

AGENDA ITEM No. ...23 (a)

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT



<p>To: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE</p> <hr/> <p>From: DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES</p> <hr/> <p>Date: 5th February, 1999</p> <hr/> <p>Ref: JT/MD</p>	<p>Subject: Review Of The UK National Air Quality Strategy: Proposals To Amend The Strategy By Central Government</p>
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PROPOSED DECISION

To note the report and thereafter submit North Lanarkshire Councils comments to the Scottish Office on the proposals to review of the UK National Air Quality Strategy.

REPORT

1. The Department has been consulted by the Scottish Office Agriculture, Environmental and Fisheries Department (SOAEFD) on proposals to amend the existing Government strategy on Air Quality.
2. Central Government already has a strategy to improve the United Kingdoms Air Quality by reducing the levels of eight pollutants of most concern to public health by the year 2005.

This strategy is being reviewed and, it is proposed that between the years 2000 and 2005 the maximum levels of eight pollutants will be further reduced as detailed in Appendix I.

A summary of the proposed changes for each individual pollutant is given below.

Benzene:

The standard for the level of Benzene now has to be reduced to 5ppb by the end of 2003 two years earlier than the present standard and further reduced to 1ppb by the end of 2005.

1,3 Butadiene:

The standard for the level of Butadiene has to be reduced to 1ppb by the end of 2003 two years earlier than the present standard.

Carbon Monoxide:

The standard for the level of Carbon Monoxide has to be reduced to 10ppm by the end of 2003 two years earlier than the present standard.

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Lead:

The standard for the level of lead has to be reduced to 0.5 ug/m³ by the end of 2004 one year earlier than the present standard.

Nitrogen Dioxide:

The standard for the level of Nitrogen Dioxide has to be reduced to 104.6ppb (measured as a hourly mean) by the end of 2005 from the present standard of 150ppb by 2005 a reduction of 45.4ppb. To compensate for this higher standard it will be permissible to exceed the standard up to a maximum of 18 times per year. The provisional objective of 21ppb (annual mean) is to be retained. In addition a new annual standard objective for the protection of vegetation has been proposed. This proposed standard is 15ppb to be achieved by the end of 2000.

Ozone:

No change to the present standard is proposed.

Particles (PM₁₀)

The standard for the level of PM₁₀ has to be reduced to 40 ug/m³ (per 24hr period) from 50 ug/m³. To compensate for this higher standard it will be permissible to exceed 40 ug/m³ thirty five times per year up to a maximum of 50 ug/m³ in any 24 hour period as opposed to the current maximum of 4 times per year. This new proposed standard has to be achieved by the end of 2004 one year earlier than the old standard.

The number of exceedences will then be reduced from 35 times per year to 4 times per year by 2005. It is also proposed that the level of PM₁₀ will then be reduced further to an annual level of 20 ug/m³ with the qualification that up to a maximum of 7 times per year over any 24 hour period the level may reach 50 ug/m³. This proposed standard has to be achieved by 2009.

Sulphur Dioxide

The standard for the level of Sulphur Dioxide will remain as 100 ppb to be achieved by 2005 but it will no longer be permissible to exceed this standard for periods of up to 15 minutes to a maximum of 35 times per year.

In addition new national annual and winter objectives for the protection of ecosystems of 7 ppb (20 ug/m³) for the end of 2000 are set.

RECOMMENDATION

To note the report and advise SOAEFD of the Councils support for all of the above proposals.

M'Kenzie L. Hutton

APPENDIX I

NATIONAL AIR QUALITY STRATEGY				REVIEW OUTCOME
Pollutant	Standard		Objective to be achieved by 2005	Proposals for amendments to the NAQS objectives
	concentration	measured as		
Benzene	5ppb	running annual mean	5ppb	5ppb(16.2ug/m ³) by 31.12.2003; indicative level of 1ppb (3.2ug/m ³) by 31.12.2005
1,3 Butadiene	1ppb	running annual mean	1ppb	1ppb (3.2ug/m ³) by 31.12.2003
Carbon Monoxide	10ppb	running 8-hour mean	10ppm	10ppm (11.65mg/m ³) by 31.12.2003
Lead	0.5ug/m ³	annual mean	0.5ug/m ³	0.5ug/m ³ by 31.12.2004
Nitrogen Dioxide	150ppb	1 hour mean	150ppb, hourly mean*	104.6ppb (200ug/m ³) by 31.12.2005 (maximum of 18 exceedences)
	21ppb	annual mean	21ppb, annual mean*	21ppb (40ug/m ³) retained as provisional objective for 31.12.2005 New annual national objective for the protection of vegetation of 15.7ppb (30ug/m ³) for 31.12.2000
Ozone	50ppb	running 8 - hour mean	50ppb, measured as the 97th percentile of daily maximum 8 hour running mean* exceedences per year	50ppb (100ug/m ³) retained as indicative level for 31.12.2005
Particles (PM ₁₀)	50ug/m ³	running 24 hour mean	50ug/m ³ , measured as the 99th percentile of daily maximum running 24 hour mean* (equivalent to 4 exceedences per year)	New annual objective of 40ug/m ³ and 24 hour objective to 50ug/m ³ (maximum of 35 exceedences) for 31.12.2004 50ug/m ³ as 99th percentile of daily maximum running 24 hour means to be retained as indicative level for 31.12.2005 New indicative annual level of 20ug/m ³ and 24 hour level of 50ug/m ³ , (maximum of 7 exceedences) for 31.12.2009

Sulphur Dioxide	100ppb	15 minute mean	100ppb, measured as the 99.9th percentile of 15 minute mean*, (equivalent to exceedences of 35 periods of 15 minutes per year)	100ppb (267ug/m ³) as 99th percentile of 15 minute means adopted as firm objective for 31.12.2005 New national annual and winter objectives for the protection of ecosystems of 7ppb (20ug/m ³) for 31.12.2000
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ppm = parts per million; ppb = parts per billion; ug/m³ = micrograms per cubic metre;
mg/m³ = milligrams per cubic metre

* = these objectives were regarded as provisional in the Strategy