

## APPENDIX B- CONSULTATION RESPONSES

The **UK Health Security Agency** made the following comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Blaby District Council AQMA proposals. Air pollution has a significant public health impact in the UK: long term exposure to air pollution affects mortality and morbidity from cardiovascular and respiratory conditions. UKHSA fully support the continued work of Local Authorities in seeking to achieve compliance with the UK Air Quality Objectives.

The information provided evidences that the nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) annual mean concentrations within the 3 AQMAs for revocation (1, 2 and 4b) have been below the UK national air quality objective of 40µg/m<sup>3</sup> for a number of years. We are reassured to note Blaby District Council has committed to continue to monitor air quality in these areas after the AQMAs are revoked.

UKHSA support the declaration of an AQMA to work towards the reduction of NO<sub>2</sub> levels in Braunstone Town and we look forward to receiving a copy of any prepared Action Plan with details of how air quality will be improved.

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The **Environment Agency** made the following comments:

Thank you for consulting the Environment Agency on your proposals. I can confirm that we have no comments to make.

I did note from your 2023 ASR that you have been very successful in securing grant funding for your Particulate Matters and Lets Go Electric projects. I'm impressed with this as, for a number of years, we have been supporting bids by North Lincolnshire Council for funding to help with their (Scunthorpe steelworks related) AQMA for PM<sub>10</sub> and have had no success.

**Braunstone Town Council** made the following comments:

Thank you for your email dated 26<sup>th</sup> April 2024, setting out Blaby District Council's proposals to revoke three of the existing Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) in the district and to declare a new AQMA, and inviting Braunstone Town Council to submit comments.

1. Braunstone Town Council does not object to the revocation of AQMA 1: Narborough Road South; subject to Diffusion Tube monitoring (DT25 and DT35) remaining in place; and
2. Braunstone Town Council supports the declaration of AQMA 7: Lubbesthorpe Road, Braunstone Town and requests that it be engaged on the development of the proposed Action Plan.

The Reasons for the above consultation response are:

1. While the annual average of NO<sub>2</sub> was below 40µg/m<sup>3</sup> for the past five years; on a monthly basis, the average NO<sub>2</sub> has exceeded 40µg/m<sup>3</sup>. In 2022 both DT25 and DT35 exceeded 40µg/m<sup>3</sup> in January and DT35 exceeded 40µg/m<sup>3</sup> in March.
2. Monthly average of NO<sub>2</sub> was consistently above 40µg/m<sup>3</sup> from March to December 2022 and an Action Plan to address this was needed.

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**Whetstone Parish Council** made the following comments:

The Clerk had tabled the email and map. The tubes only measured NO<sub>2</sub> as they were diffuser tubes. The Earthsense Zephyr monitor had measured over limit readings, but as it was the average reading, it was below the national acceptable levels. The Zephyr was still monitoring the Dog and Gun Lane location. It was suggested that it be brought back to Enderby Road. The intention to revoke was discussed.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk discuss the concerns of the Parish Council in revocation of the AQMA on Enderby Road. That the Clerk object to the revocation based on the measurements and sheer traffic volume using Enderby Road.

So we will await the report to cabinet and make our comments

Your AQMA 7 is accepted by me as a passing daily user of the roads and knowing the traffic flows on them. You have no plans that will alleviate these increases, same as the M1 through LFE / Braunstone Town.

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**National Highways Authority** made the following comments:

Always useful to know about revocations adjacent to our network, however no further comments.

Comments made by **Ward Councillor** for Leicester Forest East:

With a further 3,500 homes currently planned and to be built in the area, I am of the opinion that this Air Quality monitoring must continue until the completion of all housing projects.

Whilst I appreciate Air Quality has improved, a further 3500 homes will realistically generate a further 6,000 vehicles onto the roads in the area.

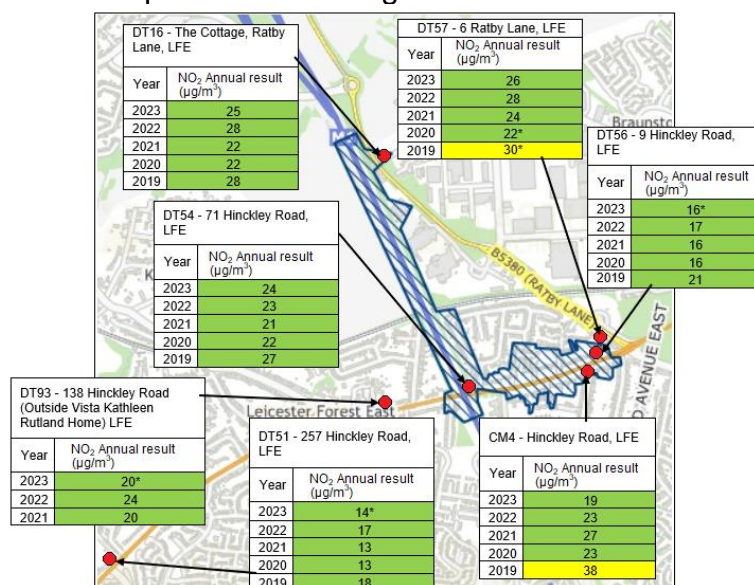
*Anna Farish spoke to Cllr in response to his e-mail on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August. Concerns were discussed and reassurance was given that monitoring will continue in this area.*

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**Public Health Leicestershire** made the following comments which were discussed in a meeting on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October. It is acknowledged that it is an area for concern, but agreed that Defra guidelines need to be followed, and the area will continue to be monitored:

Thank you for your email seeking comments from the Leicestershire County Council Public Health team.

In addition to any UKHSA response, as a party with an interest in broader air quality as part of our overall duty to take steps to improve the health of the population, we would wish to highlight the below for consideration in the context of air quality and health.

In this response we are referring to AQMA 3 in Blaby District. The blue shaded area on the map below indicating the area in discussion.



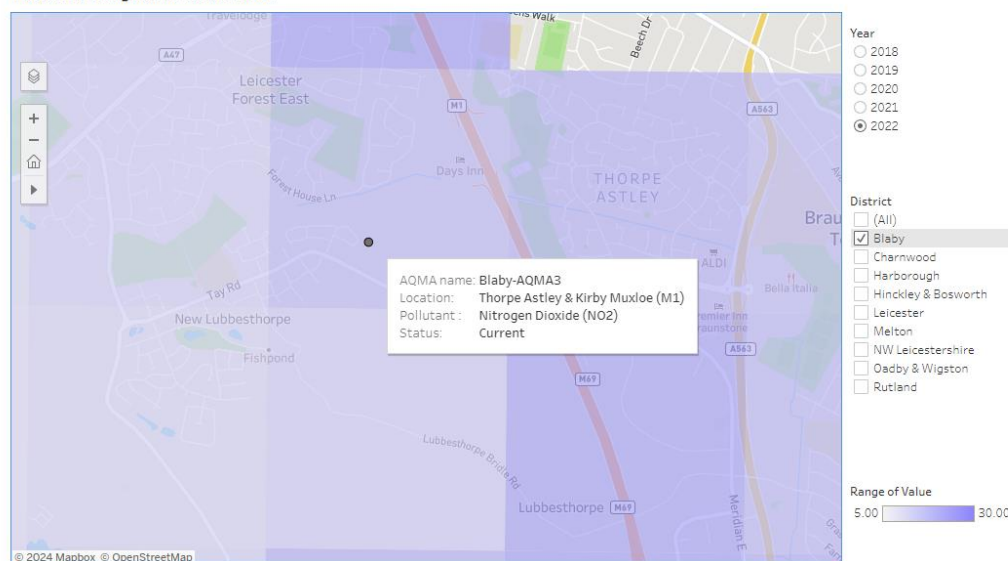
Data found within this document can be accessed through Shape Atlas.

<https://app.shapeatlas.net/place/E54000015#11/52.7087/-1.1137/b-E07000130/sc-pc/m-LA,ml-LA/rh-0,rdr-t>

*\*Data may vary dependent on postcode used for each area.*

LLR Modelled Background Pollution Data with AQMA locations

Modelled Background Data for NO2



### AQMA 3 – Leicester Forest East

Postcode Used: LE3 3GD.

MSOA: E02005334 Leicester Forest East

Factors to consider:

- The deprivation level across the AQMA varies with certain postcodes, one being in the 8<sup>th</sup> least deprived decile and one in the 3<sup>rd</sup> most deprived decile.
- There have been 2 scores of air quality vulnerability indicators identified for this AQMA, for NO2 these are 7 and 10, and for PM2.5 these are 5 and 10. Levels vary greatly within the nearby area. This is a ranking of the level of vulnerability from low (1-2) to high (9-10) decile scores.
- The Quality and Outcomes Framework - prevalence at the closest GP practice for a variety of conditions.
  - o Hypertension = 15.13% (The indicator shows the recorded prevalence of patients with hypertension expressed as a percentage of the practice list size for 2022/23)
  - o CHD = 2.88% (The indicator shows the recorded prevalence of patients with coronary heart disease expressed as a percentage of the practice list size for 2022/23)
  - o Stroke = 2.07% (The indicator shows the recorded prevalence of strokes in patients expressed as a percentage of the practice list size for 2022/23)
  - o COPD = 1.56% (The indicator shows the recorded prevalence of patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease expressed as a percentage of the practice list size for 2022/23)

Traveller groups have been highlighted as a group particularly vulnerable to worsening health inequalities in the Leicestershire Health Inequalities Joint Strategic Needs Assessment <https://www.lsr-online.org/inequalities>. Evidence suggests that the Gypsy/Traveller population were disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Although there are various listed traveller sites across Blaby district, none of these are close to the above AQMA.

**INHALE Data for Blaby district.**

- Mortality rate from respiratory disease, all ages (3 years) – 77.1 per 100,000
- Under 75 Mortality rate from respiratory disease (3 years) – 13.6 per 100,000
- Under 75 Mortality rate from respiratory disease considered preventable – 6.1 per 100,000
- Mortality rate from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, all ages – 25.6 per 100,000
- COPD: QOF Prevalence (all ages) – 1.7%
- Asthma: QOF Prevalence (6 + years) – 6.8%

*\*This data is available through fingertips <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/>*

By its nature, air quality cannot be controlled by geographical boundaries. Collective and systematic efforts are required to reduce air pollution and its harmful effects on health. The Leicestershire Air Quality and Health Partnership Steering Group delivers joint proactive actions to improve air quality across the County, and its impacts on the most vulnerable within the population. Working in collaboration with key partners and stakeholders to ensure that air quality issues that may harm health are addressed and monitor any changes to the above data that may be a cause for concern.