

**TOURISM, COMMUNITIES, CULTURE AND LEISURE COMMITTEE****Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>AIR QUALITY ANNUAL STATUS REPORT AND AIR QUALITY STRATEGY UPDATE</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES</b>

**REPORT SUMMARY**

This report provides an update on the Air Quality Status Report (ASR) for 2024, which incorporates actions taken during 2023 to improve air quality, and an update on monitoring results for air pollution during 2023. It also provides an update on Wirral's Air Quality Strategy 2024-28 and the implementation plan (AQIP) for the Strategy.

An overview of the progress with the AQIP for the financial year of 2024-2025 is summarised within this report. Following this initial update report, updates will be provided to the Committee in November, annually.

The Air Quality Implementation Plan (AQIP) supports the delivery of the Air Quality Strategy and the Wirral Council Plan 2023-2027, particularly 'Protect Our Environment' theme; 'To improve Wirral's Air Quality and Implement an Air Quality Strategy'.

This matter is not a key decision but affects all Wards within the Borough.

**RECOMMENDATION/S**

The Tourism, Communities, Culture and Leisure Committee is recommended to:

1. Recognise the progress in 23/24 contained within the ASR.
2. Acknowledge the air quality monitoring results for 2023.
3. Recognise the progress with actions contained within the AQ implementation plan.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1.1 To ensure that Members of the Tourism, Communities, Culture and Leisure Committee have oversight on the work on air pollution control. This will ensure public oversight and enable Elected Members to make informed decisions.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 2.1 No other options have been considered as the alternative is the Council not delivering on its statutory Local Air Quality Management function.
- 2.2 This report has been provided to provide oversight on the ongoing work to improve air quality and to ensure transparency in how the council is delivering on its commitment to implement the Air Quality Strategy and the 'Protect our Environment' theme of the Wirral Plan.

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

#### **3.1 Health Effects of Air Pollution.**

- 3.1.1 Air pollution is a mixture of particulates and gases in the air we breathe, which are absorbed and can have both short- and long-term health effects. Air pollution can affect everyone and can have negative health impacts from pre-birth to old age.
- 3.1.2 Short term exposure to air pollution can exacerbate respiratory conditions such as asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Long-term exposure can cause respiratory and cardiovascular disease, cancer, depression, dementia, diabetes, and can affect foetal development.
- 3.1.3 Although everyone can be affected by poor air quality, the most susceptible are children, the elderly and those with pre-existing health conditions. Air pollution particularly affects people living in more densely populated and polluted areas. These areas are often areas of higher deprivation, which can widen health inequalities.
- 3.1.4 Air quality is the term used to describe how polluted the air we breathe is. When air quality is poor, pollutants in the air may be hazardous to people, particularly those with lung or heart conditions.

#### **3.2 Annual Status Report**

- 3.2.1 Local Authorities in England have duties regarding local air quality management and must regularly review and assess air quality to determine whether objectives are likely to be achieved. As part of this responsibility, Wirral Council is required to submit an Annual Status Report (ASR) to Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) each year by 30<sup>th</sup> June. This report provides an overview of air quality in Wirral, and it fulfils the requirements of Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) as set out in Part IV of the Environment Act (1995), as amended by the Environment Act (2021), and the relevant Policy and Technical Guidance documents. The ASR shows the strategies employed by Wirral Council to improve air quality and any progress that has been made.

- 3.2.2 The ASR 2024 details actions that have been taken by Wirral Council, and partner organisations during 2023, to improve air quality in Wirral. It was submitted to DEFRA on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2024. Written confirmation was received from DEFRA on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2024 stating that “the conclusions reached in the report are accepted for all sources and pollutants”, with feedback stating that it was a “very good ASR” and that “no further improvements can be recommended”. This report is published on the Councils website at <https://www.wirral.gov.uk/environmental-problems/pollution-control/air-quality>
- 3.2.3 Work on the ASR 2025 has commenced and this report will detail the actions that have been taken by Wirral Council, and partner organisations during 2024. It will be submitted to the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025 for approval. Once approved, the report will be published.

### 3.3 Air Quality Monitoring in Wirral.

- 3.3.1 The ASR 2024 details the air pollution monitoring undertaken in Wirral during 2023 and confirms that there were no exceedances of the National Objective levels for pollutants. The ASR 2025 will detail the monitoring undertaken during 2024.
- 3.3.2 Following a monitoring review in 2023, all 56 monitoring sites in place during 2023 were maintained for monitoring during 2024.
- 3.3.3 Following a monitoring review in December 2024, 8 of the 56 monitoring sites were removed, and relocated to new sites. Full details of this review will be available in the ASR 2025.
- 3.3.4 **Nitrogen Dioxide.** During 2023 Nitrogen Dioxide was monitored in real time at two DEFRA AURN stations and at five sites using ‘indicative’ real time sensors. It was also monitored at fifty-six sites using passive diffusion tubes. Monitoring identified no exceedances of the annual mean Nitrogen dioxide national objective of 40µg/m<sup>3</sup> not to be exceeded more than 18 times per year.
- 3.3.5 **Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub>).** During 2023 PM<sub>10</sub> was monitored at one DEFRA AURN station and at five sites using ‘indicative’ real time sensors. No exceedances of the annual mean PM<sub>10</sub> objective or PM<sub>10</sub> daily mean concentrations air quality objective of 50µg/m<sup>3</sup>, not to be exceeded more than 35 times per year, were identified.
- 3.3.6 **Particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>).** During 2023 PM<sub>2.5</sub> was monitored at one DEFRA AURN station and at five sites using ‘indicative’ real time sensors. No exceedances of the current national objective for PM<sub>2.5</sub> were identified. The result from the AURN was 6.5 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, which is above the current World Health Organisation Air Quality Guideline Level of 5µg/m<sup>3</sup> but below the new annual mean concentration target of 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, 12 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (to be met by January 2028) and below the new annual mean concentration target of 10µg/m<sup>3</sup> (to be met by 2040).
- 3.3.7 All five ‘indicative’ monitors measured levels of PM<sub>2.5</sub> over the current WHO Air Quality Guideline level of 5µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The highest annual mean figure was 11.6 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (Liscard and Poulton) and the lowest level was 10.5 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (Upton). All results were below the national interim target of 12 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (to be met by January 2028) but above the new annual mean concentration target of 10µg/m<sup>3</sup> (to be met by 2040).

- 3.3.8 It is important to note that the PM2.5 results from the “indicative” real time monitors are indicative only. The monitors are not approved by DEFRA for use by local authorities for compliance monitoring according to their Local Air Quality Management Technical guidance note (TG22), however they can provide indicative air quality data to support our work in reducing air pollution.
- 3.3.9 Wirral Council has not declared any Air Quality Management areas, as no exceedances of national objectives have been identified.
- 3.3.10 Full details regarding air pollution monitoring results for Wirral during 2023 can be found in the ASR (see link above).
- 3.3.11 Appendix one provides a table of monitoring results for Nitrogen Dioxide for 2023, and a comparison to 2022 results (where available), highlighting if levels have increased, decreased, or stayed the same at each monitoring site.

#### **3.4 Air Quality Strategy and Air Quality Implementation Plan**

- 3.4.1 Wirral Council approved its first Air Quality Strategy 2024-2028 in December 2023, which identified five key areas for action, to improve the air quality in Wirral.
- 3.4.2 These priority areas are:
- Reduce emissions from transport.
  - Improve indoor air quality.
  - Reduce impact from housing development and regeneration.
  - Reduce domestic, commercial, industrial, and agricultural emissions.
  - Raise public awareness and encourage behaviour change.
- 3.4.3 The AQIP is the delivery vehicle for the Air Quality Strategy and is driving forward actions to target the key priorities for action, helping to reduce emissions of pollutants and help protect the health and wellbeing of our residents, workers and visitors, and help to reduce health inequalities.
- 3.4.4 Completion of actions contained within the implementation plan has made good progress in 2024. An overview of progress for all workstreams for 2024-2025 is summarised in the table below.
- 3.4.5 It is important to note that due to the ongoing nature of some workstreams, they will remain at implementation phase throughout the life of the strategy and will not move to ‘complete’ status.

Priorities	RAG rating			
	Complete	Green	Amber	Red
Reduce Emissions from Transport	11	10	0	0
Improve indoor air quality.	6	6	0	0
Reduce the impact from housing development and regeneration	3	1	3	0
Reduce domestic, commercial, industrial and agricultural emissions.	4	5	0	0
Raise public awareness and encourage behaviour change.	7	3	0	0

Complete (Blue)	Action completed.
Ongoing (Green)	Action on track to be delivered as planned.
Ongoing (Amber)	Action has issues that are being dealt with.
Serious issues (Red)	Action not on track, has issues that are unresolved.

### 3.5 Future Reporting of Progress with the Implementation Plan

- 3.5.1 Progress with the actions within the implementation plan, for each financial year, will be reported within the Annual Status Report, which is submitted to DEFRA for approval, and then published on the Council website.
- 3.5.2 Progress will also be reported, annually to the Tourism, Communities, Culture and Leisure Committee in an annual update report in November each year.

### 4.0 Headline Completed Actions to Date

- Developed the Road safety plan, to improve road safety and help encourage active travel.
- Developed an active travel strategy to encourage walking/cycling.
- Reviewed Wirral's parking strategy to ensure it aligns with the net zero ambition.
- Completed a Council fleet review, to support the development of a Green Fleet Strategy.
- Trialled and reviewed Hydrogenated Vegetable Oil (HVO) as an alternative fuel source for refuse collection vehicles.
- Raised public awareness regarding best practice wood burning techniques, anti-idling campaign and indoor air quality as part of a DEFRA funded campaign, and as part of activities during Clean Air Day 2024.
- Mapped health data and hospital admissions link to respiratory conditions, to assist targeted actions by the Healthy Homes Team.

- Support Air Quality messaging within Wirral Public Health’s summer and winter readiness communication campaigns, to help protect vulnerable settings and communities.
- Reviewed appropriateness of existing smoke control area, with intention of extending them and commenced the legal process to implement a new borough wide smoke control area.
- Reviewed inter-departmental sharing of information regarding new commercial / industrial processes and change of use, to ensure robust systems.
- Produced and published a simple guide to whether a business needs an Environmental permit.
- Designed and launched a dedicated Air Quality web page on Wirral Intelligence Service’s web site.
- Designed and launched a public facing map of all NO2 monitoring sites, which includes the most recent monitoring results.
- Launched an internal training course on Air Quality.
- Raised awareness of air pollution and relevant training with Primary Health Care partners.

## **5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The nature of the report is to provide an update on Air Quality in Wirral and to monitor progress of the implementation plan, therefore there are no financial implications from the report.
- 5.2 It is acknowledged that there will be future capital and revenue costs associated with completing the actions identified within the implementation plan. Any actions within the implementation plan are being developed with the relevant departments, and any associated costs will be assessed, and the source of funding agreed.
- 5.3 Projects will be delivered via various funding methods or already have funding in place to deliver. Where they are council actions they will be delivered within business-as-usual operations or via capital funding bids. There may be an opportunity to apply for future additional funding to deliver local improvements and projects from external partners, for example, DEFRA, United Kingdom Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), Capital bids, Town Deal Funding, ‘Sustrans’ and Liverpool City Region Combined Authority. The cost associated with production and publication of the Air Quality Strategy have been met within the service budget.

## **6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The Local Air Quality Management Framework, underpinned by the Environment Act 1995, sets local pollution limits put into place through the Air Quality (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended in 2002). The framework requires local authorities to assess the quality of their air and, if it does not comply with relevant concentration limits, put in place a plan to remedy the problem. The ASR must be submitted to DEFRA to summarise local air quality.

In addition, the [National Air Quality Strategy: Framework for Local Authority Delivery \(2023\)](#), requires all Councils to develop and publish an Air Quality Strategy, setting out the steps the local authority will take to improve local air quality.

- 6.2 The development of the Air Quality Strategy provides a framework for future action to improve air quality within Wirral.  
It is consistent with national guidelines and will assist the Council to achieve its

objective of improving the air quality within Wirral to help to better the environment and the health and well-being of all residents and visitors to the area.

## **7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS**

7.1 The Annual AQIP progress reports are delivered through existing staff resources within the Environmental Health Team and drawing on services across the council to provide regular updates to the Air Quality Officer Working Groups and the Air Quality Steering Group to keep the AQIP as a live document.

## **8.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

8.1 The Council has made a commitment to take action to improve air quality, within Wirral's Air Quality strategy. Failure to demonstrate action and commitment to change would present a reputational risk. It could also lead to criticism of the Council's Local Air Quality management arrangements by DEFRA.

## **9.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

9.1 Consultation was undertaken with Council Officers to develop the implementation plan and report progress on those same actions. A summary of the priority actions for 2024/25 is presented in this report.

9.2 No external consultation was undertaken in relation to this update report.

## **10.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 Wirral Council has a legal requirement to make sure its policies, and the way it carries out its work, do not discriminate against anyone. An Equality Impact Assessment is a tool to help council services identify steps they can take to ensure equality for anyone who might be affected by a particular policy, decision or activity.

10.2 The existing Equality Impact Assessment for the Air Quality Strategy is still valid as no changes have been made and it can be found at:

<https://democracy.wirral.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=EIA%20Wirral%20Air%20Quality%20Strategy&ID=1486&RPID=554264396&sch=doc&cat=13841&path=13652%2c13837%2c13841>

## **11.0 ENVIRONMENT, BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 There are no environmental, biodiversity or climate change implications generated by the recommendations in this report.

11.2 The AQIP is fundamental to the monitoring and delivery of the council's actions to improve air quality in Wirral. This committee report provides an update on progress with the identification and delivery of the actions identified for 2024-25 to achieve these objectives.

## **12.0 COMMUNITY WEALTH IMPLICATIONS**

12.1 Everyone is at risk from air pollution, but people are more vulnerable if they have COPD, asthma or other lung conditions or are elderly or a child. Air pollution can cause coughs, dizziness, inflamed airways and shortness of breath. It increases the

risk of pneumonia, COPD and lung cancer, as well as heart disease and stroke, leading to early death. It can also impact pregnancy and the development of children's lungs.

- 12.2 Driving forward Wirral's Air Quality Strategy, by delivering actions, through the AQIP, to improve air quality in Wirral, will have a positive public health impact, helping to reduce the burden on the NHS, improving health and reducing the health inequity gap on the borough.

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## **APPENDICES**

- Appendix One - Summary of the air quality monitoring results for Wirral for 2023
- Appendix Two – Map of Nitrogen Dioxide Monitoring locations during 2023
- Appendix three - Summary of National Objective Levels and World Health Organisation air quality guideline concentrations.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1. Air Quality Strategy: framework for local authority delivery (2023)
2. Chief Medical Officers Annual Report 2022. Air Quality
3. Wirral Joint Strategic Needs Assessment on Air Quality 2022
4. Wirral Working Together: A Council Plan for 2023 to 2027
5. WHO review of evidence on health aspects of air pollution
6. WHO Global Air Quality Guidelines

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

This report is being considered by the Tourism, Communities, Culture and Leisure Committee in accordance with 6.2(i)(vi) of its Terms of Reference, "the committee is charged by full Council to undertake responsibility for the Councils role and functions for trading standards and environmental health, including but not limited to air pollution control".



## SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Environment Climate Emergency and Transport Committee, Agenda Item 7 - <a href="#">Wirrals Air Quality Strategy.pdf</a>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> December 2023</b>
Environment Climate Emergency and Transport Committee, Agenda Item 10 – <a href="#">Air Quality Implementation Plan Progress Report.pdf</a>	<b>18<sup>th</sup> September 2024</b>

## Appendix One

**Monitoring Results for Annual Mean concentrations of Nitrogen Dioxide for 2023, and a comparison to 2022 results where available.**

Site	Location	2022 NO2 Monitoring Result ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	2023 NO2 Monitoring Results ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	Increase / Decrease between 2022-23	Difference ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )
W2	New Chester Road, Eastham	14.7	12.9	Decrease	-1.8
W3/19	Leasowe Road, Wallasey	21.4	22.1	Increase	+ 0.7
W4	Borough Road, Tranmere	24.3	23.8	Decrease	-0.5
W5	Bolton Road East	28.3	27.2	Decrease	-1.1
W8	Moreton Cross	25.3	23.1	Decrease	-2.2
W9	Woodchurch Road	19.2	31.6	Increase	+ 12.4
W9/23	Woodchurch Road	N/A	24.1	N/A	
W12	New Chester Road, Port sunlight	35.6	35.1	Decrease	-0.5
W13	New Chester Road, Port Sunlight	17.3	17.1	Decrease	-0.2
W14/21	Wallasey Rd, Liscard	21.3	20.4	Decrease	-0.9
W15	Arrowe Park Road, Woodchurch	24.5	24.3	Decrease	-0.2
W17	St Albans Rd Liscard	27.2	26.9	Decrease	-0.3
W18/19	New Chester Road, Port Sunlight	28.5	27.5	Decrease	-1.0
W21	Singleton Ave, Tranmere	24.0	25.2	Increase	+1.2
W22/23	Birkenhead Road, Seacombe	N/A	22.8	N/A	
W23/23	Argyle Street South, B/head	N/A	21.8	N/A	
W24	Conway Street Birkenhead	24.2	23.8	Decrease	-0.4
W25	Dock Road, Seacombe	22.5	21.2	Decrease	-1.3

W27	New Chester Road, Port Sunlight	20.2	20.2	No change	0.0
W28	Church Road, Bebington	21.2	19.9	Decrease	-1.3
W29/20	Mill Lane, Poulton	18.8	17.4	Decrease	-1.4
W31	Canning St, Birkenhead	30.7	31.2	Increase	+0.5
W32/23	Telegraph Road, Heswall	N/A	15.3	N/A	
W33/19	Storeton Road, Bebington	23.3	23.1	Decrease	-0.2
W34/19	New Chester Road, Port Sunlight	20.8	19.7	Decrease	-1.1
W35	Vernon Road, Seacombe	19.1	19.3	Increase	+0.2
W36/21	Geneva Road, Seacombe	23.1	22.4	Decrease	-0.7
W37	Corporation Road, Birkenhead	22.9	22.0	Decrease	-0.9
W38/19	Mount Road, Higher Bebington	22.1	20.8	Decrease	-1.3
W39/21	Chester St, Birkenhead	25.0	22.1	Decrease	-2.9
W41	St Georges Road, Wallasey	15.2	14.0	Decrease	-1.2
W42	New Chester Rd, Bromborough	19.9	18.9	Decrease	-1.0
W43	Whetstone Lane, Birkenhead	21.8	20.6	Decrease	-1.2
W44/23	Meols Drive, West Kirby	N/A	15.7	N/A	
W45	Arrowe Park Rd, Upton	32.4	31.3	Decrease	-1.1
W47/22	Bridle Road, Eastham	13.5	13.5	No change	0.0
W48	Wheatland Lane, Seacombe	27.4	24.8	Decrease	-2.6
W49	Cross Street, Birkenhead	20.4	20.1	Decrease	-0.3
W50	Parry Street, Seacombe	25.6	23.0	Decrease	-2.6
W51	Mount Grove, Birkenhead	13.3	11.6	Decrease	-1.7
W52	Batten Road, Birkenhead	13.0	12.9	Decrease	-0.1
W53	Morland Avenue, Bromborough	11.0	10.0	Decrease	-1.0
W54	Morland Avenue, Bromborough	8.2	8.9	Increase	+0.7

W55	Norbury Avenue, Higher Bebington	11.8	11.3	Decrease	-0.5
W56	Norbury Avenue, Higher Bebington	11.7	11.5	Decrease	-0.2
W57	Pulford Road, Bebington	10.7	11.6	Increase	+0.9
W58/23	Seabank Road, New Brighton	N/A	22.4	N/A	
W59	Lees Ave, Rock Ferry	13.0	11.9	Decrease	-1.1
W60	Ionic Street, Rock Ferry	12.9	15.6	Increase	+2.7
W61	Green Lane, Wallasey Village	13.9	12.8	Decrease	-1.1
W62	Greenleas Road, Wallasey Village	14.1	13.2	Decrease	-0.9
W63	Manor Lane, Liscard	16.6	14.4	Decrease	-2.2
W64	Withens Lane, Liscard	15.6	14.5	Decrease	-1.1
W65	Tower Road, Birkenhead	22.6	22.6	No change	0.0
W66A	Tranmere AURN	N/A	11.1	N/A	
W66B	Tranmere AURN	N/A	11.8	N/A	
W66C	Tranmere AURN	N/A	11.3	N/A	

- W66a, W66b and W66c are located at the DEFRA AURN real time monitoring station and are used as part of a co-location. Site W9 and W9/23 were only in-situ for 6 month each during 2023. Therefore two results are provided, providing 57 results, for 56 monitoring sites for 2023.

### Monitoring Results for PM<sub>10</sub> for 2023, and a comparison to 2022.

Site	Location	2022 PM <sub>10</sub> Monitoring Result (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	2023 PM <sub>10</sub> Monitoring Results (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Increase / Decrease between 2022-23	Difference (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )
CM1	AURN, Tranmere	12.8	10.9	Decrease	-1.9

**Monitoring Results for PM<sub>2.5</sub> for 2023, and a comparison to 2022.**

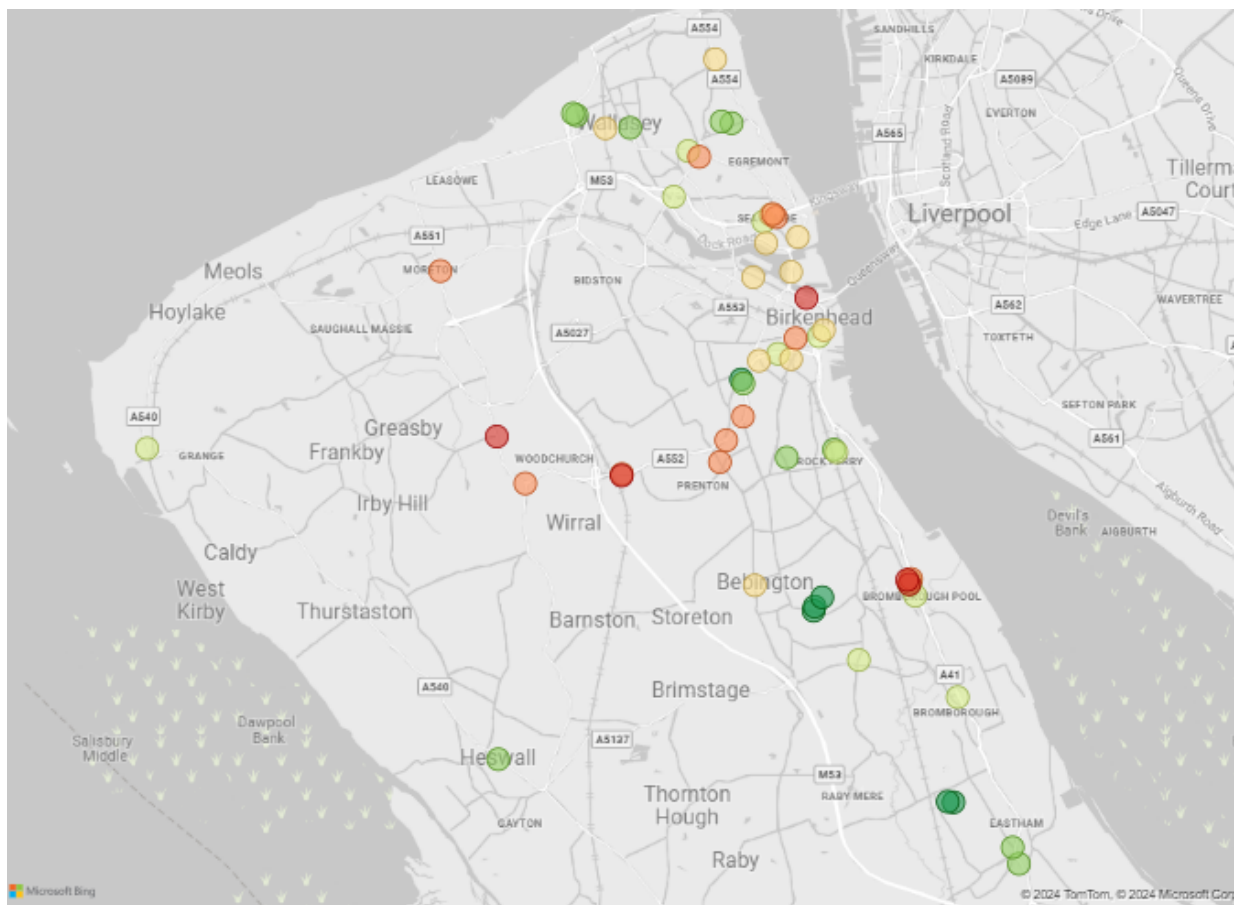
Site	Location	2022 PM <sub>2.5</sub> Monitoring Result (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	2023 PM <sub>2.5</sub> Monitoring Results (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Increase / Decrease between 2022-23	Difference (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )
CM1	AURN, Tranmere	7.8	6.6	Decrease	-1.2

**2023 'Indicative' monitoring results for Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>**

Site	Location	NO <sub>2</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	PM <sub>2.5</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	PM <sub>10</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )
700037	Arrowe Park Road, Upton	17.5	10.5	11.6
700058	New Chester Road, Eastham	16.8	11.0	12.1
700067	Wallasey Road, Wallasey	26.5	11.6	12.8
700073	Poulton Bridge Road, Poulton	18.8	11.6	12.8
700088	Ivy Street, Birkenhead	18.9	11.0	12.0

## Appendix Two

### Map of Diffusion Tube Monitoring Locations for Nitrogen Dioxide During 2023



This map is available in the air quality mapping section on the Wirral Intelligence Air Quality webpage at [www.wirralintelligenceservice.org/a-to-z-of-jsna-topics/air-quality/](http://www.wirralintelligenceservice.org/a-to-z-of-jsna-topics/air-quality/)

## Appendix Three

### National Objective Levels for Nitrogen Dioxide and Particulate Matter (PM10)

Pollutant		Air Quality Objective: Concentration	Air Quality Objective: Measured as
Nitrogen (NO <sub>2</sub> )	Dioxide	200µg/m <sup>3</sup> not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	1-hour mean
Nitrogen (NO <sub>2</sub> )	Dioxide	40µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual mean
Particulate (PM <sub>10</sub> )	Matter	50µg/m <sup>3</sup> , not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	24-hour mean
Particulate (PM <sub>10</sub> )	Matter	40µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual mean

### Fine particulate matter Target (PM<sub>2.5</sub>).

The two targets, both to be met by 2040 are:

- Annual mean concentrations of PM<sub>2.5</sub> to be 10 µg m<sup>-3</sup> or lower.
- Population exposure to PM<sub>2.5</sub> to be reduced by 35% compared to 2018 levels.

### WHO Global Air Quality Guidelines (AQGs) (2021)

PM2.5 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual Mean	5
	24-hour <sup>a</sup>	15
PM10 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual Mean	15
	24-hour <sup>a</sup>	45
NO2 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual mean	10
	24 hour <sup>a</sup>	25

<sup>a</sup> 99th percentile (i.e. 3–4 exceedance days per year).