Local Authority:	**Nottingham City Council**
Reference:	**ASR20-0498**
Date of issue	**July 2020**

Annual Status Report Appraisal Report

The Report sets out the Annual Status Report, which forms part of the Review & Assessment process required under the Environment Act 1995 and subsequent Regulations.

The Local Authority has one AQMA, AQMA 2, which encompasses the Council's entire administrative area and is declared for exceedance of the annual mean objective for nitrogen dioxide (NO2). AQMA 2 was amended in January 2019 while AQMA 3 was revoked in January 2019 as it would have lied within the newly amended AQMA 2.

There are currently two AQAPs contained within the Local Transport Plan 2010 and the more recent Local Plan to Improve Air Quality in Nottingham that was approved by DEFRA in November 2018. Nottingham City Council is developing a wider sustainability strategy that will also help it deliver a 2019 Nottingham Labour Group manifesto pledge to be carbon neutral by 2028.

The Council undertook automatic monitoring at three sites during 2019; Carter Gate, Lace Street and St. Andrews Road. There are further AURN sites at Clinton St East. And Western Boulevard. All the automatic monitoring analysers had good data capture in 2019 (>75%). There were no exceedances of the NO_2 1-hour mean objective at any of the automatic monitoring stations in 2019. PM_{10} 24-hour mean objective and the annual mean objective were not exceeded more than the limit as prescribed by the National Air Quality Objectives by any of the AURN monitors. $PM_{2.5}$ annual mean concentration limits or the SO_2 15-minute,1-hour or 24-hour objectives were not exceeded at the CC AURN monitoring site.

The Council undertook passive diffusion tube monitoring of NO_2 at 50 monitoring locations, with one of these containing triplicates co-located with an automatic monitor. During 2019, there were eighteen exceedances at passive monitoring sites, which was also the same number as in the previous year. After distance correction, none of those sites mentioned previously are **below** the annual mean objective.

The Council has robust QA/QC procedures, which were applied appropriately and accurately to the 2019 monitoring data; both national and local bias adjustment factors have been determined (the local factor was selected), annualisation was not required for diffusion tubes or

the automatic monitors, and distance-correction was conducted for sites and not representative of relevant exposure. All calculations were clearly outlined and justified.

In the report, the Council has detailed extensive measures and plans to continue to address air quality within its administrative boundaries. These include a review of encouraging the uptake of electric vehicles via implementing a Clean Air Zone and also the Go Ultra Low Programme, promotion of alternative forms of travel (i.e. public transport, walking or cycling), motorway and junction improvements at various place across the borough to increase capacity and implementing a new local plan and the Nottingham Air Quality Strategy for 2019 – 2028 to outline measures to target and be effective again air pollution.

On the basis of the evidence provided by the local authority the conclusions reached are acceptable for all sources and pollutants. Following the completion of this report, Nottingham City Council should submit an Annual Status Report in 2021.

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Commentary

The report is well structured, detailed, and provides the information specified in the Guidance. The following comments are designed to help inform future reports.

1. Robust and accurate QA/QC procedures were applied. Calculations for bias adjustment, annualisation and distance-correction factors were outlined in detail.
2. The Council has included discussion and review of its AQMAs and monitoring strategy, informed due to the extensive monitoring network. This demonstrates the Councils proactive and dedicated approach to improving air quality across the area.
3. Comments from last year's ASR have been mentioned and addressed. This is welcomed, and we encourage this to continue in future ASRs.
4. The Public Health Outcomes Frameworks was not mentioned, and we would encourage the council to make reference to this. The Council could consider referring specifically to indicator D01. Fraction of mortality attributable to particulate air pollution.
5. Please could the council ensure the Air Quality measures table be filled entirely. It is important that the council aims to fills in all the gaps to ensure full transparency to the public regarding the actions taken to tackle air quality.
6. Council have provided a map of the diffusion tube monitoring network; however, the locations of the sites are not easily visible on the map – it may be useful for the council to provide close view maps to show the sites more clearly across the borough.
7. Overall the report is detailed, concise and satisfies the criteria of relevant standards. The Council should continue their good and thorough work.

This commentary is not designed to deal with every aspect of the report. It highlights a number of issues that should help the local authority either in completing the Progress Report adequately (if required) or in carrying out future Review & Assessment work.

Issues specifically related to this appraisal can be followed up by returning the attached comment form to Defra, Welsh Assembly Government, Scottish Government or DOE.

For any other queries please contact the Local Air Quality Management Helpdesk:
Telephone: 0800 0327 953
Email: LAQMHelpdesk@uk.bureauveritas.com

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Appraisal Response Comment Form

Contact Name:	
Contact Telephone number:	
Contact email address:	UKLAQMAppraisals@aecom.com

Comments on appraisal/Further information: