heath rural site for 2019 with the air quality objectives for SO₂. There have been no exceedances in 2019 of any of the three UK Air Quality Objectives for SO₂ (15-minute, 1-hour and 24-hour). Further details about the SO₂ objectives are reported in Appendix E.

3.2.5 Ozone (O₃)

Table A.9 in Appendix A presents the ratified continuous monitored annual mean O_3 concentrations for the past 5 years at the Isfield and Lullington Heath rural sites. Between 2015 and 2019, the annual mean concentrations monitored at Isfield have been between 45.2 µg/m³ and 53.3 µg/m³, and at Lullington Heath between 54.4 µg/m³ and 61.4 µg/m³. There is no annual mean objective or target value for annual mean O_3 concentration.

Figure 6 shows the trend in annual mean O_3 concentrations at the two monitoring stations. No clear trend is evident in the results at Isfield between 2011 and 2019. While a slight increase has been observed at Lullington Heath between 2018 and 2019, Isfield decreased from 53.2 μ g/m³ to 45.2 μ g/m³.

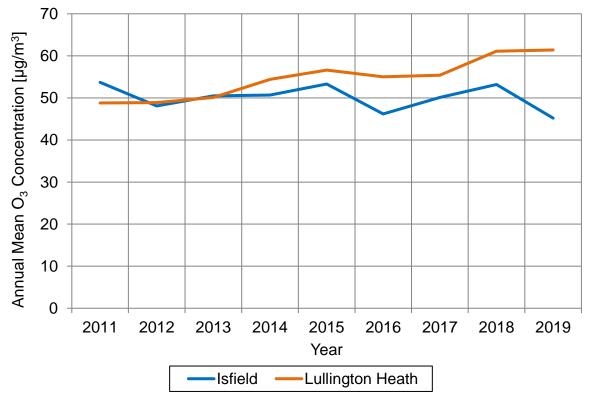
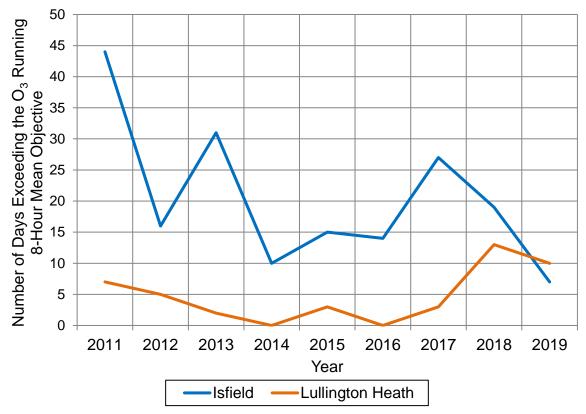


Figure 6: Trends in Annual Mean O₃ Concentrations measured at Automatic Monitoring Sites

Table A.10 in Appendix A compares the ratified continuous monitored O_3 running 8hour mean concentrations for the past 5 years with the UK air quality objective of 100 µg/m³, not to be exceeded on more than 10 days per year. The monitoring results show that the Isfield station exceeded the O_3 objective every year from 2013 to 2018, except for 2019 (7 days). The Lullington Heath station has measured days exceeding the objective in 2018 (13 days) and 2019 (10 days). In 2019, the number of days exceeding the O_3 running 8- hour mean was 10 for Lullington Heath and 7 for Isfield Station.

Figure 7 shows the trend in number of days exceeding the O_3 objective between 2011 and 2019. Isfield Station shows a varying trend with sharp increases in 2013 and 2017. Lullington Heath Station shows an overall decreasing trend between 2011 and 2016 and an increase between 2016 and 2018. Trends between 2018 to 2019 decreased for both sites.





Appendix A: Monitoring Results

Table A.1 – Details of Automatic Monitoring Sites

Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Ref	Y OS Grid Ref	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Monitoring Technique	Distance to Relevant Exposure (m)	Distance to kerb of nearest road (m) ⁽²⁾	Inlet Height (m)
LL1	Lullington Heath AURN	Rural	553855	101740	NO ₂ ; SO ₂ ; O ₃	NO	Chemiluminiscence; UV Fluorescence; UV Absorption	> 1000	> 1000	3
AR2	Wealden - Isfield	Rural	544890	117380	O ₃	NO	UV Absorption	60	20	2
EB1	Eastbourne - Devonshire Park	Urban Background	561180	98360	NO ₂ ; PM ₁₀ ; O ₃	NO	Chemiluminiscence; FDMS; UV Absorption	40	10	1.5
EB3	Holly Place AURN	Urban Background	560085	103118	NO ₂ ; PM ₁₀ ; PM _{2.5}	NO	Chemiluminiscence; TEOM FDMS; TEOM FDMS	10	10	4

Notes:

(1) Om if the monitoring site is at a location of exposure (e.g. installed on the façade of a residential property).

(2) N/A if not applicable.

Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Ref	Y OS Grid Ref	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Distance to Relevant Exposure (m) ⁽¹⁾	Distance to kerb of nearest road (m) ⁽²⁾	Tube collocated with a Continuous Analyser?	Height (m)
W1	Crowborough Background	Urban Background	552591	130667	NO ₂	NO	7.5	2	NO	2.5
W2	Crowborough Town Centre	Roadside	551626	131090	NO ₂	NO	7.5	2	NO	2.5
W3	Uckfield Background	Urban Background	547828	121954	NO ₂	NO	15	1	NO	2.5
W4	Uckfield Town Centre	Roadside	547250	120977	NO ₂	NO	7.5	2	NO	2.5
W5	Eastbourne Road, Polegate	Roadside	558079	104481	NO ₂	NO	13	1	NO	2
W6	London Road, Hailsham	Roadside	558845	109783	NO ₂	NO	0.5	1	NO	2.5
W7 ⁽³⁾	Outside Rydale- A267	Kerbside	557503	121318	NO ₂	NO	7.5	1	NO	2
W8	A22 W of Boship roundabout	Roadside	556933	111165	NO ₂	NO	8	2	NO	2
W9	Forest Row Riverside	Background	542336	135324	NO ₂	NO	5	0.1	NO	2
W10	Forest Row A22	Kerbside	542464	135279	NO ₂	NO	1	2	NO	2

Table A.2 – Details of Non-Automatic Monitoring Sites

Notes:

(1) Om if the monitoring site is at a location of exposure (e.g. installed on/adjacent to the façade of a residential property).

(2) N/A if not applicable.

(3) Location of W7 was moved in 2017 as previous location deemed unsafe.

Table A.3 – Annual Mean NO2 Monitoring Results

	X OS	Y OS Grid	Oite Tana	Monitoring	Valid Data Capture for	Valid Data Capture	NO2	Annual Me	an Concent	ration (µg/m	1 ³) (3)
Site ID	Grid Ref (Easting)	Ref (Northing)	Site Type	Туре	Monitoring Period (%) (1)	2019 (%) (2)	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
LL1	553855	101740	Rural	Automatic	97.38	95.94	6.4	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.4
EB1	561180	98360	Urban Background	Automatic	90.54	91.35	-	-	16.1	14.5	15.0
EB3	560085	103118	Urban Background	Automatic	89.75	90.70	10.6	12	12.3	10.7	10.8
W1	552591	130667	Urban Background	Diffusion Tube	100.00	91.67	13.1	14.6	13.1	13.9	12.2
W2	551626	131090	Roadside	Diffusion Tube	90.91	83.33	22.5	23.8	23.6	23.6	22.9
W3	547828	121954	Urban Background	Diffusion Tube	100.00	91.67	14.6	14.8	15.6	14.9	13.7
W4	547250	120977	Roadside	Diffusion Tube	100.00	91.67	29.9	35	37.1	36.7	33.7
W5	558079	104481	Roadside	Diffusion Tube	100.00	91.67	30	29.3	30.0	32.6	27.4
W6	558845	109783	Roadside	Diffusion Tube	100.00	91.67	26.1	23.9	26.1	27.1	24.2
W7 ⁽⁴⁾	557503	121318	Kerbside	Diffusion Tube	100.00	91.67	38.4	40.8	23.0	20.8	19.0
W8	556933	111165	Roadside	Diffusion Tube	100.00	91.67	31.3	35.9	35.0	34.2	32.9
W9	542336	135324	Urban Background	Diffusion Tube	100.00	91.67	-	-	10.7	12.6	9.6
W10	542464	135279	Kerbside	Diffusion Tube	90.91	83.33	-	-	40.6	34.6	31.0

☑ Diffusion tube data has been bias corrected

☑ Annualisation has been conducted where data capture is <75%

Notes:

Exceedances of the NO₂ annual mean objective of $40\mu g/m^3$ are shown in **bold**.

NO2 annual means exceeding 60µg/m³, indicating a potential exceedance of the NO2 1-hour mean objective are shown in bold and underlined.

(1) Data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year.

(2) Data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for 6 months, the maximum data capture for the full calendar year is 50%).

(3) Means for diffusion tubes have been corrected for bias. All means have been "annualised" as per Boxes 7.9 and 7.10 in LAQM.TG16 if valid data capture for the full calendar year is less than 75%. See Appendix C for details.

(4) Location of W7 was moved in 2017 as previous location deemed unsafe.



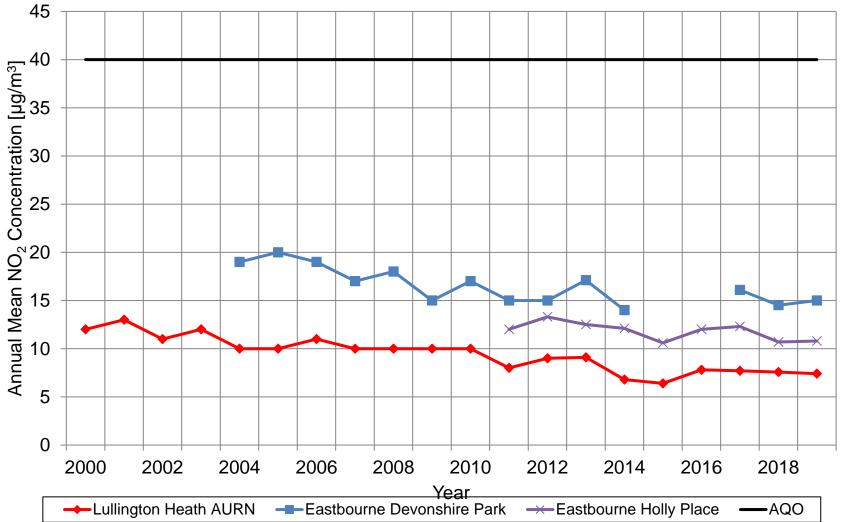


Figure A.1 – Trends in Annual Mean NO₂ Concentrations

Site ID	X OS Grid Ref	Y OS Grid Ref	Site Type	Monitoring	Valid Data Capture for	Valid Data Capture	NC	D₂ 1-Hour	Means >	200µg/m	3 (3)
	(Easting)	(Northing)	Site Type	Туре	Monitoring Period (%) ⁽¹⁾	2019 (%) ⁽²⁾	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
LL1	553855	101740	Rural	Automatic	95.46	95.61	0 (42.7)	0	0	0	0
EB1	561180	98360	Urban Background	Automatic	90.53	91.35	-	-	0 (68.9)	0	0
EB3	560085	103118	Urban Background	Automatic	89.75	90.70	0 (62)	0	0	0(59.8)	0

Table A.4 – 1-Hour Mean NO₂ Monitoring Results

Notes:

Exceedances of the NO₂ 1-hour mean objective (200µg/m³ not to be exceeded more than 18 times/year) are shown in **bold**.

(1) Data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year.

(2) Data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for 6 months, the maximum data capture for the full calendar year is 50%).

(3) If the period of valid data is less than 85%, the 99.8th percentile of 1-hour means is provided in brackets.

Site ID	X OS Grid Ref (Easting)	Y OS Grid Ref (Northing)	Site Type	Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period (%) (1)	Valid Data Capture 2019 (%) ⁽²⁾	PM ₁₀	PM ₁₀ Annual Mean Concentration (μg/m³) ⁽³⁾							
						2015	2016	2017	2018	2019				
EB1	561180	98360	Urban Background	88.14	88.92	-	-	18.9	18.5	17.2				
EB3	560085	103118	Urban Background	97.26	95.32	18.1	18	-	-	15.5				

Table A.5 – Annual Mean PM₁₀ Monitoring Results

☑ Annualisation has been conducted where data capture is <75%

Notes:

Exceedances of the PM₁₀ annual mean objective of $40\mu g/m^3$ are shown in **bold**.

(1) Data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year.

(2) Data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for 6 months, the maximum data capture for the full calendar year is 50%).

(3) All means have been "annualised" as per Boxes 7.9 and 7.10 in LAQM.TG16, valid data capture for the full calendar year is less than 75%. See Appendix C for details.

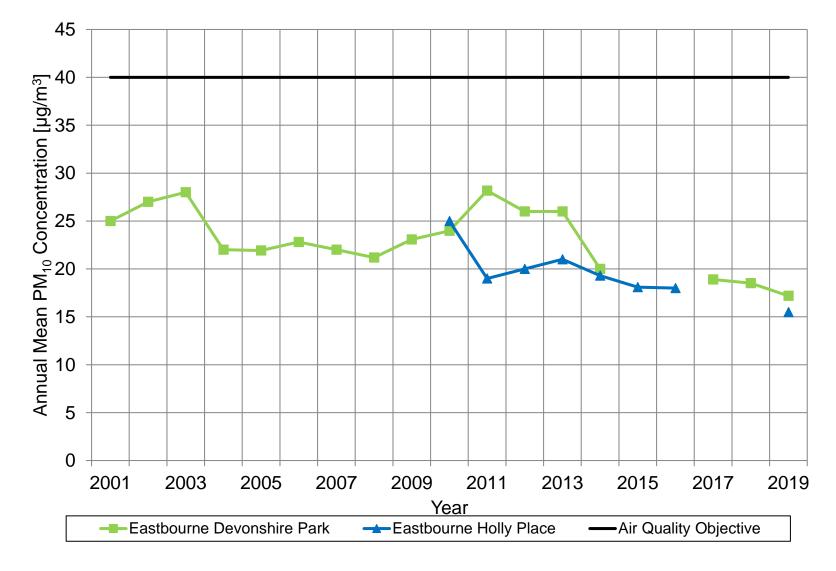


Figure A.2 – Trends in Annual Mean PM₁₀ Concentrations

Site ID	X OS Grid Ref	Y OS Grid Ref	Site Type	Valid Data Capture for	Valid Data Capture	PM	10 24-Hou	r Means	> 50µg/n	1 ^{3 (3)}
	(Easting)	(Northing)	Site Type	Monitoring Period (%) ⁽¹⁾	2019 (%) ⁽²⁾	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EB1	561180	98360	Urban Background	87.61	88.22	-	-	0 (22)	2	1
EB3	560085	103118	Urban Background	95.07	96.98	1 (26)	2	-	-	0

Table A.6 – 24-Hour Mean PM₁₀ Monitoring Results

Notes:

Exceedances of the PM₁₀ 24-hour mean objective (50µg/m³ not to be exceeded more than 35 times/year) are shown in **bold**.

(1) Data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year.

(2) Data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for 6 months, the maximum data capture for the full calendar year is 50%).

(3) If the period of valid data is less than 85%, the 90.4th percentile of 24-hour means is provided in brackets.

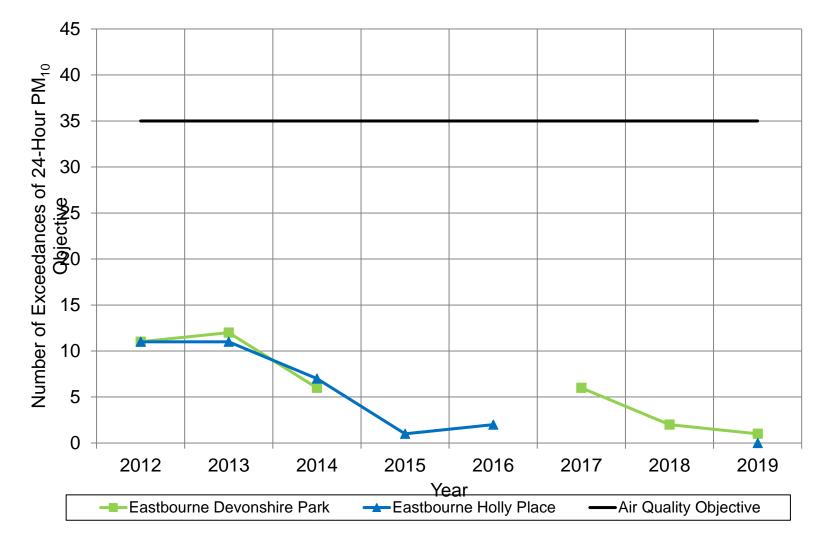


Figure A.3 – Trends in Number of 24-Hour Mean PM₁₀ Results >50µg/m³

Table A.7 – PM2.5 Monitoring Results

Site ID	X OS Grid Ref	Y OS Grid Ref	Site Type Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period (%) Urban 98.39	Valid Data Capture for	Valid Data Capture 2019 (%)	PM _{2.5} A	nnual Mea	n Concen	n Concentration (µg/m³) ⁽³⁾				
	(Easting)	(Northing)		Monitoring Period (%) (")	(2)	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019			
EB3	560085	103118		98.39	98.55	10.4 (12.3)	12.7 (14.4)	11.3	12.7	10.5			

☑ Annualisation has been conducted where data capture is <75%

Notes:

(1) Data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year.

(2) Data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for 6 months, the maximum data capture for the full calendar year is 50%).

(3) All means have been "annualised" as per Boxes 7.9 and 7.10 in LAQM.TG16, valid data capture for the full calendar year is less than 75%. See Appendix C for details.

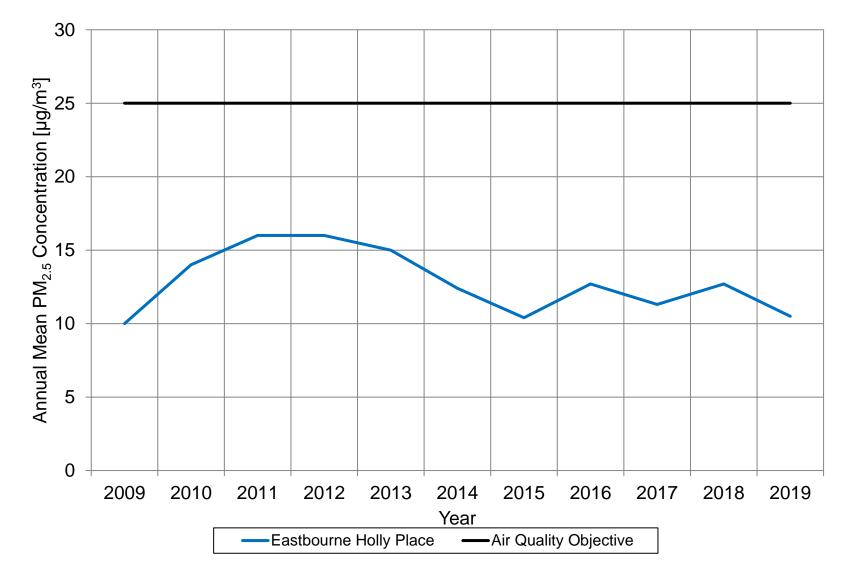


Figure A.4 – Trends in Annual Mean PM_{2.5} Concentrations

	X OS Grid	Y OS Grid		Valid Data Capture	Valid Data Capture		r of Exceedance centile in bracke	
Site ID	Ref (Easting)	Ref (Northing)	Site Type	for monitoring Period (%) ⁽¹⁾	2019 (%) ⁽²⁾	15-minute Objective (266 μg/m³)	1-hour Objective (350 μg/m³)	24-hour Objective (125 μg/m ³)
LL1	544890	117380	Rural	100	100	0	0	0

Table A.8 – SO2 Monitoring Results

Notes:

Exceedances of the SO₂ objectives are shown in **bold** (15-min mean = 35 allowed a year, 1-hour mean = 24 allowed a year, 24-hour mean = 3 allowed a year)

(1) Data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year.

(2) Data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for 6 months, the maximum data capture for the full calendar year is 50%).

(3) If the period of valid data is less than 85%, the relevant percentiles are provided in brackets.

Table A.9 – Annual Mean O₃ Monitoring Results

	X OS Grid Ref	Y OS Grid Ref	0:44 7-44	Valid Data Capture for	Valid Data	O ₃ Annual Mean Concentration (µg/m ³) ⁽³⁾						
Site ID	(Easting)	(Northing)	Site Type	Monitoring Period (%) ⁽¹⁾	Capture 2019 (%) ⁽²⁾	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019		
AR2	553855	101740	Rural	100	100	53.3	46.2	50.1	53.2	45.2		
LL1	544890	117380	Rural	96.3	96.4	56.6	55	55.4	61.1	61.4		

Notes: (1) data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year.

(2) data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for 6 months, the maximum data capture for the full calendar year is 50%).

(3) All means have been "annualised" as per Technical Guidance LAQM.TG16, valid data capture for the full calendar year is less than 75%. See Appendix C for details.

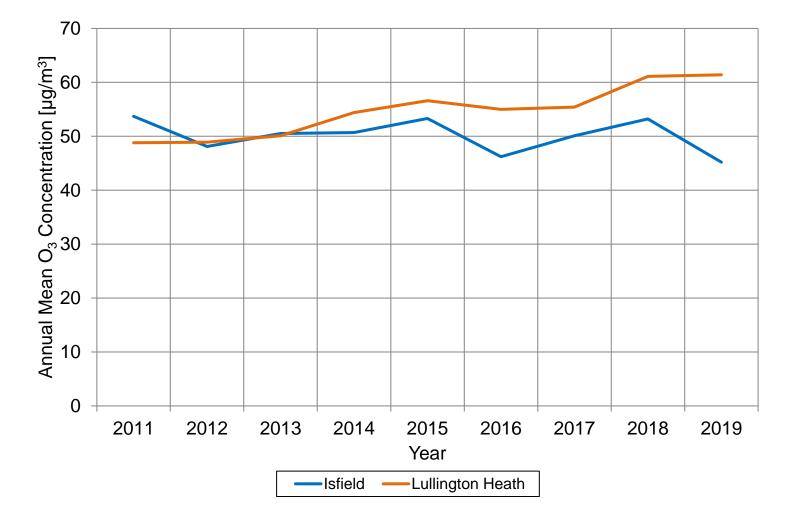


Figure A.5 – Trends in Annual Mean O₃ Concentrations

Table A.10 – Running 8-Hour Mean O₃ Monitoring Results

Site	X OS Grid Ref	Y OS Grid Ref	Site Type	Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period (%)		Days Wi	th O₃ Runn	ing 8-Hour	[•] Means > 1	20µg/m³
ID	(Easting)	(Northing)	one rype		(%) ⁽²⁾	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
AR2	553855	101740	Rural	100	100	15	14	27	19	7
LL1	544890	117380	Rural	97	97	3	0	3	13	10

Notes: Exceedances of the O₃ running 8-hour mean objective (120 µg/m³ not to be exceeded more than 10 days/year) are shown in **bold**.

(1) data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year.

(2) data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for 6 months, the maximum data capture for the full calendar year is 50%).

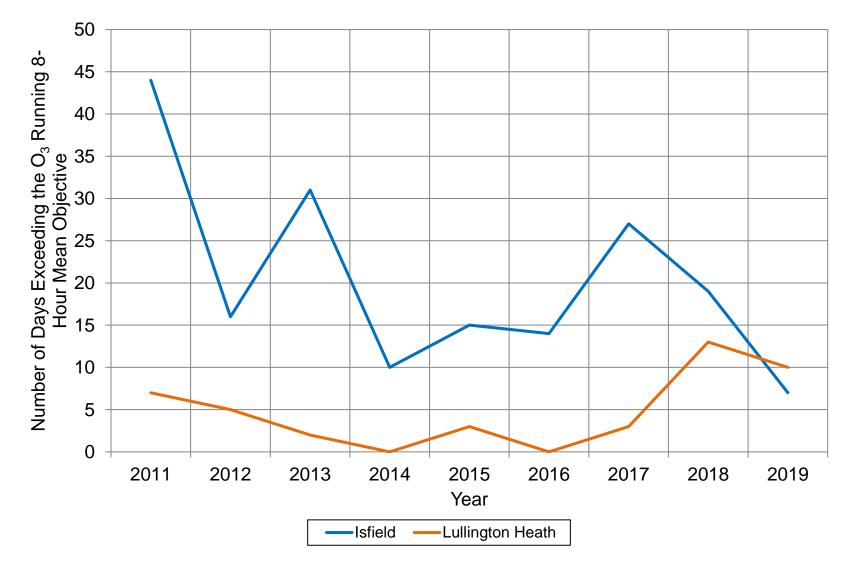


Figure A.6 – Trends in Number of Days Exceeding the Running 8-Hour Mean O₃ Objective (100µg/m³)

Appendix B: Full Monthly Diffusion Tube Results for 2019

Table B.1 – NO₂ Monthly Diffusion Tube Results - 2019

									NO	2 Mean	Concent	rations	i (μg/m	³)			
																Annual Mea	n
Site ID	X OS Grid Ref (Easting)	Y OS Grid Ref (Northing)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Raw Data	Bias Adjusted (0.93) and Annualised (1)	Distance Corrected to Nearest Exposure (²)
W1	552591	130667	19.6	17.2	14.6	12.3	9.2	8.8	11.1	8.0	9.6	12.5	19.5	15.5	13.2	12.2	-
W2	551626	131090	34.2	Missing	24.5	24.4	22.4	20.3	21.2	19.2	21.1	35.9	32.2	14.8	24.6	22.9	-
W3	547828	121954	22.6	18.4	16.0	15.5	10.4	11.1	9.0	10.5	12.5	14.5	20.2	16.9	14.8	13.7	-
W4	547250	120977	48.6	40.8	37.8	31.2	32.4	33.8	33.2	30.6	35.6	36.3	37.5	36.3	36.2	33.7	-
W5	558079	104481	37.9	33.6	21.9	34.8	27.4	31.1	28.7	25.5	27.2	27.4	35.1	22.5	29.4	27.4	-
W6	558845	109783	31.3	30.1	31.4	27.3	22.6	23.1	22.0	20.3	23.4	23.4	31.5	25.6	26.0	24.2	-
W7	557503	121318	28.1	27.8	21.7	20.6	16.2	15.3	16.4	16.1	17.4	20.1	27.4	18.3	20.4	19.0	-
W8	556933	111165	42.4	36.7	34.3	38.5	33.0	36.1	39.4	31.2	35.3	33.4	32.1	32.6	35.4	32.9	-
W9	542336	135324	17.8	10.7	9.7	12.7	7.8	7.2	7.1	6.2	7.8	10.2	16.1	10.6	10.3	9.6	-
W10	542464	135279	43.3	37.0	34.5	28.0	33.4	30.0	33.4	27.2	Missing	30.1	36.4	Missing	33.3	31.0	-

□ Local bias adjustment factor used

☑ National bias adjustment factor used

Annualisation has been conducted where data capture is <75%

□ Where applicable, data has been distance corrected for relevant exposure

Notes:

Exceedances of the NO₂ annual mean objective of $40\mu g/m^3$ are shown in **bold**.

NO₂ annual means exceeding 60µg/m³, indicating a potential exceedance of the NO₂ 1-hour mean objective are shown in **bold and underlined**.

(1) See Appendix C for details on bias adjustment and annualisation.

(2) Distance corrected to nearest relevant public exposure.

Appendix C: Supporting Technical Information / Air Quality Monitoring Data QA/QC

Significant changes to sources

No significant changes to sources to report.

Detailed modelling or monitoring for changes to AQMAs

No detailed modelling or monitoring campaign has been conducted to determine whether an AQMA needs to be declared, amended or revoked.

Diffusion Tube Bias Adjustment Factors

Bias adjustment is effectively a calculated factor which shows whether diffusion tubes are over or under-reading ambient concentrations, thereby allowing a correction to be made.

Wealden District Council does not carry out a co-location study with diffusion tubes and an automatic continuous analyser, and so it is necessary to use the national database of bias adjustment factors (version 04/20) to select the appropriate bias adjustment factor for diffusion tubes prepared by Gradko. Figure C.1 shows the appropriate national bias adjustment factor used in this report.

Figure C.1: National Diffusion Tube Bias Adjustment Factor for Wealden District Council (Gradko).

National Diffusion Tube	e Bias Adju	stment	Fac	tor Spreadsheet			Spreads	heet Ver	sion Numbe	er: 03/20
Follow the steps below <u>in the correct order</u> to Data only apply to tubes exposed monthly and Whenever presenting adjusted data, you shoul This spreadhset will be updated every few mo	o show the results of g are not suitable for c d state the adjustmen	r <u>elevant</u> co-lo orrecting individ t factor used a	cation s dual sh nd the	studies ort-term monitoring periods version of the spreadsheet	r immediate	use.		at t	eadsheet wi he end of Ju	
The LAQM Helpdesk is operated on behalf of Defi partners AECOM and the National Physical Labor		ministrations by	Burea			et maintained by y Air Quality Co		hysical La	aboratory. O	riginal
Step 1:	Step 2:	Step 3:				Step 4:				
Select the Laboratory that Analyses Your Tubes from the Drop-Down List If a laboratory is not shown, we have no data for this laboratory	Select a Preparation Method from the Drop-Down List If a preparation method is of shown, we have no data for this method at this	Select a Year from the Drop- Down List If a year is not shown, we have no data ²		e there is only one study for a chosen comb is more than one study, use th ou have your own co-location study then see Helpdesk at LAQM	e overall fac	ctor ³ shown in bl	do then contact	the final of the Local	olumn.	
Analysed By	Iaboratory. Method Ty undo your selection, choose (AII) from the pop-up list	To undo your selection, choose (All)	Site Type	Local Authority	Length of Study (months)	Diffusion Tube Mean Conc. (Dm) (µg/m³)	Automatic Monitor Mean Conc. (Cm) (µg/m ³)	Bias (B)	Tube Precision ⁶	Bias Adjustmen Factor (A) (Cm/Dm)
Gradko	20% TEA in water	2019	R	Dudley MBC	12	33	32	4.5%	G	0.96
aradko	20% TEA in water	2019	R	Dudley MBC	12	44	42	3.9%	G	0.96
iradko	20% TEA in water	2019	UB	Dudley MBC	12	23	19	19.8%	G	0.83
iradko	20% TEA in water	2019	UB	Eastleigh Borough Council	12	24	26	-7.1%	G	1.08
iradko	20% TEA in water	2019	R	Gateshead Council	12	34	27	23.7%	P	0.81
iradko	20% TEA in water	2019	R	Gateshead Council	11	40	44	-10.5%	G	1.12
iradko	20% TEA in water	2019	R	Gateshead Council	10	32	34	-7.2%	G	1.08
iradko	20% TEA in water	2019	R	Gateshead Council	12	30	25	18.1%	G	0.85
àradko	50% TEA in acetone	2019	R	London Borough of Richmond upon Thames	12	46	35	30.4%	G	0.77
àradko	50% TEA in acetone	2019	R	London Borough of Richmond upon Thames	12	29	27	7.1%	G	0.93
âradko	50% TEA in acetone	2019	В	London Borough of Richmond upon Thames	11	21	21	1.0%	G	0.99
àradko	20% TEA in water	2019	R	Thurrock Borough Council	12	29	24	21.6%	G	0.82
âradko	20% TEA in water	2019	R	Brighton & Hove City Council	11	45	50	-9.3%	G	1.10
àradko	50% TEA in acetone	2019	UB	Falkirk Council	9	18	15	18.1%	G	0.85
âradko	50% TEA in acetone	2019	R	LB Newham	12	35	30	16.2%	G	0.86
âradko	20% TEA in water	2019	Overall Factor ³ (27 studies) Use				0.93			
Gradko	50% TEA in acetone	2019		Overall Factor ³ (8 studies)					lse	0.87

Discussion of Choice of Factor to Use

Wealden District Council has no means of deriving a local bias adjustment factor as there is no co-location study with diffusion tubes and a continuous analyser. Therefore, the national bias adjustment factor has been used.

PM Monitoring Adjustment

The PM₁₀ data from the FDMS continuous analysers at Eastbourne Devonshire Park (EB1) and Holly Place (EB3) measure gravimetric-equivalent PM₁₀ concentrations, and therefore no additional adjustment has been necessary. For consistency, the data presented in this report is the same as included in the Eastbourne 2020 ASR.

Short-term to Long-term Data Adjustment

Data capture in 2019 was 75% or higher for all monitoring sites in Wealden District. Details of short-term to long-term data adjustment for the automatic monitor at Eastbourne Devonshire Park in Eastbourne Borough are given in the Eastbourne 2020 ASR. All the diffusion sites had data capture rate of 75% or more in 2019, therefore no annualisation was required.

QA/QC of Automatic Monitoring

As previously described in Section 2.1, monitoring stations within East Sussex are part of the SAQMN and, therefore, measurements made at these sites are traceable to national standards and operational procedures defined for the regional network. AURN sites such as Lullington Heath and Holly Place are managed by Defra contractors and data collected at these sites are traceable to the UK AURN national standards.

QA/QC of Diffusion Tube Monitoring

AIR is an independent analytical proficiency-testing (PT) scheme, operated by LGC Standards and supported by the Health and Safety Laboratory (HSL). AIR PT is a new scheme, started in April 2014, which combines two long running PT schemes: LGC Standards STACKS PT scheme and HSL Workplace Analysis Scheme for Proficiency (WASP) PT scheme.

Defra and the Devolved Administrations advise that diffusion tubes used for Local Air Quality Management should be obtained from laboratories that have demonstrated satisfactory performance in the AIR PT scheme.

Wealden District Council used Gradko International for the supply and analysis of diffusion tubes, with a 20% triethanolamine (TEA) in water preparation. In all of the 8 most recent AIR PT testing rounds running from September 2016 until August 2018, Gradko achieved 100% satisfactory results, so there is high confidence in the accuracy of the diffusion tube results.

Distance Correction Using the NO₂ Fall-off with Distance Calculator

Annual average NO₂ data from non-automatic monitoring sites W1, W2, W3, W4, W5, W6, W7, W8, W9 and W10 in 2019 have been not corrected for distance using the NO₂ Fall-Off with Distance Calculator (Version 4.2). Distance correction should only be completed at monitoring sites that have an annual mean NO2 concentration greater than 36ug/m³ and the relevant exposure is within 20m of the monitoring location. However, for completeness the detailed distance correction calculation in 2019 are included in Table C.1.

Site ID	Distance (m)			Annual Mean NO₂ Concentrations (μg/m³)			
	Tube - Kerb	Tube - Receptor	Receptor- Kerb	DEFRA Mapped Background	Bias Adjusted (0.93) and Annualised	Distance Corrected to Nearest Exposure	Distance Factor
W1	2.0	7.5	9.5	9.9	12.2	11.4	0.93
W2	2.0	7.5	9.5	9.8	22.9	18.1	0.79
W3	1.0	15.0	16.0	9.6	13.7	11.4	0.83
W4	2.0	7.5	9.5	10.1	33.7	25.1	0.75
W5	1.0	13.0	14.0	9.6	27.4	17.9	0.65
W6	1.0	0.5	1.5	11.1	24.2	23.1	0.96
W7	1.0	7.5	8.5	8.5	19.0	14.5	0.76
W8	2.0	8.0	10.0	8.3	32.9	23.7	0.72
W9	0.1	5.0	5.1	9.5	9.6	9.6	0.99
W10	2.0	1.0	3.0	9.5	31.0	29.0	0.93

Table C.1 – Distance Correction Calculations - 2019

Appendix D: Map(s) of Monitoring Locations and AQMAs



Appendix E: Summary of Air Quality Objectives in England

Table E.1 – Air Quality Objectives in England

Pollutant	Air Quality Objective ²¹			
Pollutant	Concentration	Measured as		
Nitrogen Dioxide	200 μg/m ³ not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	1-hour mean		
(NO ₂)	40 μg/m ³	Annual mean		
Particulate Matter	50 μg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	24-hour mean		
(PM ₁₀)	40 μg/m ³	Annual mean		
	350 μg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 24 times a year	1-hour mean		
Sulphur Dioxide (SO ₂)	125 μg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 3 times a year	24-hour mean		
	266 µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	15-minute mean		

Table E.2 – Additional objectives from the UK Air Quality Strategy

Dollutent	Air Quality Objective ¹⁵			
Pollutant	Concentration	Measured as		
Ozone (O ₃)	120 μg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 10 days a year	Running 8-hour mean		
Particulate Matter (PM _{2.5})	25 μg/m³	Annual Mean		

 $^{^{21}}$ The units are in microgrammes of pollutant per cubic metre of air (µg/m³).

Glossary of Terms

Abbreviation	Description
AQAP	Air Quality Action Plan - A detailed description of measures, outcomes, achievement dates and implementation methods, showing how the local authority intends to achieve air quality limit values'
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area – An area where air pollutant concentrations exceed / are likely to exceed the relevant air quality objectives. AQMAs are declared for specific pollutants and objectives
ASR	Air quality Annual Status Report
Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DMRB	Design Manual for Roads and Bridges – Air quality screening tool produced by Highways England
ESCC	East Sussex County Council
EU	European Union
FDMS	Filter Dynamics Measurement System
LAQM	Local Air Quality Management
NO ₂	Nitrogen Dioxide
NOx	Nitrogen Oxides
PM ₁₀	Airborne particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of $10\mu m$ (micrometres or microns) or less
PM _{2.5}	Airborne particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of 2.5µm or less
QA/QC	Quality Assurance and Quality Control
SAQMN	Sussex Air Quality Monitoring Network
SO ₂	Sulphur Dioxide
ТЕОМ	Tapered Element Oscillating Microbalance

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