

APPENDIX K

Air Quality Management Area – City Centre [No.1] Description and Map

The boundary of the City Centre Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) was approved on the 8th January 2002. The largest area available was chosen following consultation with residents and businesses, which supported this option. On the 21st January 2002 the Order declaring the AQMA came into force.

The AQMA has been established due to the prediction that levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), in certain areas of the city, may breach the annual objective in 2005 of 21ppb (40µg/m³) (based on a 95% confidence limit). The source of NO₂ is from combustion technologies. In York this is predominantly generated from traffic.

Following the declaration the council is now legally obliged to produce a 4th Stage Review and Assessment and an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP). The 4th Stage Review and Assessment will form the technical justification for the solutions contained within the AQAP. An important element of this work will be calculating how much of a reduction in this pollutant is needed to deliver the air quality objectives by 2005 and to apportion the sources of the pollutant more accurately.

