

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Community & Environment		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	26 May 2022 7.00pm	LOCATION	Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Congleton Green Working Group J MacArthur - Communities and Marketing Manager and Deputy Chief Officer		
AGENDA ITEM	15.		
REPORT TITLE	Air Quality Concerns in Congleton		
Background	<p>Congleton Green Working Group has long been concerned about air quality in Congleton, the complete lack of particulate monitoring by Cheshire East Council and the fact that NOx monitoring, carried out in the three Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) of Rood Hill, West Road and Lower Heath, measures only monthly averages rather than the statutory requirement of daily averages.</p> <p>The Congleton Green Working Group, through one of its members, Dr Barry Speed, was able to borrow a professional air quality monitor and volunteers have carried out testing in various areas around the town. The results can be seen in Appendix 15.1.</p> <p>The fact that many of the results are giving readings above WHO guidelines has caused some alarm amongst the Congleton Green Working Group. The Group believes it is essential that Cheshire East Council, who have a responsibility for monitoring air quality, to test more often in the three AQMAs and test for particulates as well as NOx at key sites like traffic hotspots and schools.</p> <p>The group would like the support of the Community and Environment Committee to lobby Cheshire East Council for more effective monitoring for Congleton and to put Congleton forward for any pilot projects or initiatives that Cheshire East may be looking to carry out to reduce poor air quality. Identifying and obtaining funding for our own air quality monitoring at pilot sites such as schools might also be an option.</p> <p>The group would also like to see Congleton Town Council support Clean Air Day on Thursday 16 June.</p>		
Further information	<p>The Congleton Green Working Group would like to see Cheshire East Council monitor Particulate Matter (PM). Developments in technology means that the cost of equipment to carry out monitoring has reduced over the past few years.</p> <p>Particle pollution is made up of particles (tiny pieces) of solids or liquids that are in the air. These particles may include dust, dirt, soot, smoke and drops of liquid. Some particles are big enough (or appear dark enough) to see — for example, you can often see smoke in the air. Others are so small that you can't see them in the air.</p>		

	<p>Breathing in particle pollution can be harmful to your health. Coarse (bigger) particles, called PM₁₀, can irritate your eyes, nose, and throat. Fine (smaller) particles, called PM_{2.5} and PM₁, are more dangerous because they can get into the deep parts of your lungs — or even into your blood.</p> <p>Particle pollution can affect anyone, but it bothers some people more than others. People most likely to experience health effects caused by particle pollution include people with heart or lung diseases, older adults, babies and children.</p> <p>Particle pollution has also been linked to eye irritation, lung and throat irritation, trouble breathing and lung cancer.</p> <p>Understanding the levels of Particulate matters in various areas of the town is important. When the town has the facts, it will need to use the evidence to proactively take actions to encourage people to make changes to reduce the levels to make it safer for all members of our community.</p> <p>Thursday 16 June is National Clean Air Day and this would be a good day for the Town Council to show that it is serious about wanting Clean Air for Congleton.</p>
<p>Financial Considerations</p>	<p>Funding for any activities for the Clean Air Day can be met from the Green Marketing budget.</p> <p>If there is an opportunity to pilot a scheme with Cheshire East Council for better monitoring, a further paper will need to go to Council to release funding.</p>
<p>Environmental Considerations</p>	<p>Air quality is a fundamental aspect of good environmental health.</p>
<p>Equality and Inclusivity considerations</p>	<p>Poor air quality has a particularly adverse effect on the youngest and oldest members of our society and those already living with a health condition, by improving air quality we can help some of those in our community that need the most help.</p>
<p>PROPOSALS</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Congleton Town Council writes to Cheshire East Council with the results of the Air Quality surveys and asks to work with Cheshire East Council to carry out further testing. 2. That Congleton puts itself forward for any pilot schemes to do with Air Quality and raises awareness of Air Quality during National Clean Air Day on 16 June 2022

Air Quality measurements - Congleton 2020-2021

Appendix 15.1

							values in µg/m3				any value >20 is of concern
date	start	finish	day	equipment	volunteer	location	average over period		peak of 1min averages		comments
							PM2.5	PM10	PM2.5	PM10	
Oct 2020				Atmo							
6th	13.30		Tues			Mill St			30		
	14.00					Bromley Rd			50		near print works
7th	18.30		Wed			West St			35		
8th	8.20		Thu			Bromley Road			30		while cycling - possibly print works
	8.30	9.00				Quinta school	low				
						West Rd AQMA	low				
	11.08					Shell garage			25		
						Rood Hill AQMA	low				
						Mill St	low				
	13.30					Bridge St	<10		50		a spike of high readings for approx 2 min
June 2021				Fidas Frog							
17th	8.30	9.00	Thu		BS	Quinta school	data faulty				
	9.10	9.40				West Rd AQMA	8	20	9	24	
	9.50	10.20				Shell garage	6	17	6	32	
	10.30	11.00				Rood Hill AQMA	9	29	11	64	
	11.10	11.40				Lower Heath AQMA	8	33	10	55	
	11.50	12.20				Rood Hill fish shop	7	8	7	8	
	12.30	13.00				Mill St	5	6	6	7	
	13.10	13.40				West St	7	12	8	20	
	13.50	16.00				Bridge St	7	10	8	11	
18th	16.23	16.58	Fri		BS	West St, Antrobus St, Mill St	5	8	6	10	
19th	12.23	13.12	Sat		BS	Christ Church, Macc	6	10	6	18	
23rd	15.22	16.47	Wed		Amanda Martin	Eaton Bank and vicinity	10	12	11	13	
24th	15.09	15.29	Thu		Lisa Miller	Boundary Lane, Mossley Primary	13	17	15	25	
26th	11.20	13.03	Sat		BS	Barclays Bank, Wilmslow	4	7	5	10	
29th	8.22	8.59	Tue		Kay Wesley	Mossley School	32	38	35	43	
	15.09	15.18			Kay Wesley	Mossley School	3	3	4	4	
	15.19	15.49			Kay Wesley	Mossley School	3	5	4	6	
30th	19.05	19.51	Wed		Stephanie Cooke	Lumpy St and vicinity	17	26	20	29	
	19.55	20.24			Stephanie Cooke	West St bus stop	17	23	18	26	
July 2021				Fidas Frog							
2nd	8.17	8.56	Fri		Kay Wesley	Mossley School	30	38	33	47	
	15.14	15.45			Kay Wesley	Mossley School	15	25	16	32	
3rd	12.22	13.27	Sat		BS	Bridge St, B&M	9	14	11	17	
4th	17.58	18.07	Sun		Suzie Akers-Smith	Lower Heath	5	47	7	85	extremely high for several minutes
	18.08	19.17			Suzie Akers-Smith	Lower Heath, Londis	2	3	4	4	

Aug 2021				Fidas Frog							
2nd	10.13	11.09	Mon		BS	kitchen	13	63	110	460	in kitchen, cooking
9th	8.21	8.52	Mon		Margaret Horner	West St roundabout	6	12	10	52	
	17.10	17.35			Margaret Horner	West St roundabout	4	8	6	19	
12th	12.26	12.32	Thu		Suzy Firkin	Containerlot, near Tandom	11	47	16	78	
	12.39	12.49			Suzy Firkin	Jnct Holmes Chapel Rd / Back Lane	4	8	5	10	
	12.53	13.10			Suzy Firkin	Tesco Express	4	8	5	11	
14th	8.59	10.13	Sat		Russell Chadwick	Ascot Close	7	13	8	22	
	10.27	10.38			Russell Chadwick	Daisybank Drive	6	12	8	20	
	11.05	11.12			Russell Chadwick	Jnct of Daisybank Dr and Rood Hill	6	9	6	9	
	15.12	15.26			Russell Chadwick	Giantswood Lane	5	9	7	20	
	15.58	16.13			Russell Chadwick	Congleton Retail Park	5	8	6	19	
	16.21	16.37			Russell Chadwick	Bear Grills Café	4	5	5	7	
Nov 2021				Atmo							
5th	16.58	17.25			BS	Biddulph Valley Way / canal	12		22		bonfire night!
	17.33	17.48			BS	Bromley Farm Estate roads	25		64		
	17.49	18.19			BS	In kitchen, baking bread	25		45		
	18.22	18.50			BS	indoors, study room	56		103		ingress from outdoors?
	18.51	19.08			BS	Bromley Farm Estate roads	48		81		
	19.11	21.39			BS	back garden	77		296		fireworks nearby
6th	9.29	11.01			BS	indoors, study room	3		5		
	11.02	15.48			BS	outdoors	3		4		
	18.07	18.23			BS	outdoors	12		41		fireworks nearby