

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE		Subject: REVOCATION AND AMENDMENT OF AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREAS
From: HEAD OF PROTECTIVE SERVICES		
Date: 27 th January 2015	Ref: CM/AMcP	

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To advise members on the revocation of the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) at Moodiesburn and amendments to AQMAs at Whifflet and Chapelhall, within North Lanarkshire.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Environment Act 1995 requires Scottish Local Authorities to regularly review air quality within their areas under a process known as Local Air Quality Management.
- 2.2 Further to this Act, the Air Quality (Scotland) Regulations 2000 and Amendment Regulations 2002 prescribe air quality objectives for seven pollutants deemed to be the most prejudicial to health, namely – Benzene, 1,3-Butadiene, Carbon Monoxide, Lead, Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂), Particulates (PM₁₀) and Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂). Dates have also been set for compliance with these objectives.
- 2.3 This process of Local Air Quality Management has been ongoing for a number of years now, and as time has progressed the objectives for the specific pollutants have become increasingly stringent. Continued monitoring in North Lanarkshire has identified six areas of exceedance of the 2010 Annual Mean objective for PM₁₀ (particulate pollution) and this has led over a period of several years to the declaration of six Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) in Whifflet Coatbridge, Chapelhall, Motherwell Town Centre, Harthill, Moodiesburn and Croy. A reduction in PM₁₀ levels within the Harthill area resulted in this AQMA being revoked in 2012.
- 2.4 Further to the declaration of the AQMAs, the Council has a statutory responsibility to continue monitoring air quality within the AQMA and also to prepare and publish an Air Quality Action Plan. This is a document which details measures the Council pledges to consider in order to improve air quality within the AQMAs. The most recent update to the Council's Air Quality Action Plan was published in 2013 and contained a variety of short and long term action plan measures.

3. Proposals / Considerations

- 3.1 Air quality monitoring results from the Council's air quality monitoring equipment at the Moodiesburn AQMA (Appendix A) has indicated over recent years that annual average levels of PM₁₀ in the AQMA now comply with the statutory national air quality objective for this pollutant. This is most likely as a consequence of the opening of the new M80 upgrade which has removed the majority of the traffic from the A80 (the site of the Moodiesburn air quality monitoring station). As such, a report was prepared outlining the monitoring results for the past few years, and this document was subsequently submitted to the Scottish Government and Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) as evidence to support the revocation of the AQMA. Both agencies have now reviewed the evidence provided and are in agreement that the AQMA can be revoked.

- 3.2 Following earlier committee approval to undertake the revocation process (committee date 12th August 2014) a consultation exercise has been undertaken in respect of this, involving adverts in the local press and Edinburgh Gazette, advising on the Council's intention to revoke the AQMA and providing details on how interested parties may make representation in respect of this. In addition, statutory consultees and relevant council departments were also notified of the intention to revoke the Moodiesburn AQMA. No comments were received in respect of the proposal.
- 3.3 In addition to the revocation of the Moodiesburn AQMA, two of the Council's other AQMAs require to be amended as a result of a combination of additional monitoring and a comprehensive dispersion modelling exercise which has indicated additional areas of exceedance of air quality objectives. The Whifflet AQMA (Appendix B) will be extended to include the automatic monitoring site at Shawhead which is showing monitored exceedances of both the PM₁₀ and NO₂ air quality objective. This AQMA will also be amended to include the M8 corridor to Kirkshaws, which was highlighted in the dispersion modelling report as exceeding the air quality objectives for both PM₁₀ and NO₂. In addition to this, the Whifflet AQMA will be re-named as the Coatbridge AQMA, in order to reflect the wider area that it now covers. A consultation exercise was undertaken in respect of the amendment to the Whifflet AQMA and no comments were received in respect of the proposed changes.
- 3.4 As well as changes to the Whifflet AQMA the council's AQMA at Chapelhall (Appendix C) also requires to be amended. Currently only declared for breaches of the annual mean objective for the pollutant PM₁₀, the Chapelhall AQMA will be amended to include breaches of the annual mean objective for the pollutant Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂). As in the case of the amendment to the Whifflet AQMA a consultation exercise was undertaken in respect of the amendment to the Chapelhall AQMA and no comments were received in respect of the proposed changes.

4. Corporate Considerations

- 4.1 This report has been discussed with the Planning and Development, Roads and Transportation and Legal Services Divisions in relation to any potential impact the contents of the report may have on their Services.

5. Financial Considerations

- 5.1 There are no financial implications relevant to this report.

6. Recommendations

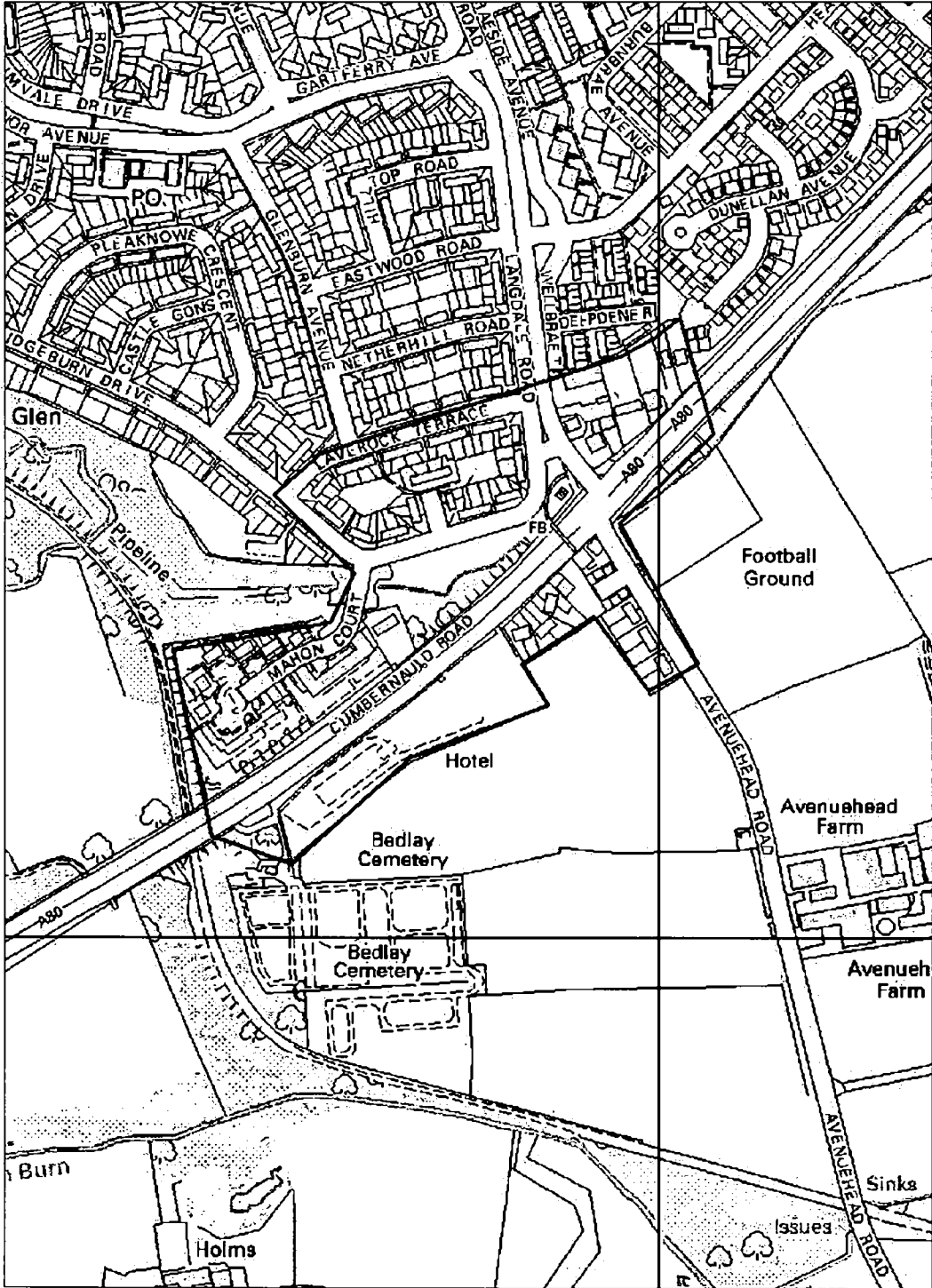
- 6.1 That members agree the revocation of the Moodiesburn Air Quality Management Area, which will take effect from April 2015.
- 6.2 That members agree the amendments to the Air Quality Management Areas at Chapelhall and Whifflet, which will take effect from April 2015.

C. Morgan

C MORGAN
HEAD OF PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information about this report, please contact Andrew McPherson, Environmental Health Manager on 01236 638575

Appendix A



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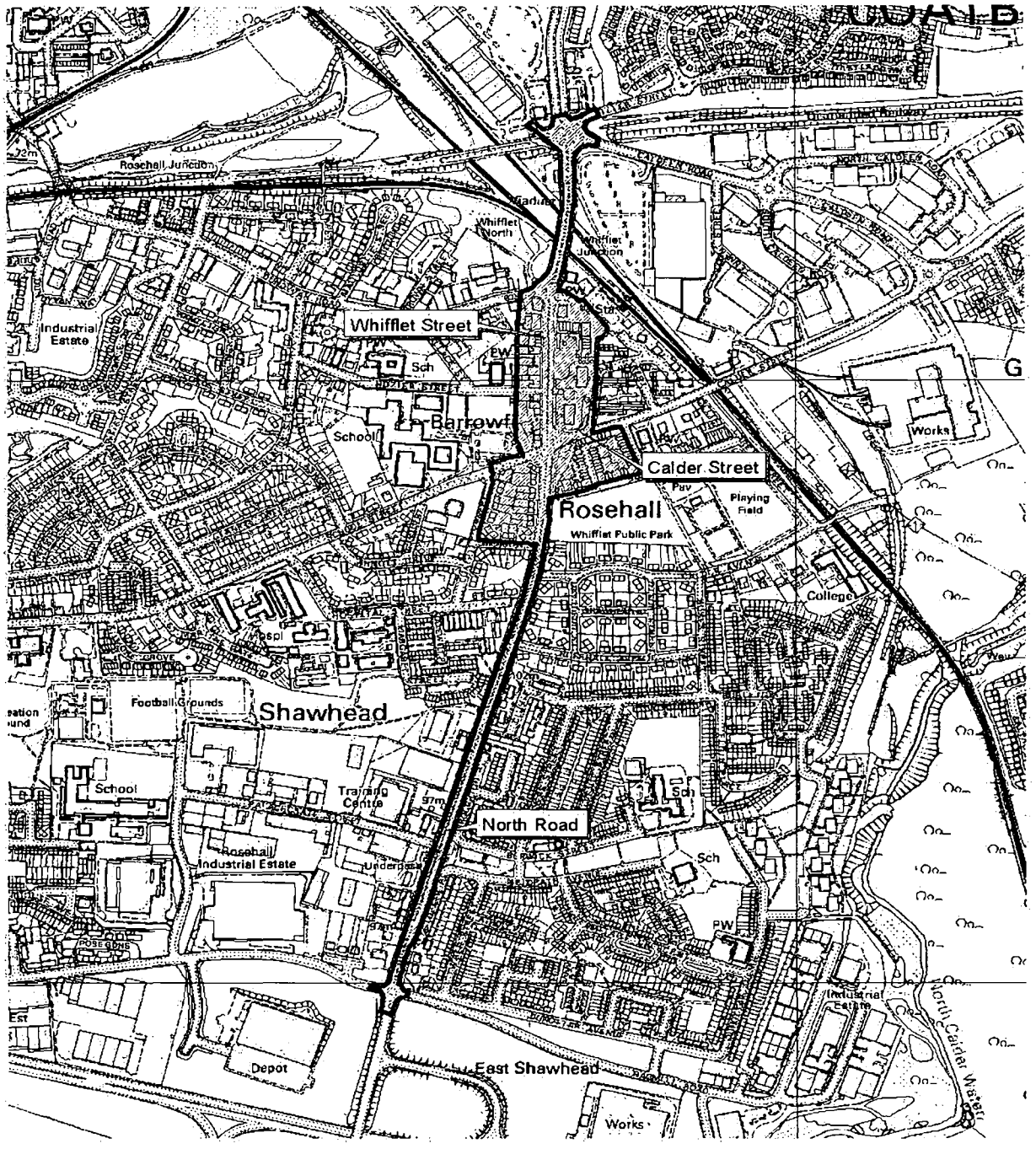
Moodiesburn AQMA

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Appendix B

Whifflet AQMA



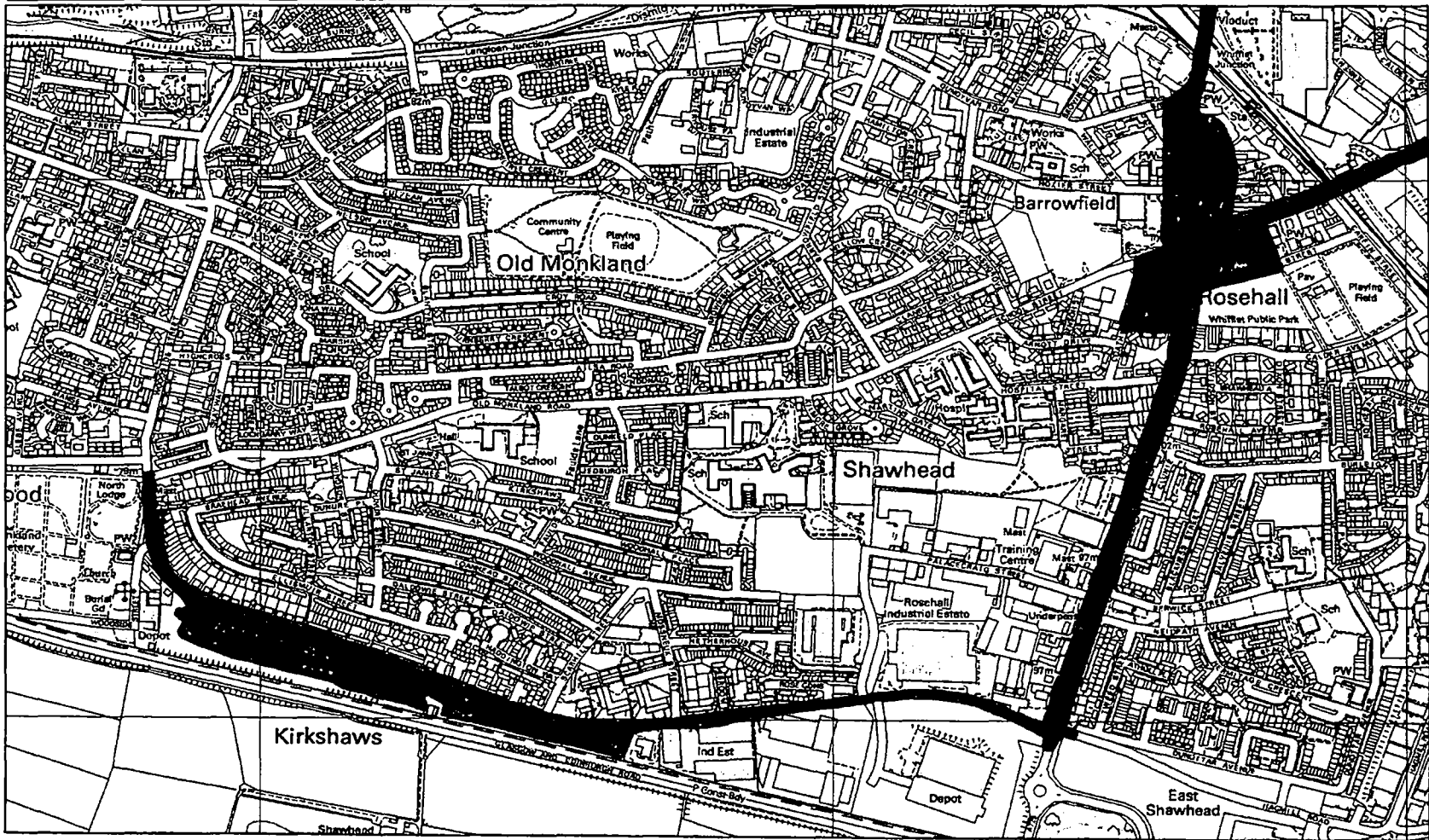
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Coatbridge AQMA



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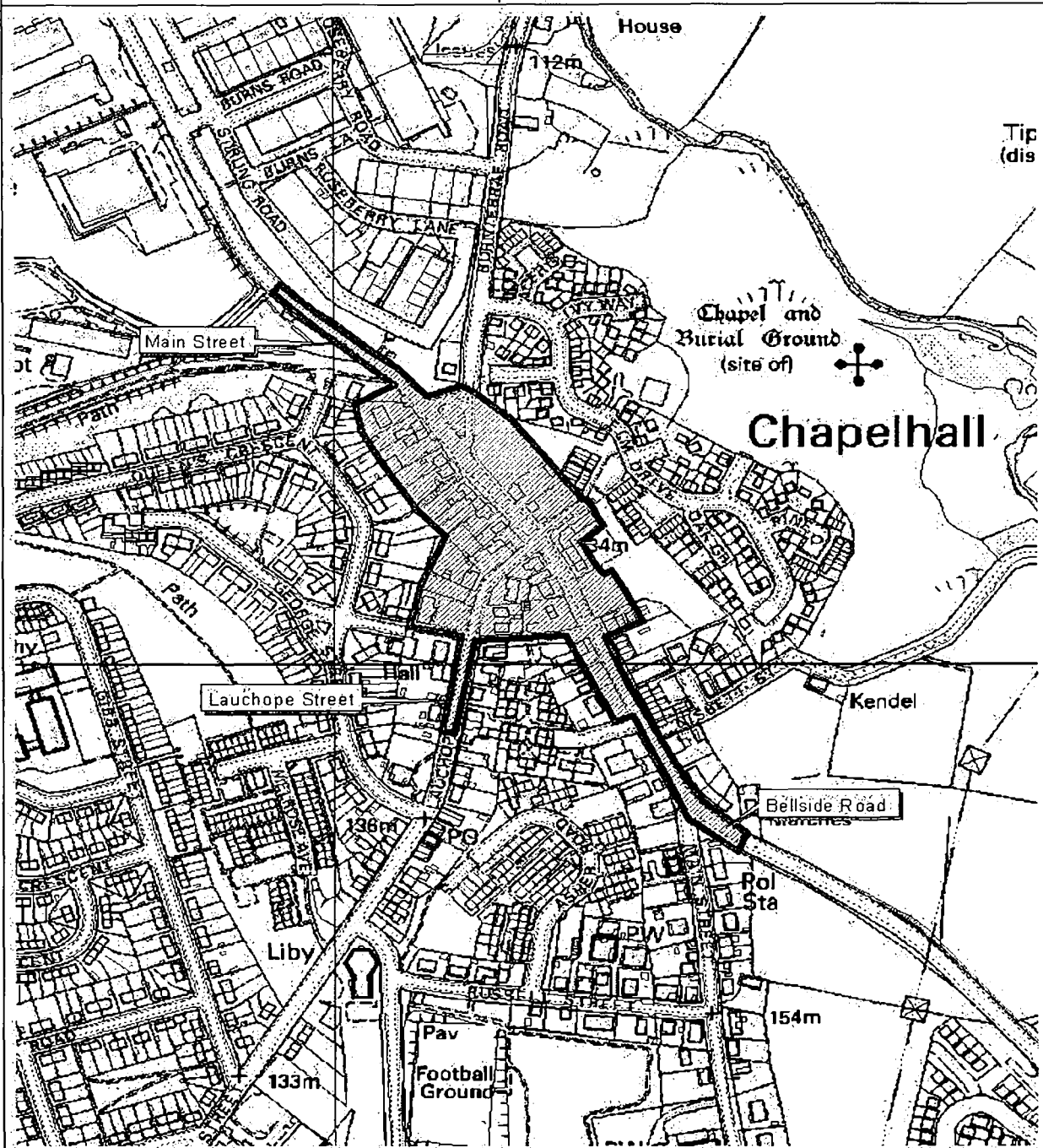
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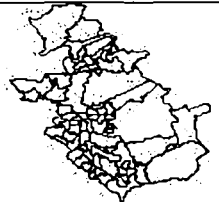
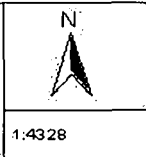


Appendix C

Chapelhall AQMA



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