
Local Authority:	East Devon District Council
Reference:	ASR19-0214
Date of issue	December 2019

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Annual Status Report

The Report sets out the Annual Status Report, which forms part of the Review & Assessment process required under the Environment Act 1995 and subsequent Regulations.

East Devon District Council (EDDC) has revoked its only AQMA (Honiton) in the district on 25th April 2018, following several years where the AQMA has not had exceedances in the annual mean NO₂ objective. EDDC therefore they now have no formal requirement to develop an air quality action plan (AQAP). However, the Council have still made progress in implementing a number of measures to improve air quality in key areas.

In 2018, the Council monitored for NO₂ only. This was via a network of 54 passive diffusion tube sites and one continuous monitoring site. There were 2 exceedances of the NO₂ annual mean air quality objective (AQO) in 2018 at the passive monitoring sites. However once distance correction was applied there were no longer any exceedances.

The report contains a couple sections on PM_{2.5} emissions and the approaches EDDC are taking to reduce PM_{2.5} emissions/concentrations. EDDC discusses the future plans and measures the council has for PM_{2.5} monitoring.

Some QA/QC procedures have been applied with a national bias adjustment factor being used as it was considered to be a more conservative factor in comparison to the local bias adjustment factor. Annualisation was not required. Distance correction was also conducted for sites not representative of relevant exposure. All calculations are present in the Appendix.

On the basis of the evidence provided by the local authority the conclusions reached are acceptable for all sources and pollutants and EDDC should submit an Annual Status Report in 2020.

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Commentary

The report is well structured, detailed, and provides the information specified in the Guidance. The appendix in particular is well detailed and contains all the necessary information and calculations. The following comments have been made to help inform future reports:

1. There is limited discussion of PM_{2.5}. Future reports should aim to provide a discussion with reference to the Public Health Outcomes Framework. The Council may wish to consider comparing the '3.01 - Fraction of mortality attributable to particulate air pollution indicator' value for East Devon to nearby LAs and National indicator values. This can be found in the link below.
<https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/publichealthoutcomesframework/data#page/0/gid/1000043/pat/6/par/E12000005/ati/101/-are/E07000194>.
2. It is encouraging to see that the Council have reviewed their monitoring programme and have introduced new monitoring locations. The Council should continue to review the monitoring programme on a regular basis, to ensure that monitoring takes place at any sites of potential exceedance with relevant exposure.
3. The Council's presentation of trend graphs is very useful as they clearly identify which diffusion tubes are within each area. Furthermore, the Council separate Table A.2 and Table A.3 into geographical areas as well. This is extremely useful for the reader as it is easier to understand NO₂ trends within the district.

This commentary is not designed to deal with every aspect of the report. It highlights a number of issues that should help the local authority either in completing the Progress Report adequately (if required) or in carrying out future Review & Assessment work.

Issues specifically related to this appraisal can be followed up by returning the attached comment form to Defra, Welsh Assembly Government, Scottish Government or DOE.

For any other queries please contact the Local Air Quality Management Helpdesk:
 Telephone: 0800 0327 953
 Email: LAQMHelpdesk@uk.bureauveritas.com

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Appraisal Response Comment Form

Contact Name:	
Contact Telephone number:	
Contact email address:	UKLAQMAppraisals@aecom.com

Comments on appraisal/Further information: