

# Windsor Town Forum – 15 February 2016

## Air Quality Report and Action Plan

### 2015 Update - Summary

Air quality across the Borough is generally good. However, there are localised hotspot areas of pollution where the annual mean concentration for nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) exceeds the national Air Quality Objective (AQO) of 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. These areas have been declared as Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) and the Council has developed an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) to work towards improving air quality.

Road transport is the main source of NO<sub>2</sub> affecting the AQMAs. Measures within the AQAP to alleviate heavy traffic flows and congestion form an integral part of the Council's Local Transport Plan (LTP) and link to Highways capital programme with the Council's efforts to improve air quality. The plan implements a suite of 'soft' measures and smarter choices; influencing better travel choices, encourage public transport use, and cycling that can all contribute to reduce road traffic emissions. Details of the measures and updates are published yearly in the AQ Progress Report. The Council has a duty to work towards achieving the AQO, however direct and cost effective interventions in certain areas may not be available.

Hotspot areas of pollution in Windsor include Arthur Road and the junction at Imperial Road and St Leonards Road. Concentrations have been decreasing in these areas however in recent years they have remained fairly static. Trends in annual mean nitrogen dioxide concentrations are included in figures 1, 2 and 3.

Nitrogen dioxide monitored concentration in 2014, in Windsor at worse locations range from 49 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in Arthur Road to 52 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in St Leonards Road. The full data set for 2015 is not available yet, however data from Windsor monitoring station show a decrease in concentration below the AQO compared with the level monitored in 2014. The measures within the action plan will be reviewed in 2016. The aim is to engage with Highways to identify schemes that would potential deliver further air quality improvements.

## **Action Plan Measures**

Improvement measures need to be considered carefully in terms of their implementation cost and their resultant effectiveness to improve AQ. The main actions undertaken in Windsor that contributed to the downward trend include:

- Windsor & Eton Relief Road/ Clarence Road Junction:  
Comprehensive redesign of the Clarence Road roundabout. The new scheme contributed to improving traffic flow. The realignment of the roundabout has increased the distance between the traffic lanes and building façade/monitoring site.
- Windsor Parking and Transport Strategy:  
Car parking includes a ring of small-scale park and ride sites; Home Park car park extension; East Berks. College (extended public use); weekend public use of King Edward VII Hospital car park; improved accessibility at Windsor Dials; new park and ride schemes from Centrica. This is aimed at reducing road traffic congestion by reducing circulating traffic. Other parking schemes to reduce traffic in Arthur Road are under consideration.
- Quality bus partnership:  
Partnership between BAA Heathrow, First, Slough BC and RBWM. Bus service to Heathrow.
- Supported bus services:  
Introduced W1 bus service in West Windsor to help commuting to and from the town centre.

## St Leonards/Imperial Road Junction AQMA

The AQMA was declared in 2014 due to the exceedance of the annual mean objective for nitrogen dioxide. There are congestion problems at this junction. A public consultation on a possible new traffic management schemes as been completed. The aim of the proposed options is to improve traffic flow and reduce congestion.

Figure 1 - Trends in Annual Mean NO2 Concentrations Measured at Automatic Monitoring Sites

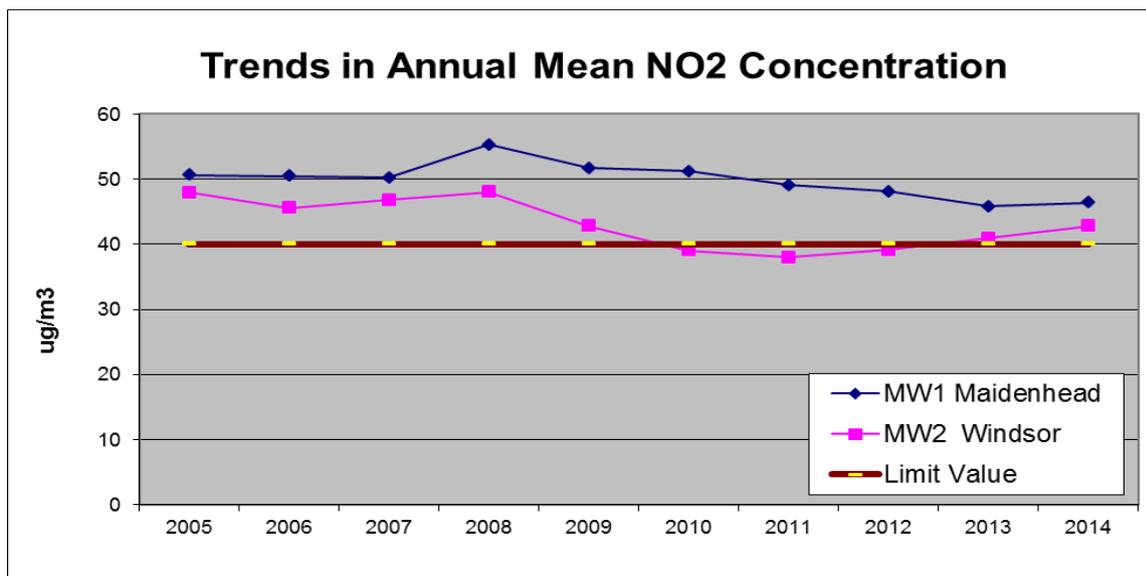


Figure 2 - Trends in Annual Mean NO2 Concentrations Measured at Diffusion Tubes Sites

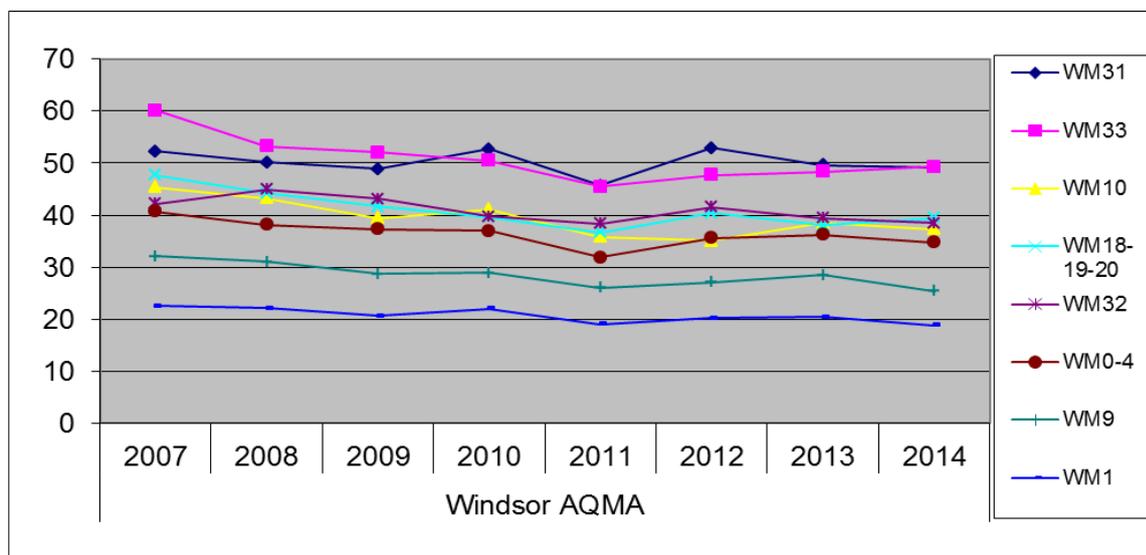
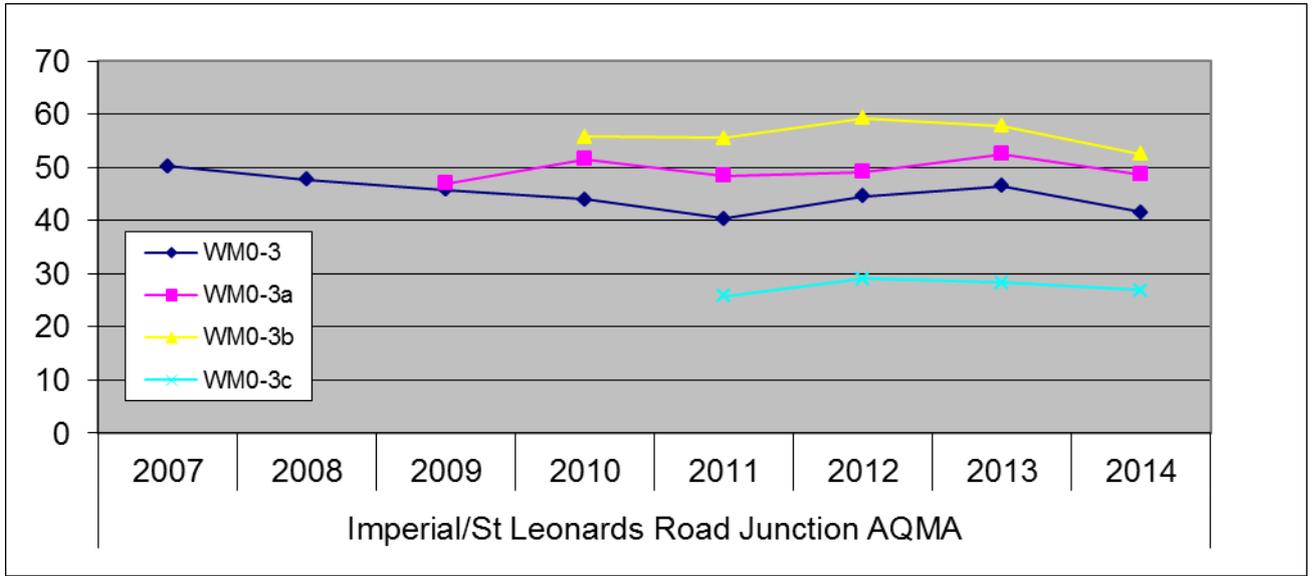


Figure 3 - Trends in Annual Mean Nitrogen Dioxide Concentrations measured at Diffusion Tube Sites



## Windsor AQMA



# Imperial/St Leonards Road Junction AQMA

