

Notes of the meeting of the Storrington Air Quality Steering group held on 14th September 2023.

Present: Cllr Anna Worthington-Leese (Chair), Cllr Richard Jerman, Storrington & Sullington Parish Council (SSPC)
Cllr Paul Marshall, Jamie Dallen (WSCC)
Cllr Emma Beard, Cllr Joan Grech, Anna Czerska, Thais Delboni, Lee Money, Marc Rankin (HDC).
Apologies from Cllr Claudia Fisher (HDC) and Adam Bazley (WSCC)

Introductions

Introductions were made.

Actions from Last Meeting.

Updates on actions were provided.

Air Quality Monitoring 2022/2023.

TD shared NO₂ monitoring data from 2022 and estimates for 2023 which show that the worst location's measurements (Manleys Hill) are below the Government objective. The question of "undeclaring" was raised but this was considered premature as 3 years of verified data showing no exceedance would be required and the Government objectives could be altered. It was also recognised that particulate matter remains an issue as even low levels are potentially harmful. It was suggested that modelling should continue to show adherence to Government objectives until 2027 to satisfy Defra.

Storrington Monitoring Station redecoration.

The station cabinet is being replaced to comply with Environment Agency's safety requirements.

Update of Horsham District Air Quality Action Plan / Defra Air Quality Grant.

A bid had been made to Defra to fund a monitoring campaign to improve the evidence base to measure NO₂ levels on an hourly basis and for an ANPR survey to understand the contribution of through traffic to those levels. This survey would also provide information about the number of HGVs and HGVs over 7.5 tonne travelling through the AQMA. The bid should be decided by February 2024.

Communications.

- Up to date information available on HDC's website.
- Continue to promote Sussex Air Website

Any Other Business.

- AWL commented that school buses should be greener and AC to approach schools.
- A27 – new route should reduce traffic through Storrington significantly, however the scheme has now been deferred by National Highways to the next Roads Investment Period (known as RIS 3) which covers 2025 to 2030.
- A24 –Improvement Scheme to support the aim of traffic using the strategic routes rather than B2139 as an alternative.
- B2139 – Community Highways Scheme – Cite AQ reasons to support the CHS.
- WSCC Safe walking routes – TE to distribute proposals

Date of next meeting.

March 2024