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Local Authority:	<b>Epsom &amp; Ewell Borough Council</b>
Reference:	<b>ASR21-0977</b>
Date of issue	<b>September 2021</b>

## **Annual Status Report - Appraisal 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.

Epsom and Ewell Borough Council have declared one Air Quality Management Area (AQMA), Ewell High Street for exceedances of the NO<sub>2</sub> annual mean air quality objective (AQO). The AQMA was declared in 2007 and a corresponding Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) was published in 2010. This has exceeded the 5-year time frame at which DEFRA recommends a new AQAP should be produced.

Automatic monitoring is not undertaken by Epsom and Ewell Borough Council. Non-automatic (passive) monitoring of NO<sub>2</sub> was conducted at 25 sites during 2020. There was one exceedance of the annual mean objective for NO<sub>2</sub> with a concentration of 44.0 ug/m<sup>3</sup> at EE10 Ewell High Street, within the AQMA. After distance correction this decreased to 42.0 ug/m<sup>3</sup>, which still exceeds the annual mean objective. NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations across the borough have decreased between 2019 and 2020. However, all results in 2020 are heavily influenced by the national and local responses to Covid-19 which removed much of the road traffic for many weeks. For this reason the Council is not drawing strong conclusions from the results in 2020.

QA/QC procedures have been applied with a county bias adjustment factor being used. Annualisation of monitoring data was conducted for 3 sites (EE1, EE10 and EE16) as data capture was below 75%. Distance correction was conducted for 1 site (EE10) within 10% of the AQO and not representative of relevant exposure. Discussion and calculations have been provided for all.

On the basis of the evidence provided by the local authority the conclusions reached are acceptable for all sources and pollutants. Following the completion of this report, Epsom and Ewell Borough Council should submit an Annual Status Report in 2022.

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## Commentary

The report is well structured, detailed, and provides the information specified in the Guidance. The following comments are designed to help inform future reports.

1. The Council have provided the commentary for last year's appraisal and have explained and addressed most of these.
2. Good QA/QC procedures were applied. Calculations for bias adjustment and annualisation were outlined in detail. The adjusted concentrations are well below AQO except one exceedance in AQMA.
3. It is encouraging to see that the Council have considered to pursue the adopted Climate Change Action Plan. This demonstrates the Councils proactive and dedicated approach to improving air quality across the area.
4. The diffusion tube mapping is presented for each monitoring location and the AQMA boundary is clearly shown on the map. The single maps with monitoring locations are also provided.
5. The progress against Action Plan measures table has still not been updated from last year. This is important considering the current AQAP is regarded as being out of date. The Council have stated that they anticipate that the AQMA will meet the AQOs within 3-4 years and that their focus and efforts will be placed on implementing wider measures within the borough, including the AQMA.
6. There is a minor formatting error for the reference citation source on Page 5 in the report.
7. Overall the report is detailed, concise and satisfies the criteria of relevant standards. The Council should continue their good and thorough work.

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:	
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**Comments on appraisal/Further information:**