

Title of Report:	Update on Air Quality Monitoring and Consideration of Additional Passive Diffusion Tube Screening
Committee Report Submitted To:	Environmental Services Committee
Date of Meeting:	14th September 2021
For Decision or For Information	For Decision

Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)	
Strategic Theme	Climate Change and Our environment
Outcome	Compliance with Air Quality Objectives
Lead Officer	Head of Health & Built Environment

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	Approximately £1500
Included in Current Year Estimates	YES/NO
Capital/Revenue	Revenue
Code	21109
Staffing Costs	Approximately £900

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide members with additional information of Air Quality Monitoring within the Borough and of proposals to undertake additional screening with one location.

2.0 Background (to include any previous decisions of Council)

2.1 Further to previous report item ES210810 Item 10, members had requested an update on the Air Quality Monitoring undertaken within the Borough and specifically a review to be undertaken with respect to Ballykelly.

2.2. The department are currently finalising an Updated Screening Assessment (USA) for submission to DAERA and will be presented to Council prior to submission.

2.3 Members will be aware that Council operates a continuous monitor located in Dungiven, which forms part of the NI Network
<https://www.airqualityni.co.uk/>

2.4 The data captured by this monitor is currently being ratified by our appointed quality control and quality assurance contractors.

2.5 The information collected and audited recently is provided below.

2.6 Dungiven AQMA Main Street

National Air Quality Objective for Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂):

- ❖ Annual mean concentration **40ugm⁻³**
- ❖ Hourly mean 200 μgm⁻³ not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year

YEAR	Annual mean concentrations	Hourly mean
2018	51ugm⁻³	No exceedances
2019	56ugm⁻³	No exceedances
2020	21ugm ⁻³	No exceedances
2021 (Jan-June)	27ugm ⁻³	No exceedances

- Figures in bold represent an exceedance of the Air Quality objective

Note: It is assumed that the 2020 & 2021 figures have been influenced by COVID restrictions on travel/unnecessary journeys. It should not be assumed that data for these periods shows a sustained decrease in pollutant concentrations.

- 2.7 It is anticipated that the annual mean concentrations will reduce considerably on completion of the current A6 road extension programme.
- 2.8 Further to members requests consideration has ben given to the review of Air Quality within Ballykelly specifically, due to increasing traffic volumes. This has included a review of previous screening assessments and updated traffic flow data.

Excerpt from Air quality Review and Assessment (Limavady Borough Council) –Interim Report 2006

Table 1 below lists the predicted annual average and 99.8th percentile of maximum hourly average kerbside concentrations (equivalent to 18 exceedances per year) of nitrogen dioxide for 2005 within Ballykelly and Greysteel. The 99.8th percentile of hourly averages has been estimated as 3.5 times the annual mean for roadside locations as advised in LAQM TG4 (00).

**Table 1:
Nitrogen dioxide concentrations at roadside locations in Limavady Borough Council**

Description of Link	Distance to nearest receptor from kerbside (m)	NO ₂ Annual mean (µg m ⁻³) 2005	NO ₂ 99.8th percentile of hourly averages (µg m ⁻³) 2005
Main St, Ballykelly	2.5	29.2	102.2
Clooney Rd, Greysteel	4	24.7	86.4

Excerpt from Further Assessment Limavady Borough Council 2012

Passive monitoring was carried out within Ballykelly between March 2011 and January 2012. Data collected was detailed within the 2012 Further Assessment report. Data has been annualised and bias adjusted as per Technical Guidance TG(09).

Bias adjusted NO₂ concentrations March 2011- January 2012

Monitoring site	Bias adjusted concentration (x 0.85) ugm ⁻³
Main St Ballykelly	35.11

- Annual mean objective level of 40ugm⁻³

Dfl Traffic data 2012 – 2020: Ballykelly & Greysteel (A2 Clooney Road)

YEAR	AADT 24-hr	%cars/ vans	%car/van with trailer/medium commercial	%HGV's	Rigid	Artic	Bus/ Coach
2012 (Greysteel)	13900	89.3	3.3	7.4	6.2	1.2	0.0
2013 (Greysteel)	14430	89.5	3.3	7.2	1.4	3.6	0.8
2014 (Greysteel)	14420	89.3	3.5	7.2	6.0	1.2	0.0
2015 (Greysteel)	15050	89.3	3.6	7.1	5.9	1.2	0.0
2016	No data available						
2017 (Ballykelly)	16550	92.4	0.7	7.7	4.7	1.1	0.7
2018	No data available						
2019	No data available						
2020 (Ballykelly)	13490	91.0	1.1	8.1	5.4	1.6	0.6

AADT – 24-hr annual average daily traffic

- Dfl traffic counts carried out along the A2 within the Ballykelly and Greysteel areas.
- Decrease in traffic volume in 2020 assumed to be a result of COVID lockdowns.
- Composition of traffic remained similar between 2012 and 2015 with an increase noted in 2017

3.0 Proposals

3.1 It is proposed that passive monitoring be instigated over the next 12 months to establish current NO₂ levels within Main Street Ballykelly.

4.0 **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Environmental Services Committee recommends to Council the instigation of passive diffusion tube monitoring with Main Street Ballykelly to determine current NO₂ levels.