

Local Authority:	North Lincolnshire Council
Reference:	ASR23-1644
Date of issue	June 2023

Annual Status Report Appraisal Report

The Annual Status Report sets out new information on air quality obtained by North Lincolnshire Council as part of the Review & Assessment process required under the Environment Act 1995 (as amended by the Environment Act 2021) and subsequent Regulations.

In February 2023, North Lincolnshire Council instructed Ricardo Energy & Environment to undertake a review and update of the AQAP, which was last updated in 2012. The Council state that it is intended for the AQAP to be submitted to DEFRA for their appraisal during the summer of 2023, before being formally adopted. Reviews and any necessary updates to AQAPs are required every 5 years. The Council is therefore strongly encouraged to ensure that the AQAP is updated and adopted as per the intended schedule outlined, with an update expected in next year's A

North Lincolnshire have declared 1 Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) within their jurisdiction: Scunthorpe Town AQMA. This has been declared as a result of exceedances of the 24-hour mean air quality objective for PM₁₀.

The Council undertook automatic monitoring of NO₂, SO₂, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} across a network of 6 automatic monitoring sites in 2022. The Council also monitor 1,3-butadiene, benzene, heavy metals, carbon monoxide. However, local authorities do not have to report these annually, with the Council referring the reader to monitoring results of these pollutants on the Council and UK-Air websites.

The Council undertook non-automatic (passive) monitoring of NO₂ at 24 sites in 2022. The maximum annual mean NO₂ concentration recorded across the monitoring network in 2022 was 30.2 µg/m³, at non-automatic site 10.

There were no exceedances of the annual mean or hourly mean air quality objectives for NO₂, PM₁₀, PM_{2.5} in 2022. There were also no exceedances of the 15-minute, 1-hour or 24-hour mean air quality objectives for SO₂ in 2022. However, the 24-hour mean air quality objective for PM₁₀ was exceeded at one location, site CM3 (Low Santon). The Council state that this could be attributed to the dry meteorological conditions in 2022.

The Council outline a number of measures within the ASR, both those which have been completed (e.g. the implementation of new air quality equipment for measuring PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} within Scunthorpe, and the continuous enforcement and reviews of Environmental permits) and

Local Authority:	North Lincolnshire Council
Reference:	ASR23-1644
Date of issue	June 2023

those which are expected to be completed over the course of the next reporting year (e.g. the consultation and adoption of the updated AQAP for Scunthorpe Town AQMA).

The Council has robust QA/QC procedures in place for the 2022 monitoring data. Annualisation was required at one non-automatic site (DT17) in 2022, with details of the annualisation calculation presented in the report. The 2022 non-automatic monitor data was adjusted using a local bias adjustment factor, with a clear discussion and justification provided by the Council. No distance correction was required for any non-automatic sites in 2022. In terms of the automatic monitoring data, only that from the automatic monitoring site at Low Santon (CM3) required annualisation in 2022.

On the basis of the evidence provided by the local authority the conclusions reached are **accepted** for all sources and pollutants. Following the completion of this report, North Lincolnshire Council should submit an Annual Status Report in 2024.

Local Authority:	North Lincolnshire Council
Reference:	ASR23-1644
Date of issue	June 2023

Commentary

1. In the text, the Council state that existing TEOM/FDMS instruments have been replaced by BAM instruments in Summer 2022, at sites East Common Lane (CM2), Low Santon (CM3), Arnvale (CM4) and High Street East (CM5). However, this is inconsistent with the information provided in Table A.1, which states that only the Low Santon (CM3) instrument was replaced. It is important that the Council provides clarification as to which monitors were replaced, and that this is consistent across all text and tables in the report.
2. The Council list a number of measures in place to address PM_{2.5} emissions. This includes maintaining their network of particulate analysers, the installation of a PM_{2.5} monitor at the Low Santon Site in 2022, the Environmental Permit programme and the Transport Improvement Schemes. They also refer to the Public Health Outcomes Framework and indicator D01 (the fraction of mortality attributed to particulate air pollution). This shows the Council's dedicated and pro-active approach to addressing air quality within their jurisdiction and is to be commended.
3. The Council provide clear maps of the AQMA boundaries and monitoring sites, which is encouraged to continue in future ASRs.
4. There are some formatting errors within the report. For example, subscripts and superscripts should be used correctly - there are instances where this is not case. Both "Local bias adjustment factor used" and "National bias adjustment factor used" are ticked underneath Table B.1, rather than just the former. There are also some typographical errors (e.g. on page 2). It is recommended that the Council check for and rectify such errors prior to future report submissions.
5. The Council clearly outline their conclusions for 2022 and priorities/aims for 2023/24, with a great amount of detail provided in both cases. This is encouraged to continue in future reports, showing the Council's sustained commitment to addressing air quality within their jurisdiction.
6. In the report, the Council provide well-presented graphs to illustrate the trends in pollutant concentrations, with robust comparisons to air quality objectives provided.

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 Annual Status 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 Government, Scottish Government or DOE.

Local Authority:	North Lincolnshire Council
Reference:	ASR23-1644
Date of issue	June 2023

Appraisal Response Comment Form

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

Comments on appraisal/Further information: