

Local Authority:	Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council
Reference:	ASR25-2849
Date of Issue:	August 2025

Annual Status Report Appraisal Report

The Annual Status Report sets out new information on air quality obtained by Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council (NBBC) as part of the Review & Assessment process required under the Environment Act 1995 (as amended by the Environment Act 2021) and subsequent Regulations.

NBBC have one declared Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) in their jurisdiction in 2024: AQMA 2 – Midland Road/ Corporation Street, Nuneaton, which was declared in 2009 for exceedances of the annual mean NO₂ Air Quality Objective (AQO) of 40 µg/m³. There have been no exceedances of the AQO in the AQMA for 5 years and therefore NBBC must revoke this AQMA in line with LAQM TG.22.

The revocation of an AQMA should be considered following three consecutive years of compliance with the relevant objective as evidenced through monitoring. Where there have been no exceedances for the past five years, local authorities must proceed with plans to revoke the AQMA. The LAQM Technical Guidance 2022 is clear in this respect (Point 3.57, page 50).

Please be aware that unless a likely exceedance has been identified in the area, Defra will not appraise AQAPs for AQMAs that have been in compliance for five years. Local Authorities will instead be advised to revoke the AQMA.

AQMAs should identify areas where air quality objectives are not being met or are likely to be at risk of not meeting them. Keeping AQMAs in place longer than required risks diluting their meaning and impacting public trust in LAQM.

Local authorities that do not have an AQMA should continue to monitor for exceedances and should still have a local Air Quality Strategy in place to ensure air quality remains a high-profile issue, thereby enabling a quick response should there be any deterioration in condition.

See LAQM Statutory Policy and Technical [Guidance 2022](#) for more information, as well as [FAQ 142: Three or more years of compliance with air quality objectives](#).

NBBC did not carry out any automatic monitoring in 2024. Non-automatic, passive monitoring was carried out at 42 monitoring sites across the borough in 2024. In 2024, five monitoring sites, NB17, NB18, NB38, NB42 and NB52 were relocated elsewhere within the borough for various

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reasons outlined in the ASR. Additionally, four new monitoring sites were added to the network in April 2024.

There were no exceedances of the annual mean objective for NO₂ at any of the sites. Following bias adjustment, the maximum NO₂ concentration reported in 2024 was 30.8 µg/m³, recorded at both NB29 and NB56.

During 2024, diffusion tubes were supplied and analysed by Gradko International using the 20% triethanolamine (TEA) in water preparation method. Annualisation was carried out for six diffusion tube monitoring sites. As NBBC does not operate any automatic monitoring stations, a national bias adjustment factor of 0.84 was applied. Furthermore, none of the NO₂ diffusion tube sites required distance correction during 2024

NBBC's priorities for 2025 focus on prioritising sustainable travel, expanding electric vehicle infrastructure, and improving home energy efficiency to reduce transport and domestic emissions.

NBBC have highlighted the top three measures in yellow in Table 2.1 These measures will be fed into UK-AIR to raise awareness amongst local communities of local authority action to improve air quality. These key measures are:

1. Promote behaviour change away from single occupancy private vehicle use;
2. Promote the use of alternatively fuelled vehicles; and
3. Control domestic emissions.

On the basis of the evidence provided by the local authority the conclusions reached in the report are **accepted** for all sources and pollutants. Following the completion of this report, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council are recommended to complete their AQS and should submit an Annual Status Report in 2026.

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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. AQMA 2 has shown compliance with the air quality objective for annual mean NO₂ for 5 years consecutively. NBBC should consider revocation of this AQMA.
2. Priorities for the coming year are very clearly set out, and the selection of a top three measures highlighted in yellow is welcomed.
3. The Council have obtained approval from the Direction of Public Health. This is welcomed and encouraged in future reports.
4. It is noted there were changes to the diffusion tube network in 2024, justification was provided in the ASR.
5. The Council has addressed the comments from the previous year's appraisal letter. This is welcomed.

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 Annual Status 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 Government, Scottish Government or DOE.

For any other queries please contact the Local Air Quality Management Helpdesk:

Telephone: 0800 0327 953

Email: LAQMHelpdesk@bureauveritas.com

The [Air Quality Hub](#) is a free online information and knowledge sharing resource for local authority air quality professionals. Please consider onboarding on the Air Quality Hub to access a multitude of air quality resources and be kept up to date with local authority air quality activity and air quality news.

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Appraisal Response Comment Form

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

Comments on appraisal/Further information:

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