



# ST HELENS BOROUGH COUNCIL

## DRAFT AIR QUALITY ACTION PLAN

2024-29

IN FULFILMENT OF PART IV OF THE ENVIRONMENT ACT 1995  
LOCAL AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT



#STHELENSTOGETHER



ST HELENS  
BOROUGH COUNCIL



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# 1. Executive Summary

This draft Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) has been produced as part of the Council's statutory duties as required by the Local Air Quality Management Framework. It outlines the proposed actions that will be taken to improve air quality in St Helens Metropolitan Borough Council (otherwise referred to as "St Helens Borough Council" or "the Council") for the period 2024–2029, replacing the previous Action Plan of 2013-2020.

The Council has previously declared four Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs), two in 2009 that include a section of the M6 Motorway running through the Borough and with the other encompassing a section of the A49 High Street in Newton-le-Willows. A further two sites were declared in 2011, one on the A58 St Helens Linkway in St Helens town centre and the other on the A58 Borough Road where widespread exceedance of the National Air Quality Objective for nitrogen dioxide annual mean were identified. Projects delivered through the previous Action Plan include:

- A580 Pewfall junction improvement scheme, which reduced levels of queuing traffic in addition to the provision of dedicated cycle and pedestrian crossing facilities.
- A570 Sherdley Roundabout improvement scheme, which provided toucan crossing facilities to encourage cycling and walking, together with widened footways and widened lane widths to improve traffic flows.
- A57 Warrington Road corridor safety improvement scheme to smooth flow and provide improved pedestrian and cycling facilities.
- Sustainable Transport Enhancement Package (STEP) was a six-year programme that completed in March 2021 and delivered new routes to increase cycling and walking.
- Sustainable Urban Development Scheme, which completed in December 2021 and involved the construction of new cycle paths.
- Emergency Active Travel Fund Tranche 1 & 2 to create cycling improvements, increase the number of cycling and walking trips and to deliver school streets at three schools in the borough.

- Smart driving technology project and in cab heating to reduce idling and encourage more efficient driving, which was completed in 2021.

Air pollution is associated with a number of adverse health impacts, and it is recognised as a contributing factor in the onset of heart disease and cancer. Additionally, air pollution particularly affects the most vulnerable in society, including children and older people, and those with heart and lung conditions. There is also often a strong correlation with equalities issues because areas with poor air quality are also often the less affluent areas<sup>1,2</sup>.

The annual health cost to society of the impacts of particulate matter alone in the UK is estimated to be around £16 billion<sup>3</sup>. St Helens Borough Council is committed to reducing the exposure of people in the borough of St Helens to poor air quality in order to improve health. The Council has developed a series of actions that can be considered under 11 broad topics:

- Alternatives to private vehicle use
- Environmental permits / licensing
- Policy guidance and development control
- Promoting low emission transport
- Promoting travel alternatives
- Parking demand management
- Public information
- Strategic transport planning and infrastructure
- Highways (traffic management)
- Fleet management (efficiency)

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<sup>1</sup> Environmental equity, air quality, socioeconomic status and respiratory health, 2010

<sup>2</sup> Air quality and social deprivation in the UK: an environmental inequalities analysis, 2006

<sup>3</sup> Defra. Abatement cost guidance for valuing changes in air quality, May 2013

- Public health

The Council's priorities are to reduce traffic volume and improve traffic flows, improve public transport and active travel infrastructure to encourage sustainable travel, ensure that future development proposals will not have negative impacts on air quality, and explore mitigation measures to improve local air quality where possible.

This draft AQAP outlines how the Council plan to effectively tackle air quality issues within its control; however, it is recognised that there are several air quality policy areas that are outside of the Council's influence but for which there is useful evidence (such as vehicle emissions standards) and so the Council will continue to work with regional and central government on policies and issues beyond its direct influence.

## Responsibilities and Commitment

This Draft AQAP has been prepared by the Place Services Directorate of St Helens Borough Council with the support and agreement of the following officers and departments:

- Mike Petersen – Head of Regulatory Services
- David Saville - Programme Lead, Infrastructure (Strategic Growth Department)
- Kevin Toye - Transport Strategy Consultant (Strategic Growth Department)
- Christopher Davies – Engineer, Urban Traffic Control & Network Management (Operations Department)
- Michael Wolffe – Climate Change Officer (Operations Department)
- Kieran Birch – Head of Planning (Strategic Growth Department)
- Joe Nanson - Development Control Manager (Strategic Growth Department)
- Gila Middleton - Principal Planning Officer (West) (Strategic Growth Department)
- Jill Nixon - Interim Planning Support Officer (Strategic Growth Department)
- John Murdock – Building Control Team Manager (Strategic Growth Department)
- Peter Smith – Procurement Business Partner (Finance Department)
- Jennifer Kaye - Marketing Communications & Engagement Officer (Policy & Transformation Department)
- Diane Bolton-Maggs - Public Health Consultant (Public Health Department)
- Melissa Halligan - Public Health Officer (Public Health Department)

This AQAP has been approved by:

Mike Petersen (Head of Regulatory Services) and Ruth Du Plessis (Director of Public Health).

This AQAP will be subject to an annual review, appraisal of progress and reporting to the Council's Licencing and Environmental Protection Committee. Progress each year will be reported in the Annual Status Reports (ASRs) produced by St Helens Borough Council, as part of its statutory Local Air Quality Management duties.

If you have any comments on this draft AQAP, please contact the Environmental Health Team of St Helens Borough Council at:

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## 2. Introduction

This report outlines the proposed draft actions that St Helens Borough Council will seek to deliver between 2024-2029 to reduce concentrations of air pollutants and exposure to air pollution within the borough's four declared Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs), thereby positively impacting on the health and quality of life of residents and visitors to the St Helens Borough. Publication of this draft Action Plan was due in Spring 2020 but was delayed due to the impact of Covid-19 on resources and the potential associated longer-term impact on traffic and air quality within the borough's AQMAs.

It has been developed in recognition of the legal requirement on the Council to work towards Air Quality Strategy (AQS) objectives under Part IV of the Environment Act 1995 and relevant regulations made under that part, and to meet the requirements of the Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) statutory process.

Implementation of this Action Plan will be subject to annual review, with progress on measures set out within it reported annually within St Helens Borough Council's air quality Annual Status Report (ASR). It will also be reviewed every five years at the latest.

In the 2013 – 2020 Air Quality Action Plan, a total of 12 objectives were initially set out. Additional measures and updates were set out in each annual ASR report. The key successful measures included:

- Sustainable Transport Enhancement Package (STEP) was a six-year programme that completed in March 2021 and delivered new active travel routes to increase cycling and walking.
- Sustainable Urban Development Scheme, which completed in December 2021 and delivered new paths to increase cycling journeys.
- Smart driving technology project and in cab heating to reduce idling and encourage more efficient driving, which was completed in 2021.
- SCOOT (Split cycle offset optimisation technique) - Use of SCOOT to monitor traffic flow and adjust signal timings to reduce unnecessary delays and improve traffic flow.

- Raising awareness of Air Quality matters (ongoing).

More specific details and annual updates on the progress of AQAP measures can be found on the Council's air quality website, link below:

<https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/article/5188/Air-quality-monitoring>

The majority of the implemented AQAP measures had borough-wide air quality benefits, which in turn it can be reasonably assumed to have had positive impacts on the four AQMAs.

### 3. Summary of Current Air Quality in St Helens Borough

The majority of the borough of St Helens has good air quality and prior to the COVID-19 pandemic there had been a slow downward trend of nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) levels; however, the United Kingdom (UK) and England legal travel restrictions in place between March 2020 and March 2022 led to traffic reductions in response to the pandemic. With the UK and England gradually reducing, and then removing the lockdown travel restrictions, the level of nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) gradually rose through increased travel. Although the air quality data shows an overall decrease in traffic levels since the 2021 results, in some areas it appears that the traffic levels have not reverted to pre-Covid levels. This aligns with road traffic data published by the Department for Transport for all motor vehicles across the UK, stating a 4.4% (2022 figures) reduction in overall traffic levels compared to 2019 COVID-19) pandemic.<sup>4</sup>

The Council has declared four AQMAs within the borough of St Helens as shown in Table 3.1 below and the map at Appendix C. Two in 2009, which included a section of the M6 Motorway running through the Borough and the other encompassed a section of the A49 High Street in Newton-le-Willows. A further two sites were declared in 2011, one on the A58 St Helens Linkway in St Helens town centre and the other on the A58 Borough Road where widespread exceedances of the annual mean nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) objective of 40 micrograms per cubic metre (µg/m<sup>3</sup>).

**Table 3.1: AQMAs within St Helens Borough**

No.	AQMA Name	AQMA Status	Date	Pollutants
1	M6	Declared	30/04/2009	Nitrogen dioxide NO <sub>2</sub>

<sup>4</sup> [Road traffic statistics - Summary statistics \(dft.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/road-traffic-statistics-summary-statistics)

No.	AQMA Name	AQMA Status	Date	Pollutants
2	Newton High Street	Declared	30/04/2009	Nitrogen dioxide NO <sub>2</sub>
3	Borough Rd	Declared	30/11/2011	Nitrogen dioxide NO <sub>2</sub>
4	Reflection Court	Declared	30/11/2011	Nitrogen dioxide NO <sub>2</sub>

In AQMA 1 all results are now below 40µg/m<sup>3</sup>. All concentrations at properties in this AQMA are below the national objective for annual mean NO<sub>2</sub>.

In AQMA 2, annual mean concentrations of NO<sub>2</sub> have slowly reduced and have all been below the annual objective concentrations for many years. There are no measured exceedances within AQMA 2 at any location.

For AQMA3, the monitored results show fluctuations and not a downward trend, which is probably due to the local conditions (large incline and street canyon) as the exceedances are only seen where terraced houses line either side of the street at diffusion tube locations 19 and 24. The fluctuations over the past 5 years are considered likely to be due to the impact of the weather and not interventions. More local targeted interventions are being planned in this area to secure improvements in air quality.

For AQMA4, the general trend is downwards, and all monitored data is below the national objective for annual mean NO<sub>2</sub>. The monitored levels in this location have been below the national objective for well over five years; however, due to planning applications being granted, in which traffic flow through the AQMA could be affected, it is proposed to maintain AQMA4.

Please review the latest ASR for specifics on monitoring data.

## 4. St Helens Borough Air Quality Priorities

### 4.1 Public Health Context

Air pollution is associated with several adverse health impacts, and it is recognised as a contributing factor in the onset of heart disease and cancer. Additionally, air pollution particularly affects the most vulnerable in society, including children, the elderly, and those with existing heart and lung conditions. There is also often a strong correlation with equality issues because areas with poor air quality are also often less affluent areas<sup>5 6</sup>.

The mortality burden of air pollution within the UK is equivalent to 29,000 to 43,000 deaths at typical ages<sup>7</sup>, with a total estimated healthcare cost to the National Health Service (NHS) and social care of £157 million in 2017<sup>8</sup>.

St Helens is a Metropolitan Borough of the Liverpool City Region and covers an area that includes the settlements of Sutton, St Helens, Earlestown, Rainhill, Rainford, Eccleston, Clockface, Haydock, Billinge and Newton-le-Willows. St Helens is home to 183,200 people according to the 2021 Census<sup>9</sup>.

The urban form of St Helens Borough can be traced back to its history of coal mining, railways, and world-famous glass industries. Driven by rapid population growth during the 18th and 19th centuries, St Helens (and the related areas of Haydock, Newton-le-Willows and Rainhill) grew to form substantial urban areas. Within the northern part of the Borough are a number of villages and hamlets that originally formed to serve the surrounding agricultural uses. Within the southern part of the Borough a number of communities that originally served the coal mining industry have in some cases merged to form part of the core urban area of St Helens.

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<sup>5</sup> Defra. Air quality and social deprivation in the UK: an environmental inequalities analysis, 2006

<sup>6</sup> Public Health England. Air Quality: A Briefing for Directors of Public Health, 2017

<sup>7</sup> Defra. Air quality appraisal: damage cost guidance, January 2023

<sup>8</sup> Public Health England. Estimation of costs to the NHS and social care due to the health impacts of air pollution: summary report, May 2018

<sup>9</sup> ONS: 2021 St Helens Census

In recent decades the traditional industries have declined in importance, with a corresponding reduction in jobs and business opportunities, and the creation of a legacy of derelict and (in some cases) contaminated land. These issues lie at the heart of many challenges facing the Borough.

However, St Helens Borough has also undergone considerable positive change, with successful efforts to regenerate the economy, infrastructure, and environment. Key achievements have included the completion of a new stadium for Saints Rugby League Football Club, improvements to rail stations, new business premises, a new St Helens College Campus, improved parks and open spaces, reclamation of former collieries and some other industrial sites, and significant levels of new housing. Popular leisure attractions include The Dream - a 20m high artwork on a reclaimed colliery overlooking the M62 Motorway – and the nationally significant Haydock Park Racecourse.

## 4.2 Planning and Policy Context

The Development Plan is at the heart of the planning system with a legislative requirement that planning decisions must be made in line with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

In St Helens Borough, the Development Plan is comprised of the Joint Merseyside and Halton Waste Local Plan (2013), the Bold Forest Park Area Action Plan (2017) and the St Helens Borough Local Plan to 2037.

The St Helens Borough Local Plan to 2037 was adopted in July 2022, following a robust Examination process, and sets out the Council's vision, objectives and planning policies to shape the growth and development of the Borough up to 2037 (and beyond). This includes setting out the scale of development needs (including housing and jobs), the overall spatial strategy for the Borough, and site allocations to meet these needs.

In addition to this, the Local Plan sets out a number of environmentally focussed policies, to complement the social and economic ambitions, to ensure sustainable development is delivered. One of these is Policy LPD09: Air Quality, which amongst other matters, states that development proposals must demonstrate that they will not:

- a) impede the achievement of any objective(s) or measure(s) set out in an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) Action Plan; or

- b) introduce a significant new source of any air pollutant, or new development whose users or occupiers would be particularly susceptible to air pollution, within an AQMA; or
- c) lead to a significant deterioration in local air quality resulting in unacceptable effects on human health, local amenity, or the natural environment, that would require a new AQMA to be created; or
- d) having regard to established local and national standards, lead to an unacceptable decline in air quality in any area.

Following adoption of the Local Plan, the Council has commenced work on updating some of the existing Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs), and the preparation of some new ones identified as necessary. Some of these new SPDs will likely have a degree of influence on air quality, such as an Open Space Provision and Enhancement SPD and a Transport and Travel SPD.

### 4.3 Source Apportionment

The AQAP measures presented in this draft Action Plan are intended to be targeted towards the predominant sources of emissions within St Helens Borough Council's area.

A source apportionment exercise was carried out by the Council in 2009, which identified that within AQMAs 1 and 2, the percentage source contributions were as follows:

- Local background concentration is often the predominant source of Nitrogen Oxide (NOx). Of the local transport sources, Heavy-Duty Vehicles (HDVs) are contributing disproportionately to the concentrations of NOx.
- For AQMA 1 (M6), HDVs contribute approximately 11% of the Annual Average Daily Traffic Flow (AADTF) but represent 17% of the total emissions.
- For AQMA 2 (Newton High Street), HDVs and Buses make up 7% of the AADTF but proportionately they contribute 29% of the total NOx emissions.

From this it can be determined that small reductions in the percentage of HDVs would bring big improvements in NOx concentrations. Results from scenario modelling undertaken during the further assessment indicated that reducing HDV traffic by 30%

could potentially reduce predicted concentrations by 4-6µg/m<sup>3</sup> at the worse affected receptors.

Reducing both Light Delivery Vehicle (LDV) and HDV traffic by 30% has a significant impact on reducing predicted concentrations by up to 8µg/m<sup>3</sup> at the worse affected receptors.

## 4.4 Required Reduction in Emissions

The reductions of NO<sub>2</sub> in each of the AQMAs required to meet the air quality objectives have been calculated as follows:

- the required NO<sub>2</sub> reduction for AQMA 1 (M6) is 28.5% to 35.7%, to achieve the objective of 40µg/m<sup>3</sup> and 36µg/m<sup>3</sup> respectively.
- for AQMA 2 (Newton High Street) the averaged data of the two co-located monitoring tubes, gave a required NO<sub>2</sub> reduction of 20% to 28% for the two objectives.

## 4.5 Key Priorities

The key priorities of this draft plan for St Helens Borough Council are as follows:

- Priority 1 – Improve traffic flows.
- Priority 2 – Improve public transport and active travel.
- Priority 3 - Ensure that future proposed developments will not have negative impacts on air quality and explore mitigation measures to improve local air quality where possible.
- Priority 4 – Reducing unnecessary journeys.

# 5. Development and Implementation of St Helens draft AQAP

## 5.1 Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

In developing/updating this draft AQAP, engagement has been undertaken with other local authorities, agencies, businesses and the local community to improve local air quality. Schedule 11 of the Environment Act 1995 requires local authorities to consult the bodies listed in Table 5.1

Table 5.1 – Consultation Undertaken

Consultee	Consultation Undertaken
The Secretary of State	Yes
The Environment Agency	Yes
The Highways Authority	Yes
Highways England	Yes
All neighbouring local authorities	Yes
Other public authorities as appropriate, such as Public Health officials	Yes
Bodies representing local business interests and other organisations as appropriate	Yes

The response to stakeholder consultation engagement is provided at Appendix A. In addition, a full consultation on the draft AQAP is being conducted that includes the following stakeholder engagement:

- Website;
- Articles in local media; and
- Questionnaires distributed directly to public places such as libraries.

Engagement will be focussed in the four AQMA areas and include the canvassing of members of the public, posting copies of consultation material (where appropriate) through doors and affixing to any public noticeboards in those areas.

## **5.2 Steering Group**

A Steering Group was initially set up in 2020, comprising officers from a variety of different teams within the Council, but due to the impacts of Covid-19 this was put on hold for a period of time.

In early 2023, a meeting of the Steering Group was convened to establish different schemes that could be included as part of this draft AQAP, which was supplemented by several one-to-one meetings.

Dialogue will continue through the consultation period on this draft AQAP, with any outcomes included in the final AQAP.

## 6. Draft AQAP Measures

The draft St Helens Borough Council AQAP measures are shown in Table 6.1, which contains:

- a list of the actions that form part of the AQAP;
- the responsible individual and departments/organisations who will deliver this action;
- estimated cost of implementing each action (overall cost and cost to the Local Authority);
- expected benefit in terms of pollutant emission and/or concentration reduction;
- the timescale for implementation; and
- how progress will be monitored

Future ASRs will provide for regular annual updates on implementation of these measures, which can be found here: <https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/article/5188/Air-quality-monitoring>

A summary of the measures outlined in Table 6.1 is provided below:

### **1. Carr Mill Rail Station Redevelopment**

This project focuses on the proposed construction of a new rail station at Carr Mill along with new residential units, new commercial/retail space, car parking and a new access road. The project is currently at feasibility stage with several designs being considered. This scheme would promote the use of public transport as an alternative to private car travel. It cannot be determined for certain if this will be delivered during the lifespan of this particular AQAP, but regular updates will be provided in ASRs.

St Helens will be working with various organisations on this project including the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, Merseytravel, Network Rail and third-party landowners.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements and will not have direct impacts on the existing designated St Helens AQMAs.

### **2. By Ours Cowley Hill Liveable Neighbourhood**

By Ours is a partnership project with St Helens Borough Council, the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority and Sustrans, funded by the Freshfield Foundation. By Ours Cowley Hill is a community project helping residents, businesses and schools design our local streets. The project is designing a safer, more vibrant neighbourhood where more people walk to the shops and services, stop and chat to each other and children can play out. This will encourage people to take more journeys on foot, bike, or other active transport modes, reducing carbon footprint. It is currently estimated that the project will be completed in March 2024.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements and will not have direct impacts on the existing designated St Helens AQMAs.

### **3. *St Helens Multi Modal Interchange SHMMI / Connected Places***

This project forms part of transformational regeneration in St Helens town centre, which includes for a new bus station and active travel provisions to encourage public and sustainable transport use. The project is currently at the design and operational appraisal stage and will be delivered by Summer 2026.

St Helens Borough Council are working with various organisations on this project including the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, Merseytravel, Bus Operators, Department for Transport, the English Cities Fund and St Helens Town Deal Board.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements but is likely to have positive impacts for the AQMAs 3 and 4.

### **4. *Green Bus Routes (Hydrogen Buses)***

St Helens Borough Council is working with the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority and Merseytravel as part of their project to improve the local bus network. The 10A service buses within the borough of St Helens has been identified as one of the busiest routes in the City Region. Key features of the project include the introduction of hydrogen buses, smart traffic lights that go green for buses, junction upgrades to get buses past traffic, bus priority lanes and bus stop and shelter upgrades. The outcome is to create more efficient and attractive bus services that in turn will result in more bus journeys, with a modal shift from private car travel. The first phase of hydrogen buses commenced operation in June 2023 with the wider suite of bus priority measures due to be rolled out across the Liverpool City Region by 2027.

This project will improve congestion and air quality along the bus route, which includes AQMA 3.

#### **5. *St Helens Central to St Helens Junction Disused Railw Line***

A feasibility study is currently being undertaken to explore reuse of the St Helens Central to St Helens Junction disused rail line. In addition to considering reintroduction of rail services, the project will explore alternative sustainable travel usage such as walking, cycling, bus, autonomous travel pods, etc. The study will conclude by early Summer 2024.

St Helens Borough Council are working with various organisations on this project including Network Rail, Northern Rail, Merseytravel and the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements but is likely to have positive impacts for AQMAs 3 and 4.

#### **6. *Omega West Transport Strategy***

The aim of this project is to improve transport from areas in St Helens to ensure local residents within some of our most deprived areas (in particular Parr, Clock Face and Bold) are able to easily access the Omega West strategic employment site and its multiple opportunities. This will promote sustainable transport and have positive impacts on air quality, in reducing car dependency.

St Helens Borough Council will be working with various organisations on this project including Miller Developments, Merseytravel, the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority and Warrington Borough Council.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements and will not have direct impacts on the existing designated St Helens AQMAs.

#### **7. *A580 East Lancashire Road (ATR1)***

This project is a proposed walking and cycling investment along the A580 East Lancashire Road adjacent to the westbound carriageway infrastructure, between Carr Mill and the Wigan Borough Boundary, adjacent to Haydock Industrial Estate. Public consultation commenced in Autumn 2023 and following completion of detailed designs the Council will pursue funding opportunities for the scheme's delivery.

St Helens Borough Council are working with various organisations on this project including the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements and will not have direct impacts on the existing designated St Helens AQMAs.

#### **8. *Jubits Lane to Widnes (ATR2)***

This project is a proposed walking and cycling investment designed to run from King George V Playing fields to the south of Bell Lane in Sutton Manor. Detailed design activity is to be commissioned, which would further extend the project to the boundary with Halton Borough Council. Following completion of detailed designs the Council will pursue funding opportunities for the scheme's delivery.

St Helens Borough Council are working with various organisations on this project including the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, Merseytravel and Forestry England.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements and will not have direct impacts on the existing designated St Helens AQMAs.

#### **9. *Lea Green to Whiston Hospital (ATR3)***

The Council has since successfully secured £1.390m from Active Travel Tranche 4 funding from Active Travel England to commence a phased delivery of construction along the Lea Green Station to Whiston Hospital Active Travel Route (ATR3), pursuant to the provision of a continuous well-connected sustainable network back to the St Helens Southern Gateway Cyclops scheme. Construction is scheduled to commence in Spring 2024.

St Helens Borough Council will be working with various organisations on this project including the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, Merseytravel and Knowsley Borough Council.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements and will not have direct impacts on the existing designated St Helens AQMAs.

#### **10. *St Helens Southern Gateway***

This £14.8m overall project includes £4.8m of funding awarded directly to St Helens Borough Council from the Liverpool City Region Transforming Cities Fund. The project includes 6 cycle routes and a 'CYCLOPS' junction, being the first in the Liverpool City

Region. Wider elements of this project include significant upgrades to facilities at Lea Green Rail Station, including better provision for sustainable modes, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and an improved Park & Ride facility. The CYCLOPS and highway improvement elements of the project were completed in September 2023 and the main Lea Green Rail Station component is scheduled for completion in December 2023.

St Helens Borough Council are working with various organisations on this project including the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, Merseytravel, Northern Rail and Network Rail.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements and will not have direct impacts on the existing designated St Helens AQMAs.

### **11. Digital Infrastructure Project**

The strategic vision of this St Helens Town Deal project is to *“Improve digital connectivity across the town centre, by investing in the necessary digital infrastructure to enable the St Helens Borough Council to deliver its wider economic, social, and environmental strategic priorities.”*

The project will reduce the need for travel as it allows people to access a digital economy. It promotes working from home and allows businesses in the town centre to operate in a digital way. The scheme is due to be delivered by the end of 2025.

St Helens Borough Council are working with various organisations on this project, including the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority and St Helens Town Deal Board.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements but there are potential positive direct impacts for the AQMAs 3 and 4.

### **12. Glass Futures**

Glass Futures is a new development of global significance located within St Helens. The site is a research and development site that connects the glass industry with academia in order to develop ways of making glass more sustainably. Along with this, by becoming more resilient on making glass (an infinitely recyclable product), this in turn will reduce the need for manufacturing by non-recyclable products and importing.

Glass Futures will also undertake research and development activity into production using low carbon fuels.

Glass making produces various pollutants such as Nitrogen Dioxide and thus, given the volume of glass produced in St Helens, Glass Futures will have positive impacts for reduced emissions. While St Helens is directly involved in the planning and permitting processes of the Glass Futures development, any improvements would be delivered by Glass Futures.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements and will not have direct impacts on the existing designated St Helens AQMAs.

### ***13. Parkside Link Road***

As part of the multi-phased Parkside development project, Parkside Link Road is currently under construction and is scheduled for completion in 2024. This new link road (supported by a dedicated freight signage strategy) will result in the redistribution of traffic away from the local traffic network and onto the new strategic route, securing a more efficient and effect flow of vehicles, particularly Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs).

St Helens Borough Council are working with various organisations on this project including the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, National Highways and Warrington Borough Council.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements but there are potential positive direct impacts for the AQMAs 1 and 2.

### ***14. Parkside Strategic Rail Freight Interchange***

The St Helens Local Plan Core Strategy (2012) identified Parkside as a strategic location for a Strategic Rail Freight Interchange (SRFI), and the St Helens Borough Local Plan to 2037 has allocated of land for a SRFI with an operational area of approximately 64.55ha to the east of the M6, and 5.58ha to the west of the M6. The site comprises two elements: Parkside East is the proposed location of the SRFI (together with other industrial and logistics uses) and Parkside West is a separate, though linked, employment land allocation that will be served by road only, although it will accommodate a reception siding for incoming freight trains that could in turn be linked to Parkside East.

Parkside East will strongly support the aims of building a robust northern economy, promoting the use of the national rail infrastructure, and reducing congestion and carbon emissions by shifting freight movement from road.

St Helens Borough Council are working with various organisations on this project including the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, National Highways, Network Rail, the Liverpool City Region Freeport and site developers.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements but there are potential positive direct impacts for the AQMAs 1 and 2.

### ***15. Vehicle Replacement/ Retrofit Project***

This project was awarded £0.650m by the Department of Environment, Farming and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) Air Quality Grant to support taking some of the worst polluting vehicles off the road and replacing them with newer, more efficient vehicles while also supporting local businesses, thereby quickly delivering quantifiable reductions in NO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The scheme ends in March 2024.

St Helens Borough Council are working with St Helens Chamber and grant applicants on this project.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements and will not have direct impact on any particular designated St Helens AQMA.

### ***16. Indoor Air Quality Project***

St Helens Borough Council and Warrington Borough Council aim to make air quality improvements across their local areas by delivering a range of activities that focus on indoor air quality through monitoring air pollutants in households with underlying respiratory illness (i.e., asthma) and offering targeted education/awareness to help meet our Councils' statutory duties under the Environment Act 1995.

The project will deliver 500 health education interventions in households (250 of which will also receive an indoor air quality monitor) for people who suffer from asthma in areas of poor air quality and in areas of high deprivation. It is proposed to achieve this by:

1. Monitoring indoor air quality in households where people are at increased risk of exacerbation of respiratory disease and adverse effects from air pollutants (such

as CO<sub>2</sub>, relative humidity, temperature, PM<sub>1</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and volatile organic compounds - VOC).

2. Raising awareness of how to improve indoor air quality through targeted education and campaigns that have been co-designed with our residents.
3. Raising awareness of the impact of domestic burning on indoor air quality and respiratory conditions. In addition to this we will engage with residents to understand how the cost-of-living crisis affects the decisions they make and where appropriate refer them for any financial support that may be available.

The scheme will end in March 2025.

St Helens Borough Council is working with the Warrington Borough Council on this project.

The project will deliver general, wider air quality improvements but will focus on areas of deprivation and poorer air quality (including AQMAs) within the boroughs of Warrington and St Helens.

### ***17. Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy***

A draft St Helens Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI) Strategy and Delivery Plan has been consulted upon and is pending formal adoption by the Council. St Helens is also assisting the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority with the submission of their initial Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) funding application. An Electric Vehicle (EV) Co-ordinator role will be created at the Combined Authority who will lead on creating a regional strategy with regional procurement to secure a supplier or suppliers to roll out a charging network across the region. St Helens has identified an initial tranche of sites within its draft EV Strategy and will continue to develop a package of sites for potential delivery once a supplier is on-boarded.

St Helens Borough Council will be working with various organisations on this project including the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, Department for Transport, other government departments, and external EVCI market.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements and will not have direct impacts on the existing designated St Helens AQMAs.

### ***18. Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)***

The Local Cycling and Walking Improvement Plan was adopted by the Council in Spring 2023 and sets out several key routes that would benefit from upgraded infrastructure to encourage active travel journeys. There are two plans in place; firstly, a strategic plan that encompasses the Liverpool City Region and the second is St Helens Borough focussed.

Through facilitating a shift of local journeys from private cars to walking and cycling, improved active travel infrastructure has a range of beneficial impacts, including contributing to a net zero borough, improved air quality, better health and wellbeing, and improved connectivity, particularly for deprived communities. Increased walking and cycling rates, better physical activity levels, reduced transport poverty and transport related air pollution. This is a 10-year strategy, due to end in Spring 2033.

St Helens Borough Council will be working with various organisations on this project including the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, Active Travel England and Sustrans.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements and will not have direct impacts on the existing designated St Helens AQMAs.

#### ***19. Transport and Travel Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)***

A new Transport and Travel SPD has been drafted and echoes national guidance, policy and local commitments to climate change by refocusing on active and inclusive travel (walking, wheeling and cycling), public transport and zero emission vehicles. It will be consulted on in Winter 2023 pursuant to formal adoption in Spring 2024.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements and will not have direct impacts on the existing designated St Helens AQMAs.

#### ***20. Emerging Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP4)***

The emerging LTP4 will:

“Set out plans, policies and ambitions for transport services and transport investment in the city region until 2040. The current LTP3 was published in 2011 in two separate documents (covering Merseyside and Halton) and needs to be updated with input from the public.

With a clear vision and goals, the plan provides a blueprint for making the public transport network more integrated, sustainable and accessible to all – which are the

key pillars of Liverpool City Region Mayor Steve Rotheram' vision for a London style transport system.

It sets out what transport needs to do in order to continue to support communities, our economy and the Combined Authority's wider objectives as a city region, looking at our overarching ambitions for rail, bus, active travel and more. It also recognises that we live in uncertain times, and where new technology is also changing how we work, live and travel."

St Helens Borough Council are working with various organisations on this project including the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, Merseytravel and Department for Transport.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements and will not have direct impacts on the existing designated St Helens AQMAs.

## **21. Climate Action Plan**

As well as the global Climate Change Emergency and the Council's own commitment to achieving a net zero carbon position by 2040, the challenge to reduce energy consumption and drive budget savings at this time of crisis is acute. The rising cost of energy creates an added imperative to improve the energy efficiency of buildings and to rationalise the estate where possible to drive efficiencies and reduce budget pressures.

St Helens Borough Council have adopted a [Climate Action Plan](#) to help address these issues and is working with a range of organisations and stakeholders on this project.

The Climate Action Plan will have general, wider air quality benefits as opposed to being focused on the existing designated AQMAs.

## **22. Raise Awareness of Air Quality (AQ)**

St Helens Borough Council aims to ensure that the general public within St Helens are aware of the impacts of poor air quality on health. This will be carried out through applying for Defra funding to create project opportunities and to provide air quality information on the council websites and through events. Examples of how this can be achieved include:

- The [St Helens Road Safety Strategy 2023-27: Working towards vision zero 2040](#) (2023) has recently been published to help secure a reduction in collisions. This

may indirectly also have positive impacts to air quality as safer driving may increase vehicle efficiency, which in turn will improve air quality. The Road Safety Strategy encompasses a comprehensive approach that addresses not only motor vehicles but also pedestrian and cycling infrastructure. The enhancement and implementation of safe pedestrian and cycling facilities are expected to yield favourable outcomes in terms of road safety and air quality. This is predicated on the notion that an increased public preference for alternative (environmentally friendly) modes of transportation will have a direct correlation with the initiatives previously outlined. Furthermore, the Road Safety Strategy Action Plan includes references to the Bikeability and School Streets projects, both of which share the common objective of diminishing the volume of vehicular traffic during the school commute. This concerted effort is anticipated to return a beneficial effect on air quality.

- The Clean Air for Schools Project – 2,000 schools (including some located within St Helens Borough) are taking part of the [Clean Air For Schools project](#). The aim of the project is to reduce traffic volumes outside schools, improve indoor air quality (i.e. through ventilation), create low pollution habits which will be carried over into children’s adulthood and use the younger generations voice in encouraging local and national air quality improvements.
- Clean Air Crew - The Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (including St Helens) has been using funding to grant children free air quality education through the interactive website of the [Clean Air Crew](#).

### **23. Procuring Low Emission Vehicles for Council-Owned Fleets**

The Council has developed an ongoing strategy to replace ageing council vehicles with modern and electric alternatives, which will have long term air quality and economic benefits for the Borough.

St Helens Borough Council are working with TPPL (The Procurement Partnership) a specialist public sector procurement services provider in supporting our compliant framework agreements in delivering this project.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements and will not have direct impacts on the existing designated St Helens AQMAs.

### **24. Flexible Working and Home Working**

The Council has led by example in supporting staff well-being through the introduction and implemented of an agile, hybrid blended working model called Ways of Working (WoW) together programme. Whilst initially rolled out across the organisation in response to the Covid 19 pandemic, the programme has been retained and continues to be further developed to modernise our working practices. The next phase is to determine how best we can promote it. This doesn't just cover working hours, locations, and workstyles; it is about being responsive and adaptive to service needs, embracing innovation and utilising technology.

Through the use of new agile hubs which are designed to allow people to work in an agile way, offering different types of spaces that facilitate service needs, providing less space for desk-based work, as this can be done at home, but introduces breakout, touchdown and collaboration spaces making the office more about working with others and not working alone, improving individuals' mental health.

The successful agile programme has enabled greater flexibility and empowers employees to work smarter whilst maintaining a healthy work-life balance. Thus less commuting by private car within the borough will have positive implications to local air quality.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements and will not have direct impacts on the existing designated St Helens AQMAs.

## ***25. Parking and Movement Strategy***

The parking and movement strategies aim to support the delivery of the wider St Helens Town Centre Regeneration programme while aligning with strategic policy objectives within the adopted Local Transport Plan, Borough Strategy, and associated strategies. In seeking to support the local economy through the provision of parking that is affordable and suitable, encourage the right parking behaviours and support the Council's environmental direction towards carbon neutrality by 2040, while promoting sustainable active travel and public transport modes.

The parking strategy will include improving the standard and quality of parking facilities and consider opportunities for consolidation to improve efficiency and accessibility of the existing parking assets within St Helens to improve the characteristics of place and distinguish between long and short stay as part of a demand management strategy. Its ambition is to keep people connected, and to

create a net zero transport system by 2040, improving health and wellbeing, tackling the climate emergency, reducing private vehicle use and prioritising walking, cycling and the use of public transport.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements but there are potential positive direct impacts for the AQMAs 3 and 4.

## **26. Bikeability Programme**

This project involves the ongoing delivery of national standard on-road cycle training to young people and children in Merseyside through the national cycle training programme. Organised through schools, Year 5 to Year 7 pupils are offered Level 2 training that equips children with important skills to help them cycle on quiet roads. Years 7 to 8 and Year 9 (in high schools) are offered Level 3 training, which builds on Level 2 and is more advanced giving skills in dealing with busier roads and roundabouts. Training is free and offered to every school in Merseyside.

St Helens Borough Council are working with various organisations on this project including the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority and Bikeright the projects delivery partner.

The project focuses on general air quality improvements and will not have direct impacts on the existing designated St Helens AQMAs.

**Table 6.1 – Air Quality Action Plan Measures**

Measure No.	Measure	Category	Classification	Estimated Year Measure to be Introduced	Estimated / Actual Completion Year	Organisations Involved	Funding Source	Defra AQ Grant Funding	Funding Status	Estimated Cost of Measure	Measure Status	Target Reduction in Pollutant / Emission from Measure	Key Performance Indicator	Progress to Date	Comments / Potential Barriers to Implementation
1.	Carr Mill Rail Station Redevelopment	Transport Planning and Infrastructure	Public transport improvements- interchanges stations and services	2030+ (Subject to securing funding & planning permissions)	2030+ (Subject to securing funding & planning permissions)	SHBC, LCRCA, Merseytravel, Network Rail, third-party landowners.	Not secured: Developer Contributions, LCRA, DfT Highway Infrastructure Funding, DfT Control Period	No	Funding for SHBC activity only	>£10 million	In Progress	Reduced vehicle emissions	Reduction in traffic volumes	At design phase. <small>Strategic Outlined Business Case (SOBC)</small>	Lengthy Timescale in securing funding and land acquisitions
2.	By Ours Cowley Hill Liveable Neighbourhood	Transport Planning and Infrastructure	Public transport improvements- interchanges stations and services & Cycle network	2024	2024	SHBC, LCRCA, Sustrans	DfT, LCRCA, Active Travel Tranche 3 Funding, Sustrans, UKSPF	No	Partially funded (phased delivery)	£1 million - £10 million	In Progress	Reduced vehicle emissions (modal shift)	Reduction in traffic volumes (modal shift)	Concept design stage and public consultation complete in July 2023.	Acceptability of proposed interventions against Council Policy, securing full funding
3.	St Helens Multi Modal Interchange SHMMI/ Connected Places	Transport Planning and Infrastructure	Public transport improvements- interchanges stations and services & Cycle network	2026-27	2026-27	SHBC, Merseytravel, LCRCA, DfT, English Cities Fund, Town Deal Board	Town Deal Fund, SHBC Capital, City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS)	No	Partially funded (phased delivery)	>£10 million	In Progress	Reduced vehicle emissions (modal shift)	Reduction in traffic volumes (modal shift)	RIBA Stage 3 design complete. Contractor appointed.	Land Acquisition Financial impacts of inflation. Force Majeure events
4.	Green Bus Routes (Hydrogen buses)	Transport Planning and Infrastructure	Bus route improvements	2027	2027	LCRCA, Merseytravel, SHBC, Neighbouring Authorities, Bus Operators	City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS)	No	Funded	>£10 million	In Progress	Reduced vehicle emissions (modal shift)	Reduction in traffic volumes (modal shift)	Design Stage	Lengthy timescale in delivering cross-border authority scheme

Measure No.	Measure	Category	Classification	Estimated Year Measure to be Introduced	Estimated / Actual Completion Year	Organisations Involved	Funding Source	Defra AQ Grant Funding	Funding Status	Estimated Cost of Measure	Measure Status	Target Reduction in Pollutant / Emission from Measure	Key Performance Indicator	Progress to Date	Comments / Potential Barriers to Implementation
5.	St Helens Central to St Helens Junction disused railway line	Transport Planning and Infrastructure	Public transport improvements- interchanges stations and services	2030+	2030+	Network Rail, Northern Rail, Merseytravel, LCRCA, SHBC	Not secured: Developer Contribution, DTF Control Period, LCRCA	No	Funding for Feasibility Study Only	>£10 million	In Progress	Reduced vehicle emissions (modal shift)	Reduction in traffic volumes (modal shift)	Feasibility study currently being undertaken.	Financial viability (cost benefit analysis) Land Acquisitions
6.	Omega West Transport Strategy	Transport Planning and Infrastructure	Bus route improvements, cycle network	2024	2024	SHBC, Miller Developments, Merseytravel, LCRCA, Warrington Borough Council	Section 106 Funding Agreement	No	Funding for bus service only	£1 million - £10 million	In Progress	Reduced vehicle emissions (modal shift)	Reduction in traffic volumes (modal shift)	Development stages for potential bus routes. Options appraisal for cycle network links.	Securing funding to progress cycle network improvements
7.	A580 East Lancashire Road (ATR1)	Promoting Travel Alternatives	Intensive active travel campaign & infrastructure	2030+	2030+	SHBC, LCRCA, Merseytravel, National Highways	DFT, LCRCA Active Travel Funding, Developer Contributions	No	Funding for detailed design only	£1 million - £10 million	In Progress	Reduced vehicle emissions (modal shift)	Reduction in traffic volumes (modal shift)	Concept design complete, consultation underway.	Securing funding to progress scheme to construction
8.	Jubits Lane to Widnes (ATR2)	Promoting Travel Alternatives	Intensive active travel campaign & infrastructure	2027+	2027+	SHBC, LCRCA, Merseytravel, Forestry England, Halton Borough Council	DFT, LCRCA Active Travel Funding, Developer Contributions	No	Funding for detailed design only	£1 million - £10 million	In Progress	Reduced vehicle emissions (modal shift)	Reduction in traffic volumes (modal shift)	Detailed design complete, tending for construction partner.	Securing funding to progress scheme to construction
9.	Lea Green to Whiston Hospital (ATR3)	Promoting Travel Alternatives	Intensive active travel campaign & infrastructure	2024	2024	SHBC, LCRCA, Merseytravel, Knowsley Borough Council	DFT, LCRCA Active Travel Tranche 4 Funding, Neighbouring Authority local contribution, Developer Contributions	No	Partially Funded (phased delivery)	£1 million - £10 million	In Progress	Reduced vehicle emissions (modal shift)	Reduction in traffic volumes (modal shift)	Detailed design with general arrangement drawings to be complete	Securing funding to construct remaining scheme phases.

Measure No.	Measure	Category	Classification	Estimated Year Measure to be Introduced	Estimated / Actual Completion Year	Organisations Involved	Funding Source	Defra AQ Grant Funding	Funding Status	Estimated Cost of Measure	Measure Status	Target Reduction in Pollutant / Emission from Measure	Key Performance Indicator	Progress to Date	Comments / Potential Barriers to Implementation
10.	St Helens Southern Gateway	Traffic Management	Strategic highway improvements	2023-24	2023-24	SHBC, LCRCA, Merseytravel, Northern Rail, Network Rail	Liverpool City Region's Transforming Cities Fund	No	Funded	>£10 million	Completed	Reduced vehicle emissions (modal shift)	Reduction in traffic volumes (modal shift)	CYCLOPS completed in 2023, with remaining connecting cycle routes and Lea Green Railway Improvements due to be complete in 2024.	Force Majeure events
11.	Digital infrastructure programme	Promoting Travel Alternatives	Encourage / Facilitate home-working	2025-26	2025-26	SHBC, LCRCA, Town Deal Board	Town Deal Funding	No	Funded	£1 million - £10 million	In Progress	To be confirmed	Indirect benefit	Concept design stage, progressing to early contractor involvement.	Funding limitations Financial impacts of inflation
12.	Glass Futures	Environmental Permits	Measures to reduce pollution through IPPC Permits going beyond BAT	2023	2023	Glass Futures, SHBC	Glass Futures	No	n/a	n/a	Ongoing	To be confirmed	Indirect benefit	Site open and due to operate in 2024.	None
13.	Parkside Link Road	Transport Planning and Infrastructure	Other	2024	2024	SHBC, Langtree, Balfour Beatty, LCRCA, National Highways, Warrington Borough Council	LCRCA, Freepart, Strategic Investment Fund, SHBC	No	Funded	>£10 million	In Progress	Reduced vehicle emissions on local road network	Reduction in traffic volumes on local road network	Under construction and scheduled for completion in 2024	None
14.	Parkside Strategic Rail Freight Interchange	Freight and Delivery Management	Other	2027+	2027+	SHBC, LCRCA, National Highways, Liverpool City Region, Freepart, Network Rail, Site Developers, SRFI Operator	LCRCA, Freepart, Strategic Investment Fund, SHBC, Developer contributions.	No	TBC	>£10 million	In Progress	Reduced vehicle emissions	Reduction in traffic volumes	At design stage	Securing funding Development Consent Order DfT signing-off proposed rail freight timetable
15.	Vehicle Replacement/ Retrofit Project	Vehicle Fleet Efficiency	Vehicle Retrofitting programmes	2024	2024	SHBC, St Helens Chamber, Defra	Defra	Yes	Partially Funded	£500k - £1m	In Progress	TBC	Number of vehicles replaced, and the efficiency increase between the	In progress	N/A

Measure No.	Measure	Category	Classification	Estimated Year Measure to be Introduced	Estimated / Actual Completion Year	Organisations Involved	Funding Source	Defra AQ Grant Funding	Funding Status	Estimated Cost of Measure	Measure Status	Target Reduction in Pollutant / Emission from Measure	Key Performance Indicator	Progress to Date	Comments / Potential Barriers to Implementation
													old and new vehicles.		
16.	Indoor Air Quality Project	Public Information	Other	2025	2025	SHBC, Warrington BC	Defra	Yes	Partially Funded	£100k - £500k	In Progress	TBC	Pollutant improvements in individual homes.	In progress	N/A
17.	EV Strategy	Promoting Low Emission Transport	Procuring alternative Refuelling infrastructure to promote Low Emission Vehicles, EV recharging, Gas fuel recharging	2023-24	2023-24	SHBC, LCRCA, DfT, External EVCI market	DfT Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI), Developer Contributions	No	Partially Funded via LEVI	£1 million - £10 million	In Progress	Reduced vehicle emissions	Number of vehicles changing from fossil fuels to electric charging only.	Public consultation completed in Autumn 2023, final report due back to Cabinet in Winter 2023.	Securing funding Appointment of EVCI delivery partner(s) DNO Connections
18.	Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)	Promoting Travel Alternatives	Promotion of cycling & promotion of walking	2023	2023	SHBC, LCRCA, Sustrans	DfT, LCRCA Active Travel Funding, Capability and Ambition Fund, Developer Contributions	No	Partially funded for scheme development	>£10 million	In Progress	Modal shift to active travel modes	Modal shift to active travel modes	SHBC LCWIP adopted at Cabinet in April 2023.	Securing funding to progress scheme development
19.	Transport and Travel SPD	Policy Guidance and Development Control	Other	2023-24	2023-24	SHBC	SHBC, Capability and Ambition Fund, Developer contributions	No	Funded	£10k - £50k	In Progress	Modal shift to sustainable travel modes	Modal shift to sustainable travel modes (walking, cycling, public transport)	Preparing for public consultation in Winter 2023.	None
20.	Emerging LTP4	Policy Guidance and Development Control	Other	2024	2024	LCRCA, SHBC, Merseytravel, DfT	LCRCA, DfT, Government devolved	No	N/A	>£10 million	In Progress	Modal shift to sustainable travel modes	Modal shift to sustainable travel modes	Draft LTP4 in progress	Securing funding from central government

Measure No.	Measure	Category	Classification	Estimated Year Measure to be Introduced	Estimated / Actual Completion Year	Organisations Involved	Funding Source	Defra AQ Grant Funding	Funding Status	Estimated Cost of Measure	Measure Status	Target Reduction in Pollutant / Emission from Measure	Key Performance Indicator	Progress to Date	Comments / Potential Barriers to Implementation
							grant allocations						(walking, cycling, public transport)		
21.	Climate Action Plan	Policy Guidance and Development Control	Other	2022	2022	Various (see plan)	Various (see plan)	No	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	Net Zero Carbon by 2040	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions	Ongoing	N/A
22.	Raise Awareness of AQ	Public Information	Via all means possible	Ongoing	Ongoing	SHBC	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	N/A
23.	Procuring Low Emission Vehicles for Council-Owned Fleets	Promoting Low Emission Transport	Company Vehicle Procurement - Prioritising uptake of low emission vehicles	Ongoing	Ongoing	SHBC, TPPL	SHBC, Government Grants	No	Funded	£1 million - £10 million	Ongoing	Net Zero Carbon by 2040	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions Reduction	Ongoing procurement of electric and hydrogen vehicle fleet	N/A
24.	Flexible working and home working encouraged	Promoting Travel Alternatives	Encourage / Facilitate home-working	Ongoing	Ongoing	SHBC	SHBC	No	Funded	TBC	Ongoing	Number of people working from home	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions Reduction	Modern workforce programme fully implemented 2020	The Council has led by example and introduced home working. The next phase is to determine how to refine the initiative to maximise benefits.
25.	Parking Strategy	Promoting Low Emission Transport	Other	Ongoing	Ongoing	SHBC	SHBC	No	Unfunded	TBC	Ongoing	TBC.	NO <sub>2</sub> emission reduction in AQMAS	In progress	Existing contracts with service providers. Funding. Political Support.
26.	Bikeability Programme	Promoting Travel Alternatives	Promotion of cycling	Ongoing	Ongoing	SHBC, LCRCA, Bikeright	DTT	No	Funded Annually	£500k - £1m	Ongoing	Increase in cycle usage	Number of cycle trips	Ongoing	School uptake

## 7. Appendix A: Response to Consultation

Table A.1 – Summary of Responses to Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement on the AQAP

NB: Section to be completed after public consultation has ended.

Consultee	Category	Response

## 8. Appendix B: Reasons for Not Pursuing Action Plan Measures

Table B.1 – Action Plan Measures Not Pursued and the Reasons for that Decision

Action category	Action description	Reason action is not being pursued (including Stakeholder views)

## 9. Appendix C:

Figure 1: AQMA Map (AQMA 1&2)

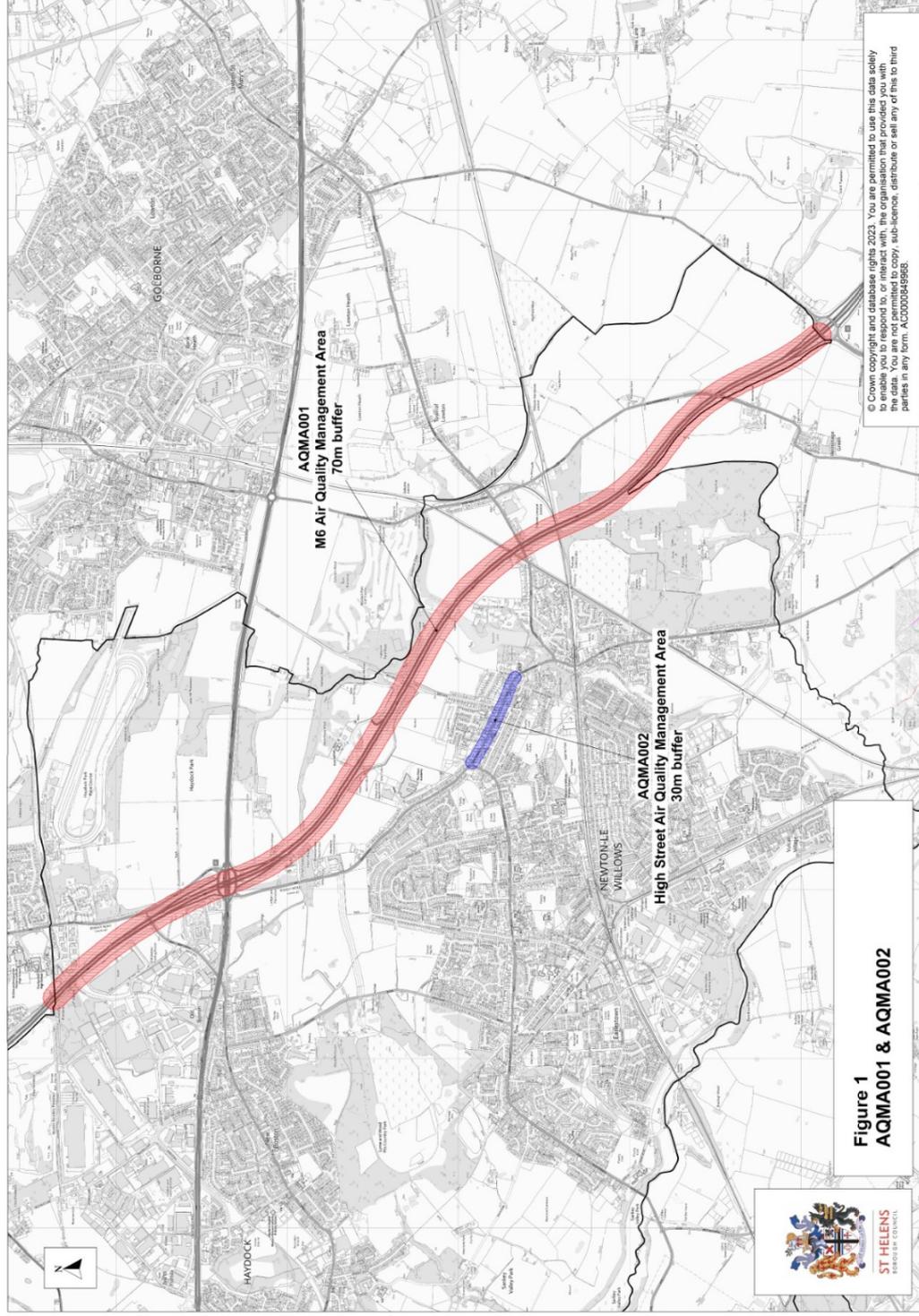


Figure 2: AQMA Map (AQMA 3&4)

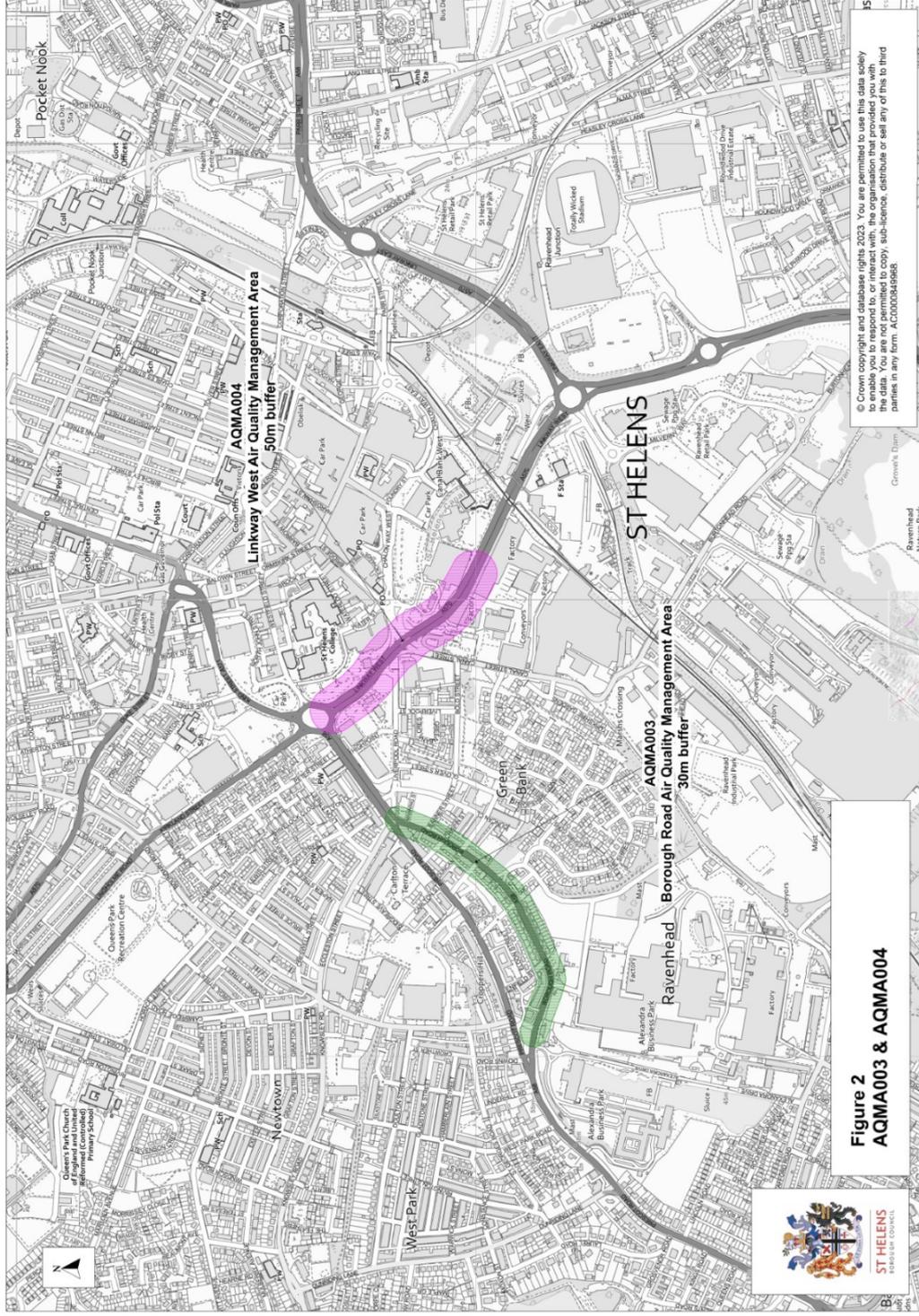
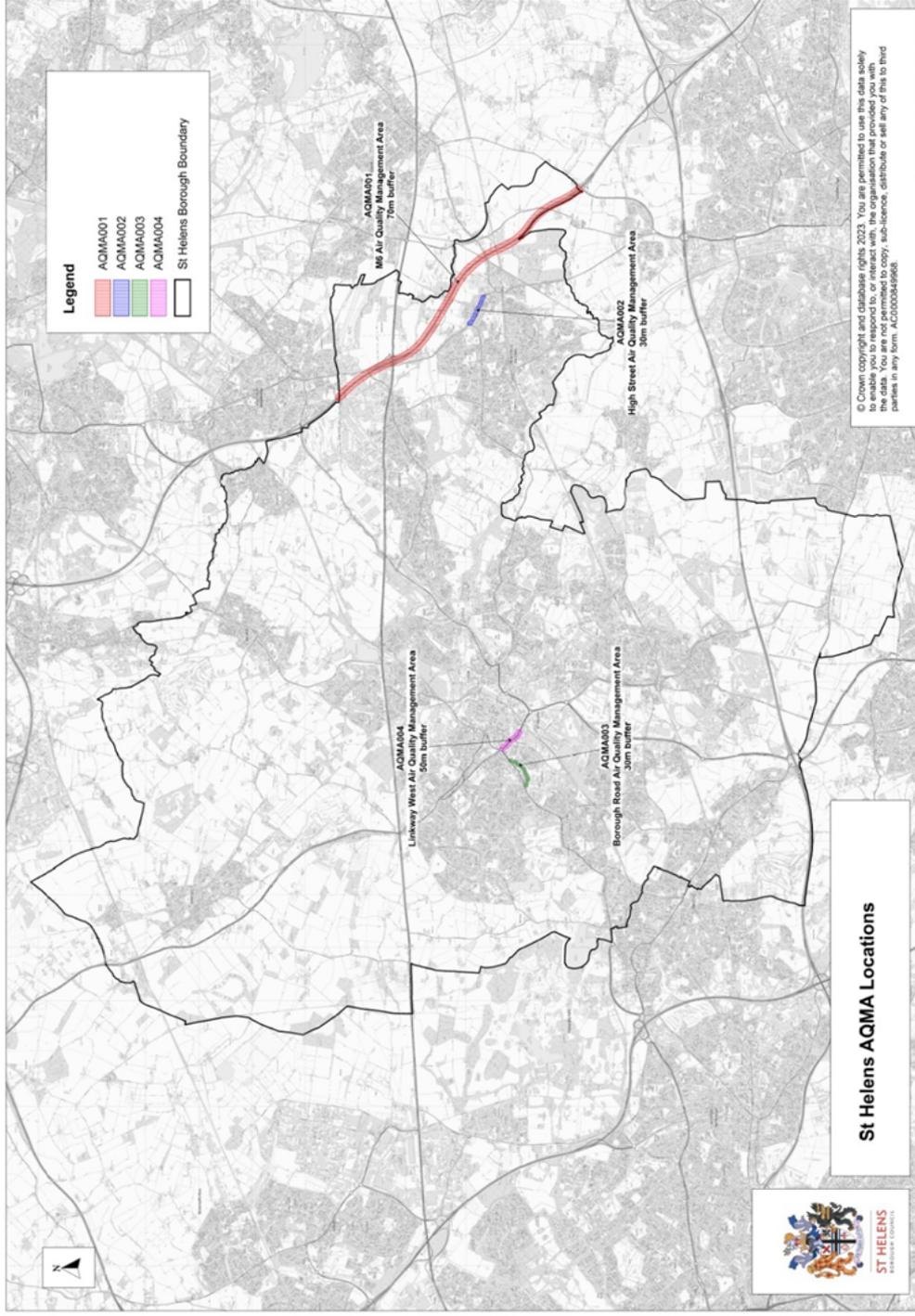


Figure 3: AQMA Overview Map



## 10. Glossary of Terms

Abbreviation	Description
%	A percent is a unit of measurement out of 100
µg/m <sup>3</sup>	micrograms per cubic metre
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area – An area where air pollutant concentrations exceed / are likely to exceed the relevant air quality objectives. AQMAs are declared for specific pollutants and objectives
AADTF	Annual Average Daily Traffic Flow
AQ	Air Quality
AQAP	Air Quality Action Plan
AQMA 1	Air Quality Management Area 1: The M6 motorway is part of the Strategic Road Network managed by National Highways.
AQMA 2	Air Quality Management Area 2: Newton High Street (A49) is classed as an A-Road that forms part of the local principal road network managed by St Helens Borough Council.
AQMA 3	Air Quality Management Area 3: Borough Rd (A58) is classed is classed as an A-Road that forms part of the local principal road network managed by St Helens Borough Council.
AQMA 4	Air Quality Management Area 4: Reflection Court (A58) is classed is classed as an A-Road that forms part of the local principal road network managed by St Helens Borough Council.
AQS	Air Quality Strategy
ASR	Air quality Annual Status Report
CRSTS	City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement
DEFRA	Department of Environment, Farming and Rural Affairs
DfT	Department for Transport
EU	European Union
EV	Electric Vehicle
EVCI	Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure
ha	A hectare is a unit of measurement for an area, specifically representing 10,000 square metres.
HDVs	Heavy-Duty Vehicles
HGVs	Heavy Goods Vehicles
LAQM	Local Air Quality Management
LAQM	Local Air Quality Management
LCRCA	Liverpool City Region Combined Authority
LCWIP	Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan
m	A metre is the base unit of length
NHS	National Health Service
NO <sub>2</sub>	Nitrogen Dioxide

Abbreviation	Description
NO <sub>x</sub>	Nitrogen Oxides
PM <sub>1</sub>	Airborne particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of 1µm (micrometres or microns) or less
PM <sub>10</sub>	Airborne particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of 10µm (micrometres or microns) or less
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Airborne particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of 2.5µm or less
SCOOT	Split Cycle Offset Optimisation Technique (SCOOT) is a real time adaptive traffic control system for the coordination and control of traffic signals across an urban road network.
SHBC	St Helens Borough Council
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document
SRFI	Strategic Rail Freight Interchange
STEP	Sustainable Transport Enhancement Package
TPPL	The Procurement Partnership
UK	United Kingdom
VOC	Volatile Organic Compounds are organic compounds that have a high vapor pressure at room temperature.
WoW	Ways of Working

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