

# Unit 7a, Catalyst Bicester, OX25 2BX



## Air Quality Assessment

784-B034431  
21<sup>st</sup> March 2022

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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This report presents the findings of an air quality assessment undertaken to assess road traffic emission and construction dust impacts in support of a planning application for the construction of a new office development, known as Unit 7a at Catalyst Bicester, OX25 2BX.

### Construction Phase

The potential effects during the construction phase includes fugitive dust emissions from site activities, such as earthworks, construction and trackout.

During the construction phase, site specific mitigation measures detailed within this assessment will be implemented. With these mitigation measures in place, the effects from the construction phase are not predicted to be significant.

### Operational Phase

Detailed dispersion modelling of traffic pollutants has been undertaken for the proposed development. An operational year assessment for 2026 traffic emissions has been undertaken to assess the effects of the Proposed Development. The impacts during the operational phase take into account exhaust emissions from additional road traffic generated due to the proposed development.

The long-term (annual) assessment of the effects associated with the proposed development with respect to Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) is determined to be 'negligible'. With respect to PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure, the effect is determined to be 'negligible' at all identified existing sensitive receptor locations.

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## ACRONYMS/ABBREVIATIONS

Acronyms/Abbreviations	Definition
AADT	Annual Average Daily Traffic
ADMS	Atmospheric Dispersion Modelling Software
AQAL	the Air Quality Assessment Level
AQAP	Air Quality Action Plan
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area
AQO	Air Quality Objectives
AQS	Air Quality Standards
CHP	Combined Heat and Power
CL	Critical Level
CO	Carbon Monoxide
DEFRA	Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs
EAL	Environmental Assessment Limits
EC	European Commission
EFT	The Emissions Factors Toolkit
EPUK	Environmental Protection UK
EU	European Union
EPAQS	The Expert Panel on Air Quality Standards
IAQM	The Institute of Air Quality Management
LA	Local Authority
LAQM	Local Air Quality Management
NGR	The United Kingdom National Grid Reference
NO	Nitric Oxide
NO <sub>2</sub>	Nitrogen Dioxide
PC	Process Contribution
MHCLG	the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government
NPPF	The National Planning Policy Framework
OS	the UK Ordnance Survey
PEC	Predicted Environment Concentration
PPG	Planning Policy Guidance
PPS	Planning Policy Statements
SAC	Special Areas of Conservation
SPA	Special Protection Area
SSSI	Sites of Special Scientific Interest
VOC	Volatile organic compounds
WHO	World Health Organization
UK	The United Kingdom

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report presents the findings of an air quality assessment undertaken to assess road traffic emission and construction dust impacts in support of a planning application for the construction of a new office development, known as Unit 7a at Catalyst Bicester, OX25 2BX.

### 1.1 SITE LOCATION

The central Grid Reference is approximately 457422, 220956. The application site is bounded to the north by farmland and Wendlebury Road, to the east by farmland, to the south by Promised Land Farm and to the west by Wendlebury Road.

Reference should be made to **Figure 1-1** for a map of the application site and surrounding area.

**Figure 1-1.** Satellite Image of Site and Surrounding Area



Google Imagery (2022)

### 1.2 CONTEXT

The primary source of the air quality associated with the proposed scheme is from vehicle movements, arriving and departing the proposed development. The traffic data generated by the development has been assessed at the surrounding sensitive receptors and proposed sensitive receptors.

The following assessment stages have been undertaken as part of this assessment:

- Baseline evaluation;
- Assessment of potential air quality impacts during the construction phase;

- Assessment of potential air quality impacts during the operational phase;
- Identification of mitigation measures (as required).

The results of the assessment are detailed in the following sections of this report.

The construction phase assessment additionally considers the potential effects of dust and particulate emissions from site activities and materials movement using a qualitative risk assessment method based on the Institute of Air Quality Management's (IAQM) 'Guidance on the Assessment of Dust from Demolition and Construction' document, published in 2014.

The assessment of the potential air quality impacts that are associated with the operational phase has focused on the predicted impact of changes in ambient nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of less than 10 µm (PM<sub>10</sub>) and less than 2.5 µm (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) as a result of the development at key local receptor locations. The changes have been referenced to EU air quality limits and UK air quality objectives and the magnitude and impact description of the changes have been referenced to non-statutory guidance issued by the IAQM and Environmental Protection UK (EPUK).

## 1.3 REPORT STRUCTURE

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Following this introductory section, the remainder of this report is structured as follows:

- Section 2: Policy and Legislative Context
- Section 3: Assessment Methodology
- Section 4: Baseline Conditions
- Section 5: Assessment of Air Quality Impacts – Construction Phase
- Section 6: Assessment of Air Quality Impacts – Operational Phase
- Section 7: Mitigation
- Section 8: Conclusions

All technical Appendices are included at the end of this report for information.

## 2.0 POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

### 2.1 DOCUMENTS CONSULTED

The following documents were consulted during the undertaking of this assessment:

#### Legislation and Best Practice Guidance

- National Planning Policy Framework, Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government, Revised July 2021;
- Planning Practice Guidance: Air Quality, Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government, November 2019;
- The Air Quality Standards Regulations (Amendments), 2016;
- The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, Defra, 2007;
- The Environment Act, 1995;
- The Environment Act, 2021;
- Local Air Quality Management Technical Guidance LAQM.TG16, Defra, 2021;
- Design Manual for Roads and Bridges, Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1, LA 105 Air quality, Highways England, November 2019;
- Land-Use Planning & Development Control: Planning for Air Quality, EPUK & IAQM, 2017;
- Guidance on the Assessment of Dust from Demolition and Construction, IAQM, 2014;
- A Guide to the Assessment of Air Quality Impacts on Designated Nature Conservation Sites (Version 1.1), IAQM, May 2020; and,
- Ecological Assessment of Air Quality Impacts, CIEEM, January 2021.

#### Websites Consulted

- Google maps ([maps.google.co.uk](https://maps.google.co.uk));
- The UK National Air Quality Archive ([www.airquality.co.uk](http://www.airquality.co.uk));
- Department for Transport Matrix ([www.dft.gov.uk/matrix](http://www.dft.gov.uk/matrix));
- emapsite.com;
- Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (<http://magic.defra.gov.uk/>);
- Planning Practice Guidance (<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/>); and,
- Cherwell District Council (<https://www.stoke.gov.uk/>).

#### Site Specific Reference Documents

- Cherwell District Council, 2020 Air Quality Annual Status Report; and,
- Cherwell District Council, The Cherwell Local Plan 2011 – 2031 (Re-adopted December 2016).

## 2.2 AIR QUALITY LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

### European Legislation

European air quality legislation is consolidated under Directive 2008/50/EC, which came into force on 11th June 2008. This Directive consolidates previous legislation which was designed to deal with specific pollutants in a consistent manner and provides new air quality objectives for fine particulates. The consolidated Directives include:

- **Directive 1999/30/EC** – the First Air Quality ‘Daughter’ Directive – sets ambient air limit values for NO<sub>2</sub> and oxides of nitrogen, sulphur dioxide, lead and PM<sub>10</sub>;
- **Directive 2000/69/EC** – the Second Air Quality ‘Daughter’ Directive – sets ambient air limit values for benzene and carbon monoxide; and,
- **Directive 2002/3/EC** – the Third Air Quality ‘Daughter’ Directive – seeks to establish long-term objectives, target values, an alert threshold and an information threshold for concentrations of ozone in ambient air.

The fourth daughter Directive was not included within the consolidation and is described as:

- **Directive 2004/107/EC** – sets health-based limits on polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, cadmium, arsenic, nickel and mercury, for which there is a requirement to reduce exposure to as low as reasonably achievable.

The European Commission (EC) Directive Limits, outlined above, have been transposed in the UK through the Air Quality Standards Regulations. In the UK responsibility for meeting ambient air quality limit values is devolved to the national administrations in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 (EUWA) provides a new framework for the continuity of 'retained EU law' in the UK. EU Directives no longer have to be implemented by the UK except to any extent agreed or decided by the UK unilaterally.

EUWA retains the domestic effect of EU Directives to the extent already implemented in UK law, by preserving the relevant domestic implementing legislation enacted in UK law before 'Implementation Period' completion day. Though the EU Directives are not retained, following the UK's departure from the EU, the EUWA converts the current framework of Air Quality targets, however the role that the EU instructions were party to are lost.

### UK Legislation

The Air Quality Standards Regulations (Amendments 2016) seek to simplify air quality regulation and provide a new transposition of the Air Quality Framework Directive, First, Second and Third Daughter Directives and also transpose the Fourth Daughter Directive within the UK. The Air Quality Limit Values are transposed into the updated Regulations as Air Quality Standards, with attainment dates in line with the European Directives. SI 2010 No. 1001, Part 7 Regulation 31 extends powers, under Section 85(5) of the Environment Act (1995), for the Secretary of State to give directions to Local Authorities (LAs) for the implementation of these Directives.

The UK Air Quality Strategy is the method for implementation of the air quality limit values in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and provides a framework for improving air quality and protecting human health

from the effects of pollution.

For each nominated pollutant, the Air Quality Strategy sets clear, measurable, outdoor air quality standards and target dates by which these must be achieved; the combined standard and target date is referred to as the Air Quality Objective (AQO) for that pollutant. Adopted national standards are based on the recommendations of the Expert Panel on Air Quality Standards (EPAQS) and have been translated into a set of Statutory Objectives within the Air Quality (England) Regulations (2000) SI 928, and subsequent amendments. The Environment (Miscellaneous Amendments) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020 amends the AQO for PM<sub>2.5</sub> outlined within the Air Quality Standards Regulations (2010 & 2016 Amendments).

The AQOs for pollutants included within the Air Quality Strategy and assessed as part of the scope of this report are presented in **Table 2-1** and **Table 2-2** along with European Commission (EC) Directive Limits and World Health Organisation (WHO) Guidelines. The ecological levels are based on WHO and CLRTAP (Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution) guidance.

**Table 2-1.** Air Quality Standards, Objectives, Limits and Target Values

Pollutant	Applies	Objective	Concentration Measured as <sup>10</sup>	Date to be achieved and maintained thereafter	European Obligations	Date to be achieved and maintained thereafter	New or existing
PM <sub>10</sub>	UK	50µg/m <sup>3</sup> by end of 2004 (max 35 exceedances a year)	24-hour Mean	1 <sup>st</sup> January 2005	50µg/m <sup>3</sup> by end of 2004 (max 35 exceedances a year)	1 <sup>st</sup> January 2005	Retain Existing
	UK	40µg/m <sup>3</sup> by end of 2004	Annual Mean	1 <sup>st</sup> January 2005	40µg/m <sup>3</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> January 2005	
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	UK	20µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual Mean	1 <sup>st</sup> January 2020	-	-	Retain Existing
NO <sub>2</sub>	UK	200µg/m <sup>3</sup> not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	1-Hour Mean	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2005	200µg/m <sup>3</sup> not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	1 <sup>st</sup> January 2010	Retain Existing
	UK	40µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual Mean	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2005	40µg/m <sup>3</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> January 2010	

**Table 2-2.** Ecological Air Quality Standards, Objectives, Limit and Target Values

Pollutant	Applies	Objective	Concentration Measured as
NO <sub>x</sub>	UK	30µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual Mean

Within the context of this assessment, the annual mean objectives are those against which facades of residential receptors will be assessed and the short-term objectives apply to all other receptor locations, where people may be exposed over a short duration, both residential and non-residential such as using gardens, balconies, walking along streets, using playgrounds, footpaths or external areas of employment uses.

## Local Air Quality Management

Under Section 82 of the Environment Act (1995) (Part IV) Local Authorities (LAs) are required to periodically review and assess air quality within their area of jurisdiction under the system of Local Air Quality Management (LAQM). This review and assessment of air quality involves assessing present and likely future air quality against the AQOs. If it is predicted that levels at the façade of buildings where members of the public are regularly present (normally residential properties) are likely to be exceeded, the LA is required to declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA).

### Environment Act 2021

The Environment Act (2021) introduces a commitment to create a legally binding duty on government to reduce the concentrations of fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) in ambient air, and to set a long-term target expected to be 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, a reduction from the current Air Quality objective of 20 µg/m<sup>3</sup> set out within the Air Quality Standards Regulations (Amendment 2016). A draft of a statutory instrument (or drafts of statutory instruments) containing regulations setting the PM<sub>2.5</sub> air quality target must be laid before Parliament on or before 31<sup>st</sup> October 2026 and is expected to come into force thereafter.

## 2.3 PLANNING AND POLICY GUIDANCE

### National Policy

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), revised July 2021, principally brings together and summarises the suite of Planning Policy Statements (PPS) and Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) which previously guided planning policy making. The NPPF states that:

#### Paragraph 174

*“Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:*

*e) preventing new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. Development should, wherever possible, help to improve local environmental conditions such as air and water quality, taking into account relevant information such as river basin management plans.”*

#### Paragraph 186

*“Planning policies and decisions should sustain and contribute towards compliance with relevant limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and Clean Air Zones, and the cumulative impacts from individual sites in local areas. Opportunities to improve air quality or mitigate impacts should be identified, such as through traffic and travel management, and green infrastructure provision and enhancement. So far as possible these opportunities should be considered at the plan-making stage, to ensure a strategic approach and limit the need for issues to be reconsidered when determining individual applications.*

*Planning decisions should ensure that any new development in Air Quality Management Areas and Clean Air Zones is consistent with the local air quality action plan.”*

#### Paragraph 188

*“The focus of planning policies and decisions should be on whether proposed development is an acceptable use of land, rather than the control of processes or emissions (where these are subject to separate pollution control regimes). Planning decisions should assume that these regimes will operate effectively. Equally, where a planning decision has been made on a particular development, the planning issues should not be revisited through the permitting regimes operated by pollution control authorities.”*

The Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) web-based resource was updated by the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) on 1st November 2019 to support the National Planning Policy Framework and make it more accessible. A review of PPG: Air Quality identified the following guidance (Paragraph: 001 Reference ID: 32-001-20191101):

*“The 2008 Ambient Air Quality Directive sets legally binding limits for concentrations in outdoor air of major air pollutants that affect public health such as particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>).*

*The UK also has national emission reduction commitments for overall UK emissions of 5 damaging air pollutants:*

- *fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>);*
- *ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>);*
- *nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>);*
- *sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>); and*
- *non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOCs).*

*As well as having direct effects on public health, habitats and biodiversity, these pollutants can combine in the atmosphere to form ozone, a harmful air pollutant (and potent greenhouse gas) which can be transported great distances by weather systems. Odour and dust can also be a planning concern, for example, because of the effect on local amenity.”*

#### **Local Policy**

Following a review of The Cherwell Local Plan 2011 – 2031 (Re-adopted December 2016), the following policy concerning air quality was identified.

##### ***“Policy ESD 10: Protection and Enhancement of Biodiversity and the Natural Environment***

*Protection and enhancement of biodiversity and the natural environment will be achieved by the following:*

- *Air quality assessments will also be required for development proposals that would be likely to*

*have a significantly adverse impact on biodiversity by generating an increase in air pollution...*

**...Policy ESD 15: The Character of the Built and Historic Environment**

*Successful design is founded upon an understanding and respect for an area's unique built, natural and cultural context. New development will be expected to complement and enhance the character of its context through sensitive siting, layout and high-quality design. All new development will be required to meet high design standards. Where development is in the vicinity of any of the District's distinctive natural or historic assets, delivering high quality design that complements the asset will be essential.*

*New development proposals should:*

- Integrate and enhance green infrastructure and incorporate biodiversity enhancement features where possible (see Policy ESD 10: Protection and Enhancement of Biodiversity and the Natural Environment and Policy ESD 17 Green Infrastructure ). Well-designed landscape schemes should be an integral part of development proposals to support improvements to biodiversity, the micro climate, and air pollution and provide attractive places that improve people's health and sense of vitality".*

## 3.0 ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

There is potential for environmental effects during the operational phase of the proposed development due to emissions from proposed vehicle movements. The significance of potential environmental effects is assessed according to the latest guidance produced by EPUK and IAQM in January 2017 '*Land-Use Planning & Development Control: Planning for Air Quality*' and May 2020 '*A Guide to the Assessment of Air Quality Impacts on Designated Nature Conservation Sites*'.

The methodology used to determine the potential air quality effects of the construction phase of the proposed development has been derived from the IAQM '*Guidance on the Assessment of the Impacts of Dust from Demolition and Construction*' document and is summarised in Section 5.

### 3.1 DETERMINING IMPACT DESCRIPTION OF THE AIR QUALITY EFFECTS

The impact description of the effects during the operational phase of the development is based on the latest guidance produced by EPUK and IAQM in January 2017. The guidance provides a basis for a consistent approach that could be used by all parties associated with the planning process to professionally judge the overall impact description of the air quality effects based on severity of air quality impacts.

The following rationale is used in determining the severity of the air quality effects at individual receptors:

1. The change in concentration of air pollutants, air quality effects, are quantified and evaluated in the context of AQOs. The effects are provided as a percentage of the Air Quality Objective (AQO), which may be an AQO, EU limit or target value, or an Environment Agency 'Environmental Assessment Level (EAL)';
2. The absolute concentrations are also considered in terms of the AQO and are divided into categories for long term concentration. The categories are based on the sensitivity of the individual receptor in terms of harm potential. The degree of harm potential to change increases as absolute concentrations are close to or above the AQO;
3. Severity of the effect is described as qualitative descriptors; negligible, slight, moderate or substantial, by taking into account in combination the harm potential and air quality effect. This means that a small increase at a receptor which is already close to or above the AQO will have higher severity compared to a relatively large change at a receptor which is significantly below the AQO;
4. The effects can be adverse when pollutant concentrations increase or beneficial when concentrations decrease as a result of development;
5. The judgement of overall impact description of the effects is then based on severity of effects on all the individual receptors considered; and,
6. Where a development is not resulting in any change in emissions itself, the impact description of effect is based on the effect of surrounding sources on new residents or users of the development, i.e., will they be exposed to levels above the AQO.

**Table 3-1.** Impact Descriptors for Individual Receptors

Long term average concentration at receptor in assessment year	% Change in concentration relative to AQO			
	1	2-5	6-10	>10
≤75% of AQO	Negligible	Negligible	Slight	Moderate
76-94% of AQO	Negligible	Slight	Moderate	Moderate
95-102% of AQO	Slight	Moderate	Moderate	Substantial
103-109 of AQO	Moderate	Moderate	Substantial	Substantial
≥110 of AQO	Moderate	Substantial	Substantial	Substantial

In accordance with explanation note 2 of Table 6.3 of the EPUK & IAQM guidance, the Table is intended to be used by rounding the change in percentage pollutant concentration to whole numbers, which then makes it clearer which cell the impact falls within. The user is encouraged to treat the numbers with recognition of their likely accuracy and not assume a false level of precision. Changes of 0%, i.e. less than 0.5%, will be described as Negligible.

### 3.2 ESTIMATING HOURLY AND DAILY MEAN CONCENTRATIONS

The latest Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) Technical Guidance TG(16) has been used for predicting 1 hourly and 24-hourly pollutant concentrations.

The guidance states that the one hour mean NO<sub>2</sub> AQO of 200 ug/m<sup>3</sup> is not likely to be exceeded at any roadside locations if the annual mean concentration is below 60ug/m<sup>3</sup>. Based on this guidance, the hourly mean NO<sub>2</sub> AQO is only considered when the annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations are over 60 ug/m<sup>3</sup>.

In accordance with the guidance, the short term 24 hourly PM<sub>10</sub> mean concentrations can be calculated using the following equation as presented below.

$$\text{Number of 24 hour mean exceedances} = 18.5 + 0.00145 \times \text{annual mean}^3 + \left( \frac{206}{\text{annual mean}} \right)$$

## 4.0 BASELINE CONDITIONS

### 4.1 AIR QUALITY REVIEW

This section provides a review of the existing air quality in the vicinity of the application site in order to provide a benchmark against which to assess potential air quality impacts of the proposed development. Baseline air quality in the vicinity of the application site has been defined from several sources, as described in the following sections.

#### Local Air Quality Management (LAQM)

As required under section 82 of the Environment Act 1995, Cherwell District Council (CDC) has undertaken an ongoing exercise to review and assess air quality within its area of jurisdiction.

The assessments have indicated that concentrations of NO<sub>2</sub> are above the relevant AQOs at locations of relevant public exposure within the Borough. Therefore, CDC has designated four Air Quality Management Area (AQMA).

**Table 4-1. Local Authority AQMA Details**

AQMA	Description	Date Declared	Date Amended	Pollutants Declared
Cherwell District Council AQMA No.1	The designated area incorporates Hennef Way between the junctions with Ermont Way and Concorde Avenue.	17/01/2011	N/A	Nitrogen Dioxide NO <sub>2</sub>
Cherwell District Council AQMA No.2	The designated area incorporates sections of Oxford Road, Bloxham Road, South Bar, High Street, Horsefair, North Bar, Warwick Road and Southam Road, Banbury.	29/10/2014	N/A	Nitrogen Dioxide NO <sub>2</sub>
Cherwell District Council AQMA No.3	The designated area incorporates a section of Bicester Road, Kidlington to the north of its junction with Water Eaton Lane.	29/10/2014	N/A	Nitrogen Dioxide NO <sub>2</sub>
Cherwell District Council AQMA No.4	The designated area incorporates sections of Kings End, Queens Avenue, Field Street, St Johns Street, Bicester.	09/10/2015	N/A	Nitrogen Dioxide NO <sub>2</sub>

The proposed development site is situated to the south-west east of the Cherwell District Council AQMA No.4, therefore existing receptors within the AQMA have been included as part of the modelling assessment.

However, it should be noted that the extent of this AQMA is based on work undertaken in 2015 and therefore potentially out of date.

As such, the modelling work in this assessment, which is verified to local monitoring, should be considered to be a more precise and up to date assessment of pollutant levels at the site. The assessment considers potential exposure to pollutants by future occupiers rather than simply considering the extent of the AQMA represents a theoretical delineation of harm. It should be also noted that the AQMA is a management area, where pollutant levels should be 'managed' by the local authority air quality action plan and should not be considered to be a planning constraint in itself.

## Air Quality Monitoring

Monitoring of air quality within CDC has been undertaken through non-automatic monitoring methods in 2019. These have been reviewed in order to provide an indication of existing air quality in the area surrounding the application site. The most recent monitoring data within CDC was undertaken during 2019.

### Non - Automatic Monitoring

CDC operates a network of 42 passive diffusion tubes. The closest diffusion tube is diffusion tube Kings End South (KES), which is located on Werrington Road, approximately 1.43 km north of the application site. The most recently available diffusion tube data is from 2019 which is presented in **Table 4-2**.

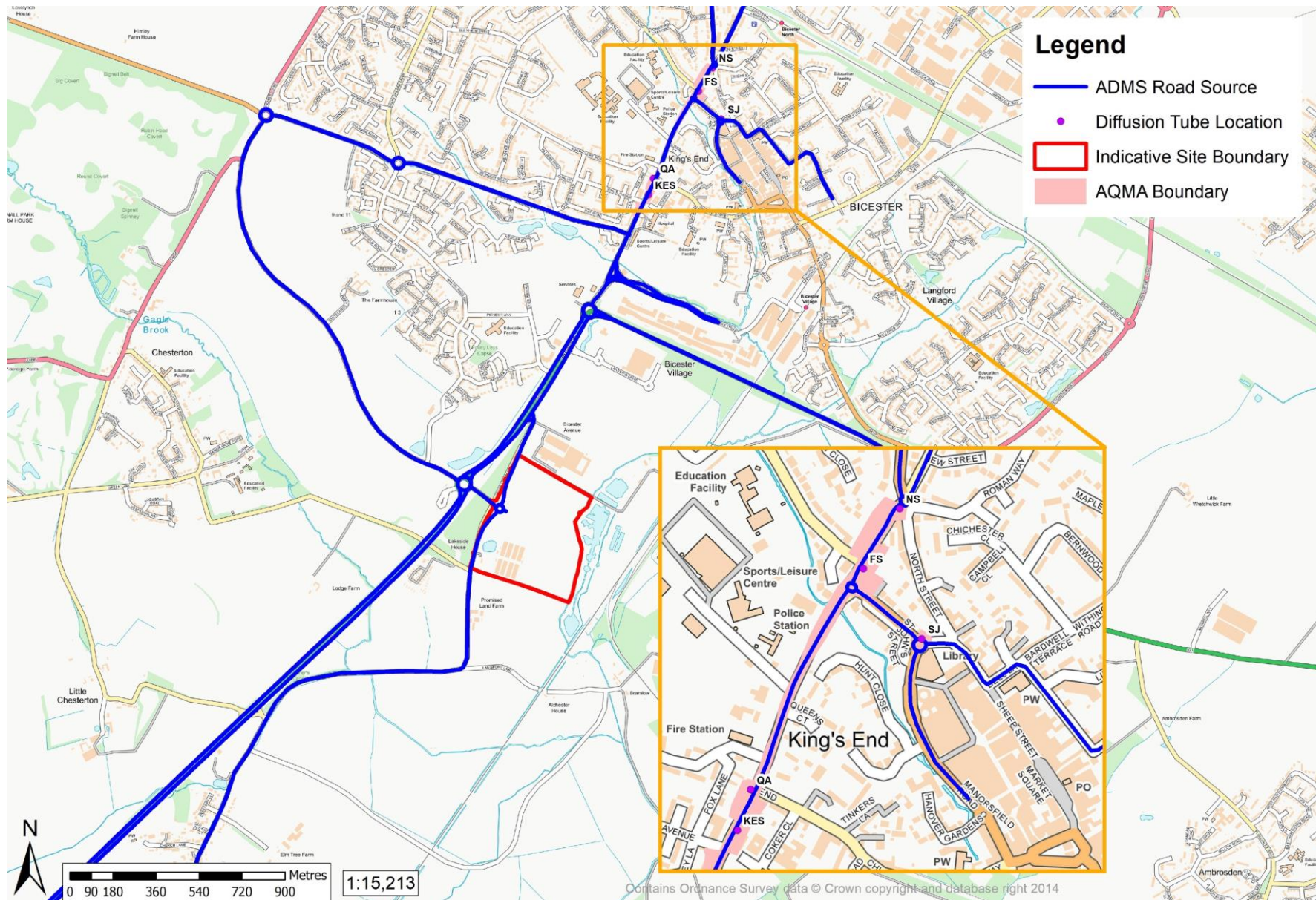
**Table 4-2.** Monitored Annual Mean NO<sub>2</sub> Concentrations at Diffusion Tubes

Site ID	Location	Site Type	Distance from Kerb (m)	Inlet Height (m)	Monitored 2019 Annual Mean NO <sub>2</sub> Concentration (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )
KES*	Kings End South	Roadside	0	2	41.5
SJ*	St Johns 2014	Kerbside	1	2	31.7
FS*	Field Street	Kerbside	1	2	32.1
NS*	North Street	Kerbside	1	2	35.6
QA*	Queens Avenue (x3)	Kerbside	1	2	35.6
*Located within AQMA					

As indicated in **Table 4-2**, all diffusion tubes located within the Air Quality Assessment area monitored annual average NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations below the AQO for NO<sub>2</sub> (40 µg/m<sup>3</sup> annual mean) during 2019 excluding Kings End South which monitored 41.5 µg/m<sup>3</sup> during 2019.

It should be noted that as part of the model verification a review of diffusion tubes locations and monitoring heights was undertaken. As part of this process, the locations and monitoring heights were adjusted following desk-based review using Google Maps.

Figure 4-1. Local Authority Monitoring Locations

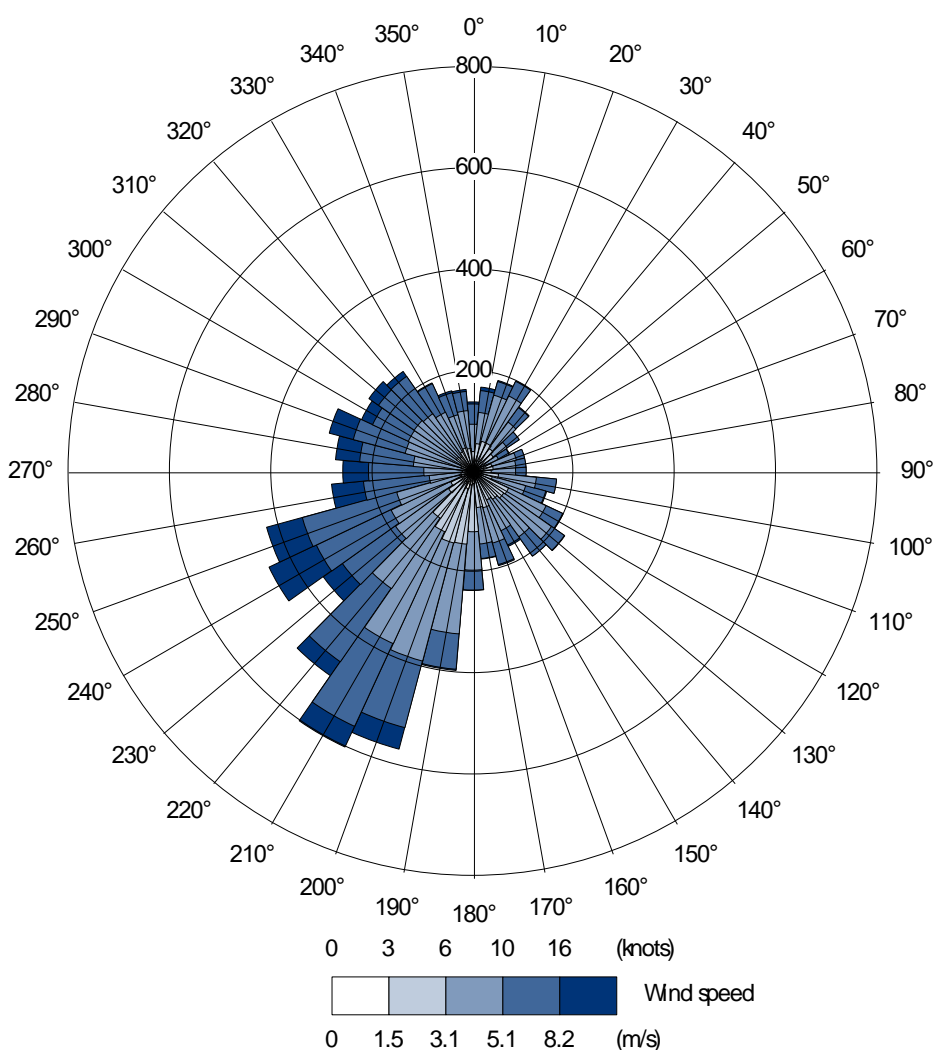


## 4.2 METEOROLOGY

Meteorological conditions have significant influence over air pollutant concentrations and dispersion. Pollutant levels can vary significantly from hour to hour as well as day to day, thus any air quality predictions need to be based on detailed meteorological data. The ADMS (Atmospheric Dispersion Modelling System) model calculates the dispersion of pollutants on an hourly basis using a year of local meteorological data.

The 2019 meteorological data used in the assessment is derived from Luton Airport Meteorological Station. This is the nearest meteorological station, which is considered representative of the application site, with all the complete parameters necessary for the ADMS model. Reference should be made to **Figure 4-2** for an illustration of the prevalent wind conditions at Luton Airport Meteorological Station site.

**Figure 4-2. Luton Airport 2019 Wind Rose**



## 4.3 EMISSION SOURCES

A desktop assessment has identified that traffic movements are likely to be the most significant local source of pollutants affecting the site and its surroundings. The principal traffic derived pollutants likely to impact local receptors are NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>.

The assessment has therefore modelled all roads within the immediate vicinity of the application site which are considered likely to experience significant changes in traffic flow as a result of the proposed development. Reference should be made to **Figure A-1** for a graphical representation of the traffic data utilised within the ADMS Roads 5.0.0.1 model.

It should be noted that the pollutant contribution of minor roads and rail sources that are not included within the dispersion model is considered to be accounted for via the use of background air quality levels.

## 4.4 SENSITIVE RECEPTORS

Receptors that are considered as part of the air quality assessment are primarily those existing receptors that are situated along routes predicted to experience significant changes in traffic flow as a result of the proposed development.

The existing receptor locations are summarised in **Table 4-3** and the spatial locations of all of the receptors are illustrated in **Figure 4-3**.

**Table 4-3. Modelled Sensitive Receptor Locations**

Existing Sensitive Receptor		X	Y	Receptor Height (m)
R1	1 Haydock Road	457547	221671	1.5
R2	9 Newton Close	457861	222164	1.5
R3	58 Kings End	457921	222273	1.5
R4*	49 Kings End	458004	222387	1.5
R5*	Fox Cottage, Kings End	458024	222471	1.5
R6	St Mary's RC Primary School	458033	222757	1.5
R7*	Fane House	458215	222832	1.5
R8*	67 North Street	458270	222926	1.5
R9*	16A St John's Street	458303	222732	1.5
R10	1 Wendlebury Road	456276	219880	1.5
R11	Bicester Community Hospital	457992	222267	1.5
R12	8 Colwell Close	456565	222669	1.5
R13	6 Tubb Close	457137	222514	1.5
R14	8 St Mary's Close	457542	222364	1.5
R15	1 Queen's Court	458099	222600	1.5
R16*	9 Crockwell Close	458164	222796	1.5
R17	3 Banbury Road	458256	222985	1.5
R18	2 Buckingham Road	458308	222964	1.5
R19	Consented Residential Development	458308	222963	1.5
R20	Consented Residential Development	457208	221058	1.5
R21	Holiday Inn Express, Bicester	457285	220996	1.5
*Located in the AQMA				

Sixteen proposed residential and two amenity sensitive receptors have been assessed to determine the effect of air quality, associated with the proposed development. The locations of the receptor are identified on **Figure 4-3**.

## 4.5 ECOLOGICAL RECEPTORS

Air quality impacts associated with the proposed re-development have the potential to impact on receptors of ecological sensitivity within the vicinity of the site. The IAQM guidance on 'Air Quality Impacts on Designated Nature Conservation Sites' (2020) outlines the types of designated nature sites within 2 km of the proposed development which require air quality assessment. These are inclusive of:

- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs);
- Special Areas of Conservation (SACs);
- Special Protection Areas (SPAs);
- Ramsar Sites;
- Areas of Special Scientific Interest (ASSIs);
- National Nature Reserves (NNRs);
- Local Nature Reserves (LNRs);
- Local Wildlife Sites (LWSs); and,
- Areas of Ancient Woodland (AW).

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2019) additionally requires competent authorities to review planning applications and consents that have the potential to impact on European designated sites (e.g. Special Protection Areas).

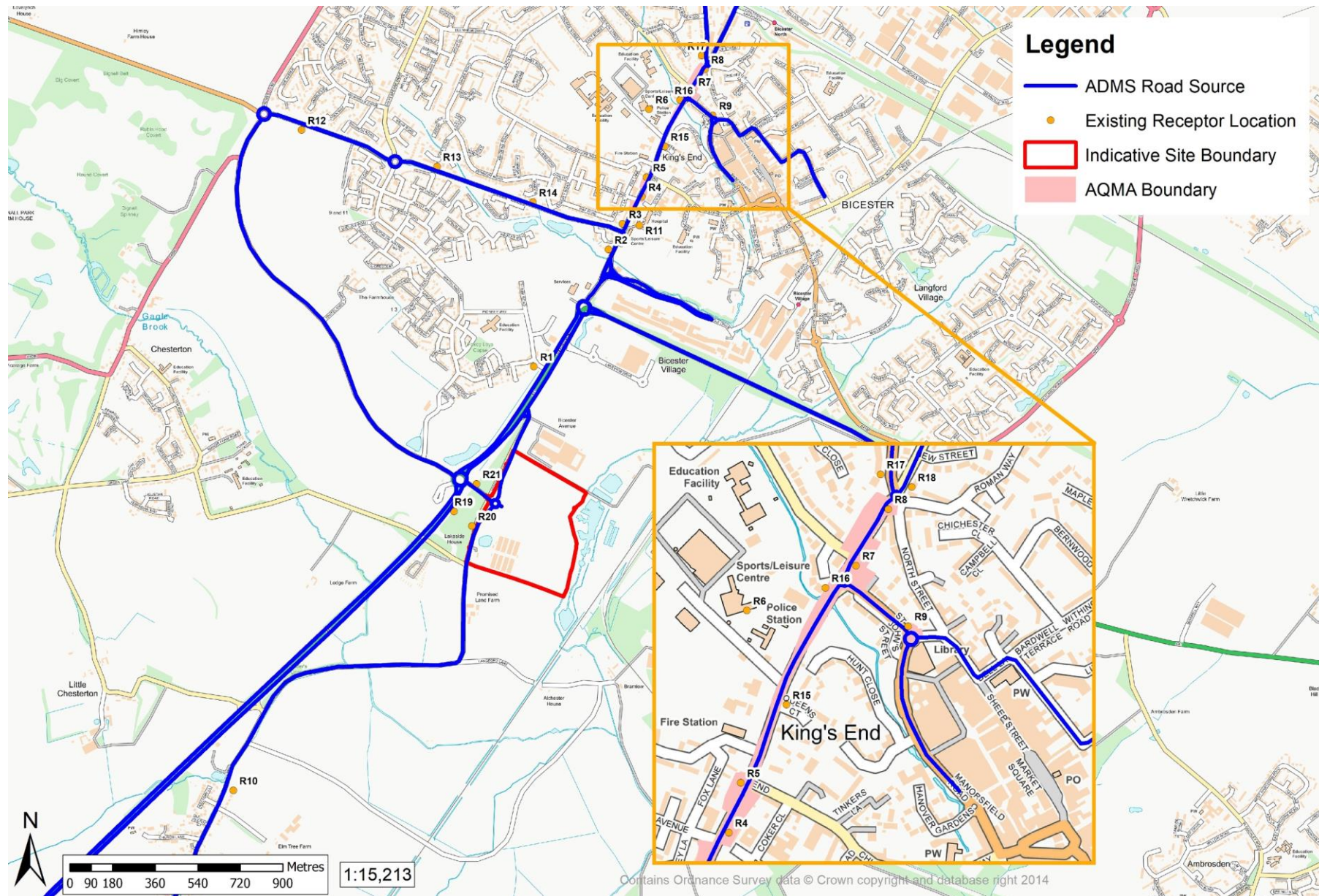
A study was undertaken to identify any statutory designated sites of ecological or nature conservation importance within the extents of the dispersion modelling assessment. This was completed using the Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) web-based interactive mapping service, which draws together information on key environmental schemes and designations. Following a search within a 2 km radius of the site boundary, the following ecological receptor was identified:

**Table 4-4.** Ecological Sensitive Receptor Locations

Site ID	Site	Designation	UK NGR (m)		Distance from Site (km)	Distance from Nearest Affected Road (m)
			X	Y		
E1	Gravenhill Woods	AW	458452	220453	1.0	989

It should be noted that the IAQM Guidance only requires the assessment of ecological receptors which are located within 200 m of the affected road network. Therefore, E1 ecological receptor has been scoped out of this assessment.

Figure 4-3. Sensitive Receptor Locations



## 5.0 ASSESSMENT OF AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - CONSTRUCTION PHASE

### 5.1 POLLUTANT SOURCES

The main emissions during construction are likely to be dust and particulate matter generated during earth moving (particularly during dry months) or from construction materials. The main potential effects of dust and particulate matter are:

- Visual - dust plume, reduced visibility, coating and soiling of surfaces leading to annoyance, loss of amenity, the need to clean surfaces;
- Physical and/or chemical contamination and corrosion of artefacts;
- Coating of vegetation and soil contamination; and,
- Health effects due to inhalation e.g. asthma or irritation of the eyes.

A number of other factors such as the amount of precipitation and other meteorological conditions will also greatly influence the amount of particulate matter generated.

Construction activities can give rise to short-term elevated dust/PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations in neighbouring areas. This may arise from vehicle movements, soiling of the public highway, or windblown stockpiles.

### 5.2 PARTICULATE MATTER (PM<sub>10</sub>)

The UK Air Quality Standards seek to control the health implications of respirable PM<sub>10</sub>. However, the majority of particles released from construction will be greater than this in size.

Construction works on site have the potential to elevate localised PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations in the area. On this basis, mitigation measures should still be taken to minimise these emissions as part of good site practice.

### 5.3 DUST

Particles greater than 10µm are likely to settle out relatively quickly and may cause annoyance due to their soiling capability. Although there are no formal standards or criteria for nuisance caused by deposited particles, the IAQM 'Guidance on Monitoring in the Vicinity of Demolition and Construction Sites' (October 2018) and the Environment Agency Technical Guidance Note (TGN) M17 states that dust is usually compared with a 'complaints likely' guideline of 200mg/m<sup>2</sup>/day. Therefore, a deposition rate of 200mg/m<sup>2</sup>/day is often presented as a threshold for serious nuisance though this is usually only applied to long term exposure as people are generally more tolerant of dust for a short or defined period. Significant nuisance is likely when the dust coverage of surfaces is visible in contrast with adjacent clean areas, especially when it happens regularly. Severe dust nuisance occurs when the dust is perceptible without a clean reference surface.

Construction activities have the potential to suspend dust, which could result in annoyance of residents surrounding the site. Measures will be taken to minimise the emissions of dust as part of good site practice.

Recommended mitigation measures proportionate to the risk associated with the development and based on best practice guidance are discussed in the following sections.

## 5.4 METHODOLOGY

The construction phase assessment utilises the IAQM Guidance on the Assessment of Dust from Demolition and Construction document published in February 2014.

Four construction processes are considered; these are demolition, earthworks, construction and trackout. For each of these phases, the impact description of the potential dust impacts is derived following the determination of a dust emission magnitude and the distance of activities to the nearest sensitive receptor, therefore assessing worst case impacts. A full explanation of the methodology is contained in Appendix A.

## 5.5 ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Based on the methodology detailed in Appendix A, the scale of the anticipated works has determined the potential dust emission magnitude for each process, as presented in the **Table 5-1** below.

**Table 5-1. Dust Emission Magnitude**

Construction Process	Site Criteria	Dust Emission Magnitude
Demolition	Total Building Volume: <20,000 m <sup>3</sup>	N/A
Earthworks	Total Site Area: >10,000 m <sup>2</sup>	Large
Construction	Total Building Volume: 25,000 - 100,000 m <sup>3</sup>	Medium
Trackout	Assumed 10 - 50 HDV outward movements in any one day	Medium

The sensitivity of the surrounding area to each construction process has been determined following stage 2B of the IAQM guidance. The assessment has determined the area sensitivities as shown in the **Table 5-2**.

The sensitivity of the ecological receptors is considered not applicable within the construction phase assessment due to the distance from the application site which is greater than 500m. This is in accordance with Table 4 of the IAQM Guidance.

**Table 5-2. Sensitivity of the Area**

Source	Area Sensitivity					
	Dust Soiling	Site Sensitivity Criteria	Health Effects of PM <sub>10</sub>	Site Sensitivity Criteria	Ecological	Site Sensitivity Criteria
Demolition	N/A	No demolition required	N/A	No demolition required	N/A	No demolition required
Earthworks	Low	1-10 Highly Sensitive Receptors within 100m of site	Low	Annual Mean of <24 ug/m <sup>3</sup> for PM <sub>10</sub>	N/A	>50 m from site boundary
Construction	Low		Low	10-100 Highly Sensitive Receptors within 100m of site	N/A	
Trackout	Medium	1-10 Highly Sensitive Receptors within 50m of roads within 500m of site	Low	Annual Mean of <24 ug/m <sup>3</sup> for PM <sub>10</sub> 10-100 Highly Sensitive Receptors within 50m of roads within 500m of site	N/A	>50 m from roads within 500 m from site boundary

The dust emission magnitude determined in **Table 5-1** has been combined with the sensitivity of the area determined in **Table 5-2**, to determine the risk of impacts prior to the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures. The potential impact significance of dust emissions associated with the development, without mitigation, is presented in **Table 5-3**.

**Table 5-3.** Impact Description of Construction Activities without Mitigation

Source	Summary Risk of Impacts Prior to Mitigation		
	Dust Soiling	Health Effects of PM <sub>10</sub>	Ecological
Demolition	N/A	N/A	N/A
Earthworks	Low	Low	N/A
Construction	Low	Low	N/A
Trackout	Low	Low	N/A

Appropriate mitigation measures are detailed and presented in Section 7.0. Following the adoption of these measures, the subsequent impact significance of the construction phase is not predicted to be significant.

## 6.0 ASSESSMENT OF AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - OPERATIONAL PHASE

In the context of the proposed development, road traffic is identified as the dominant emission source that is likely to cause potential risk of exposure of air pollutants at receptors.

The operational phase assessment therefore consists of the quantified predictions of the change in NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> for the operational phase of the development due to changes in traffic movement. Predictions of air quality at the site have been undertaken for the operational phase of the development using ADMS Roads.

In accordance with the provided traffic data, the operational phase assessment has been undertaken with an assumed operational opening year of 2026. The assessment scenarios are therefore:

- 2019 Baseline = Existing Baseline Conditions (2019);
- 2026 'Do Minimum' = Baseline Conditions + Committed Development Flows (through local growth factor); and,
- 2026 'Do Something' = Baseline Conditions + Committed Development (through local growth factor) + Proposed Development.

The modelled results for NO<sub>x</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> represent a worst-case scenario taking into account proposed development trips for the site and the consented residential development.

### 6.1 EXISTING AND PREDICTED TRAFFIC FLOWS

Baseline 2019 traffic data, projected 2026 'Do Minimum' and 'Do Something' traffic data, and average vehicle speeds have been obtained for the operational phase assessment in the form of Annual Average Daily Traffic figures (AADT). Development traffic flows have been provided by DTA Transport Planning Consultants.

Baseline 2019 traffic data was downloaded from the Department for Transport (DfT) website for the A41.

The proposed development opening year is assumed to be a worst-case year of 2026. To determine the traffic flows for the 2026 'Do Minimum' traffic flows, a TEMPro factor of 1.1105 has been applied to the 2019 Baseline traffic data.

Predicted development flows have been combined with 2026 'Do Minimum' traffic flows to determine the 'Do Something' 2026 scenario traffic flows. Development traffic flows were provided by DTA Transport Planning Consultants.

To provide a worst-case assessment, traffic from Scenario 5 provided by DTA Transport Planning Consultants has been used for the Air Quality Assessment. Scenario 5 assumes the worst-case traffic flows from the proposed development and the approved scheme (reference: 19/01746/OUT).

To calculate the 2026 'Do Something' operational year traffic flows, the proposed development traffic flows have been distributed across the model area and have been added onto the 2026 'Do Minimum' scenario flows.

Emission factors for the 2019 baseline and 2026 projected 'Do Minimum' and 'Do Something' scenarios have been calculated using the Emission Factor Toolkit (EFT) Version 11.0 (November 2021).

It is assumed the average vehicle speeds on the local road network in an opening year of 2026 will be broadly the same as the ones in 2019. A 50 m 20 km/hr slow down phase is included on each link at every junction and

roundabout within the assessment. All of the roads within the dispersion model are illustrated in **Figure A-1**. Detailed traffic figures are provided in the **Table 6-1**.

**Table 6-1. Traffic Data**

Link	Speed (km/h)	2019 Baseline		2026 Do Minimum		2026 Do Something	
		AADT	HGV %	AADT	%HGV	AADT	%HGV
Oxford Road (North)	48	21,545	2.00	23,926	2.00	24,978	1.93
Pingle Drive	48	5,381	2.00	5,976	2.00	5,976	2.00
Oxford Road (South)	48	23,088	2.00	25,639	2.00	26,691	1.93
Kings End	48	16,377	2.00	18,187	2.00	18,888	1.94
Oxford Road (South)	48	21,548	2.00	23,929	2.00	24,981	1.93
Middleton Stoney Road	48	10,654	2.00	11,831	2.00	12,182	1.94
A41 (North)	80	24,919	2.00	27,672	2.00	28,558	1.95
Unnamed Road East	48	1,869	2.00	2,075	2.00	6,118	0.91
A41 (South)	80	26,914	2.00	29,888	2.00	30,774	1.95
Vendee Drive (South)	48	10,336	2.00	11,478	2.00	12,618	1.85
A41 (North)	80	34,814	7.08	38,661	7.08	39,227	6.00
Wendlebury Road Slip	48	1,044	2.00	1,159	2.00	1,159	2.00
A41 (South)	80	34,814	7.08	38,661	7.08	39,227	6.00
Wendlebury Road (North)	48	2,691	2.00	2,988	2.00	2,988	2.00
Manorsfield Road	48	10,357	2.00	11,501	2.00	11,696	1.97
St John's Street	48	9,244	2.00	10,266	2.00	10,655	1.93
Queens Avenue	48	8,050	2.00	8,939	2.00	9,640	1.89
Banbury Road	48	2,947	2.00	3,272	2.00	3,428	1.97
Buckingham Road	48	7,797	2.00	8,658	2.00	8,814	1.99
Field Street	48	2,926	2.00	3,250	2.00	3,562	1.91
Wendlebury Road (South)	32	2,691	2.00	2,988	2.00	2,988	2.00
Vendee Drive	80	10,336	2.00	11,478	2.00	12,618	1.85
Vendee Drive (North)	64	10,336	2.00	21,776	2.00	22,916	1.02
A41 (East)	96	21,776	8.51	24,182	8.51	24,909	8.27
St John's Street/Sheep Street	48	9,244	2.00	10,266	2.00	10,461	1.96
Site Access	20	0	0.00	0	0.00	4,043	0.35

## 6.2 BACKGROUND CONCENTRATIONS

The use of background concentrations within the modelling process ensures that pollutant sources other than traffic are represented appropriately. Background sources of pollutants include industrial, domestic and rail emissions within the vicinity of the study site. Several sources have been used to obtain representative background levels as discussed below.

The background concentrations used within the assessment have been determined with reference to the IAQM Guidance and Technical Guidance (TG) (16).

The IAQM Guidance states:

*“A matter of judgement should take into account the background and future background air quality and whether it is likely to approach or exceed the value of the AQO.”*

Additionally, TG (16) states:

*“Typically, only the process contributions from local sources are represented within an output by the dispersion model. In these circumstances, it is necessary to add an appropriate background concentration(s) to the modelled source contributions to derive the total pollutant concentrations.”*

#### Defra Published Background Concentrations for 2019

The background concentrations shown in **Table 6-2** were referenced from the UK National Air Quality Information Archive database based on the National Grid Co-ordinates of 1 x 1 km grid squares nearest to the application site. In August 2020, Defra issued revised 2018 based background maps for nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>), NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>.

**Table 6-2.** Published Background Air Quality Levels (µg/m<sup>3</sup>)

Receptor Location		2019			
		NO <sub>x</sub>	NO <sub>2</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>
Proposed Site					
457422	220956	13.57	10.33	15.53	9.40
Local Authority Monitoring					
KES*		14.65	11.05	15.25	10.27
SJ*		14.65	11.05	15.25	10.27
FS*		14.65	11.05	15.25	10.27
NS*		14.65	11.05	15.25	10.27
QA*		14.65	11.05	15.25	10.27
Existing Sensitive Receptors					
R1		16.17	12.16	16.67	10.21
R2		13.12	10.00	15.41	10.20
R3		13.12	10.00	15.41	10.20
R4*		14.65	11.05	15.25	10.27
R5*		14.65	11.05	15.25	10.27
R6		14.65	11.05	15.25	10.27
R7*		14.65	11.05	15.25	10.27
R8*		14.65	11.05	15.25	10.27
R9*		14.65	11.05	15.25	10.27
R10		15.08	11.41	15.13	9.64
R11		13.12	10.00	15.41	10.20
R12		13.05	9.97	15.11	9.75
R13		13.12	10.00	15.41	10.20
R14		13.12	10.00	15.41	10.20
R15		14.65	11.05	15.25	10.27
R16*		14.65	11.05	15.25	10.27
R17		14.65	11.05	15.25	10.27
R18		14.65	11.05	15.25	10.27
R19		14.65	11.05	15.25	10.27
R20		16.17	12.16	16.67	10.21
R21		13.57	10.33	15.53	9.40
*Located in the AQMA					

All the Defra background concentrations detailed in **Table 6-2** for 2019, show that the background levels are predicted to be below the relevant AQO within the study area.

A breakdown of the background source apportionment of NO<sub>x</sub> concentrations at each monitoring location and receptor is shown in **Table 6-3**.

**Table 6-3. Pollutant Source Apportionment of NO<sub>x</sub> (µg/m<sup>3</sup>)**

Receptor Location	2019						
	Total NO <sub>x</sub>	% of NO <sub>x</sub> from Road Sources	% of NO <sub>x</sub> from Industrial Sources	% of NO <sub>x</sub> from Domestic Sources	% of NO <sub>x</sub> from Aircraft Sources	% of NO <sub>x</sub> from Rail Sources	% of NO <sub>x</sub> from Other Sources
<b>Local Authority Monitoring</b>							
KES*	14.65	27.27	4.66	10.92	0.04	3.16	53.94
SJ*	14.65	27.27	4.66	10.92	0.04	3.16	53.94
FS*	14.65	27.27	4.66	10.92	0.04	3.16	53.94
NS*	14.65	27.27	4.66	10.92	0.04	3.16	53.94
QA*	14.65	27.27	4.66	10.92	0.04	3.16	53.94
<b>Existing Sensitive Receptors</b>							
R1	16.17	42.57	4.60	4.11	0.05	2.03	46.63
R2	13.12	26.51	5.04	8.87	0.05	2.50	57.02
R3	13.12	26.51	5.04	8.87	0.05	2.50	57.02
R4*	14.65	27.27	4.66	10.92	0.04	3.16	53.94
R5*	14.65	27.27	4.66	10.92	0.04	3.16	53.94
R6	14.65	27.27	4.66	10.92	0.04	3.16	53.94
R7*	14.65	27.27	4.66	10.92	0.04	3.16	53.94
R8*	14.65	27.27	4.66	10.92	0.04	3.16	53.94
R9*	14.65	27.27	4.66	10.92	0.04	3.16	53.94
R10	15.08	39.96	4.82	3.10	0.07	2.18	49.87
R11	13.12	26.51	5.04	8.87	0.05	2.50	57.02
R12	13.05	29.30	5.18	5.65	0.07	2.61	57.19
R13	13.12	26.51	5.04	8.87	0.05	2.50	57.02
R14	13.12	26.51	5.04	8.87	0.05	2.50	57.02
R15	14.65	27.27	4.66	10.92	0.04	3.16	53.94
R16*	14.65	27.27	4.66	10.92	0.04	3.16	53.94
R17	14.65	27.27	4.66	10.92	0.04	3.16	53.94
R18	14.65	27.27	4.66	10.92	0.04	3.16	53.94
R19	16.17	27.27	4.66	10.92	0.04	3.16	53.94
R20	13.57	42.57	4.60	4.11	0.05	2.03	46.63
R21	16.17	32.02	6.46	3.37	0.06	2.61	55.49
*Located in the AQMA							

**Table 6-3** shows that the major background source of NO<sub>x</sub> at the monitoring, sensitive receptor locations where sources have been identified are mainly comprised of road sources.

A review of the Defra background site has determined that they are in line with the Local Authority monitoring within CDC.

**Table 6-4** shows the background concentrations utilised within the assessment.

**Table 6-4.** Utilised Background Concentrations ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )

Receptor Location	2019		Source
	NO <sub>x</sub>	NO <sub>2</sub>	
Local Authority Monitoring			
KES*	14.65	11.05	Defra Background Maps
SJ*	14.65	11.05	
FS*	14.65	11.05	
NS*	14.65	11.05	
QA*	14.65	11.05	
Existing Sensitive Receptors			
R1	16.17	12.16	Defra Background Maps
R2	13.12	10.00	
R3	13.12	10.00	
R4*	14.65	11.05	
R5*	14.65	11.05	
R6	14.65	11.05	
R7*	14.65	11.05	
R8*	14.65	11.05	
R9*	14.65	11.05	
R10	15.08	11.41	
R11	13.12	10.00	
R12	13.05	9.97	
R13	13.12	10.00	
R14	13.12	10.00	
R15	14.65	11.05	
R16*	14.65	11.05	
R17	14.65	11.05	
R18	14.65	11.05	
R19	14.65	11.05	
R20	16.17	12.16	
R21	13.57	10.33	
*Located in the AQMA			

## 6.3 MODEL VERIFICATION

Model verification involves the comparison of modelled data to monitored data in order to gain the best possible representation of current pollutant concentrations for the assessment years. The verification process is in general accordance with that contained in Section 7 of the TG16 guidance note and uses the most recently available diffusion tube monitoring data to best represent this.

The verification process consists of using the monitoring data and the published background air quality data in the UK National Air Quality Information Archive to calculate the road traffic contribution of NO<sub>x</sub> at the monitoring locations. Outputs from the ADMS Roads model are provided as predicted road traffic contribution NO<sub>x</sub> emissions. These are converted into predicted roadside contribution NO<sub>2</sub> exposure at the relevant receptor locations based on the updated approach to deriving NO<sub>2</sub> from NO<sub>x</sub> for road traffic sources published in Local Air Quality Management TG16. The calculation was derived using the NO<sub>x</sub> to NO<sub>2</sub> worksheet in the online

LAQM tools website hosted by Defra. **Table 6-5** summarises the final model/monitored data correlation following the application of the model correction factor.

**Table 6-5.** Comparison of Roadside Modelling & Monitoring Results for NO<sub>2</sub>

Monitoring Site	NO <sub>2</sub> µg/m <sup>3</sup>		
	Monitored NO <sub>2</sub>	Modelled NO <sub>2</sub>	Difference (%)
KES*	32.10	30.71	-4.32
SJ*	35.60	33.75	-5.18
FS*	31.70	34.33	8.31
NS*	35.60	36.51	2.57
QA*	41.50	40.98	-1.24

\*Located in the AQMA

QA is a triplicate diffusion tube and the location that recorded the highest the monitored NO<sub>2</sub> result in 2019. The triplicate tube (QA) is considered to be more representative when compared to single diffusion tubes, therefore QA has been given greater weight within the verification. The final model produced data at the monitoring locations to within 10% of the monitoring results at all of the verification points, as recommended by TG16 guidance.

The final verification model correlation coefficient (representing the model uncertainty) is 1.00. This was achieved by applying a model correction factor of 5.91 to roadside predicted NO<sub>x</sub> concentrations before converting to NO<sub>2</sub>. This figure demonstrates that the model predictions were in line with the road traffic emissions at the monitoring locations.

It should be noted that TG (16) states that in the absence of any Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>) monitoring data for verification, it may be appropriate to apply the NO<sub>x</sub>-NO<sub>2</sub> adjustment factor to the modelled Particulate Matter.

TG(16) also states that care needs to be taken when applying model adjustment based on one monitoring site only as the adjustment may not be representative of other locations.

As there is no suitable PM<sub>10</sub> or PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitoring data within the study area, it is not possible to perform a model verification for these pollutants. As such, the NO<sub>2</sub> adjustment factor has also been applied to the PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> modelled results, in accordance with LAQM.TG(16).

## 6.4 ADMS-ROADS MODEL INPUTS

**Table 6-6.** Summary of ADMS Roads Model Inputs

Parameter	Description	Input Value
<b>Chemistry</b>	A facility within ADMS-Roads to calculate the chemical reactions in the atmosphere between Nitric Oxide (NO), NO <sub>2</sub> , Ozone (O <sub>3</sub> ) and Volatile organic compounds (VOCs).	No atmospheric chemistry parameters included
<b>Meteorology</b>	Representative meteorological data from a local source	<b>Luton Airport 2019 Meteorological Station</b> , hourly sequential data
<b>Surface Roughness</b>	A setting to define the surface roughness of the model area based upon its location.	<b>0.5m</b> representing a typical surface roughness for <b>Parkland, open suburbia</b> was used for the Site

		<b>0.5m</b> representing a typical surface roughness for <b>Parkland, open suburbia</b> for the met. Measurement site.
<b>Latitude</b>	Allows the location of the model area to be set	United Kingdom = <b>51.8</b>
<b>Monin-Obukhov Length</b>	This allows a measure of the stability of the atmosphere within the model area to be specified depending upon its character.	Mixed urban/industrial = <b>30m</b> was used for the Site Mixed urban/industrial = <b>30m</b> was used for the met. Measurement site.
<b>Elevation of Road</b>	Allows the height of the road link above ground level to be specified.	All other road links were set at ground level = <b>0m</b> .
<b>Road Width</b>	Allows the width of the road link to be specified.	Road width used depended on data obtained from OS map data for the specific road link
<b>Topography</b>	This enables complex terrain data to be included within the model in order to account for turbulence and plume spread effects of topography	No topographical information used
<b>Time Varied Emissions</b>	This enables daily, weekly or monthly variations in emissions to be applied to road sources	No time varied emissions used
<b>Road Type</b>	Allows the effect of different types of roads to be assessed.	<b>Urban (Not London)</b> settings were used for the relevant links
<b>Road Speeds</b>	Enables individual road speeds to be added for each road link	Based on national speed limits
<b>Canyon Height</b>	Allows the model to take account turbulent flow patterns occurring inside a street with relatively tall buildings on both sides, known as a 'street canyon'.	No canyons used within the model
<b>Road Source Emissions</b>	Road source emission rates are calculated from traffic flow data using the in-built EFT database of traffic emission factors.	The <b>EFT Version 11.0 (2021)</b> dataset was used.
<b>Year</b>	Predicted EFT emissions rates depend on the year of emission.	<b>2019</b> data for verification and baseline Operational Phase Assessment. <b>2026</b> data for the Operational Phase Traffic Assessment.

## 6.5 ADMS MODELLING RESULTS

### 6.5.1 Traffic Assessment

The ADMS Model has predicted concentrations of NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> at relevant receptor locations adjacent to roads likely to be affected by the development, as summarised in the following tables. Only receptors close to roads where there is predicted to be a change in emissions have been assessed.

### 6.5.2 Assessment Scenarios

For the operational year of 2026, assessment of the effects of emissions from the proposed traffic associated with the scheme, has been undertaken using the Emissions Factor Toolkit (EFT) 2026 emissions rates which take into account of the rate of reduction in emission from road vehicles into the future with the following factors:

- 2019 Baseline = Existing Baseline conditions;
- 2026 'Do Minimum' = 2026 Baseline + Committed Development Flows (through local growth factor); and,
- 2026 'Do Something' = 2026 Baseline + Committed Development Flows (through local growth factor) + Development Traffic Flows (Scenario 5).

### 6.5.3 Operational Traffic Assessment

#### Nitrogen Dioxide

**Table 6-7** presents a summary of the predicted change in NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations at relevant receptor locations, due to changes in traffic flow associated with the proposed development, based on modelled 'Do Minimum' and 'Do Something' scenarios.

**Table 6-7.** Predicted Annual Average Concentrations of NO<sub>2</sub> at Receptor Locations

Receptor		NO <sub>2</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )			
		2019 Baseline	2026 Do Minimum	2026 Do Something	Development Contribution
R1	1 Haydock Road	21.17	16.97	17.13	0.16
R2	9 Newton Close	30.69	21.31	21.72	0.41
R3	58 Kings End	35.91	24.43	24.93	0.50
R4*	49 Kings End	32.88	23.18	23.61	0.43
R5*	Fox Cottage, Kings End	32.84	23.10	23.56	0.46
R6	St Mary's RC Primary School	14.32	12.76	12.83	0.07
R7*	Fane House	28.23	18.93	19.34	0.41
R8*	67 North Street	26.13	19.16	19.59	0.43
R9*	16A St John's Street	38.66	26.43	26.93	0.50
R10	1 Wendlebury Road	16.25	13.87	13.90	0.03
R11	Bicester Community Hospital	20.06	15.36	15.55	0.19
R12	8 Colwell Close	15.56	13.10	13.20	0.10
R13	6 Tubb Close	21.28	16.16	16.34	0.18
R14	8 St Mary's Close	25.29	18.40	18.64	0.24
R15	1 Queen's Court	21.34	16.61	16.95	0.34
R16*	9 Crockwell Close	23.47	17.13	17.47	0.34
R17	3 Banbury Road	19.91	15.73	15.94	0.21
R18	2 Buckingham Road	29.04	20.78	21.16	0.38
R19	Consented Residential Development	39.74	26.18	26.50	0.32
R20	Consented Residential Development	20.45	16.45	16.63	0.18
R21	Holiday Inn Express, Bicester	30.37	21.01	23.13	2.12
Annual Mean AQO		40 µg/m <sup>3</sup>			
*Located in the AQMA					

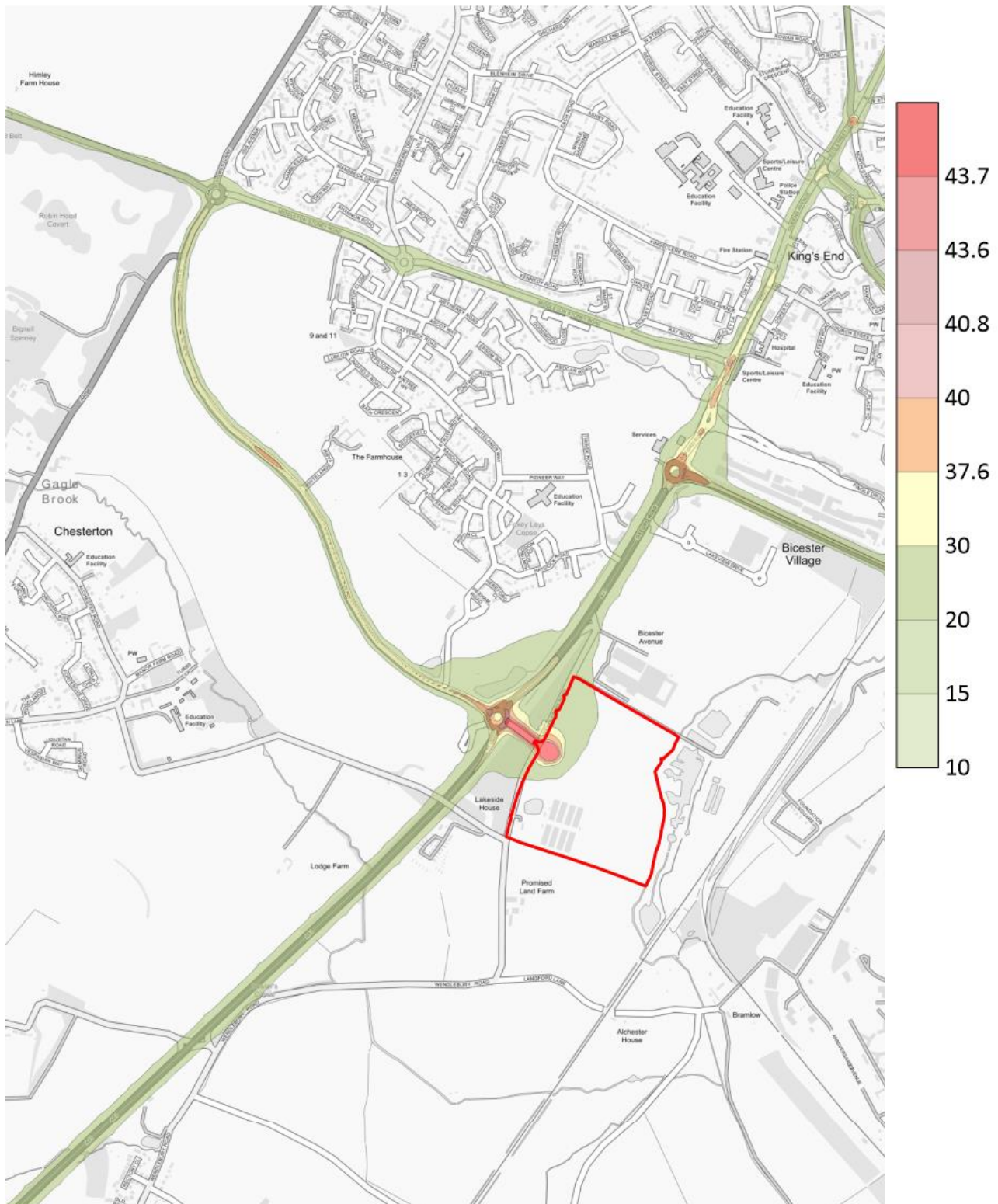
All modelled existing receptors are predicted to be below the AQO for NO<sub>2</sub> in both the 'Do Minimum' and 'Do Something' scenarios.

As indicated in **Table 6-7**, the maximum predicted increase in annual average exposure to NO<sub>2</sub> at any existing receptor, due to changes in traffic movements associated with the proposed development is likely to be 2.12 µg/m<sup>3</sup> at Holiday Inn Express, Bicester (R21).

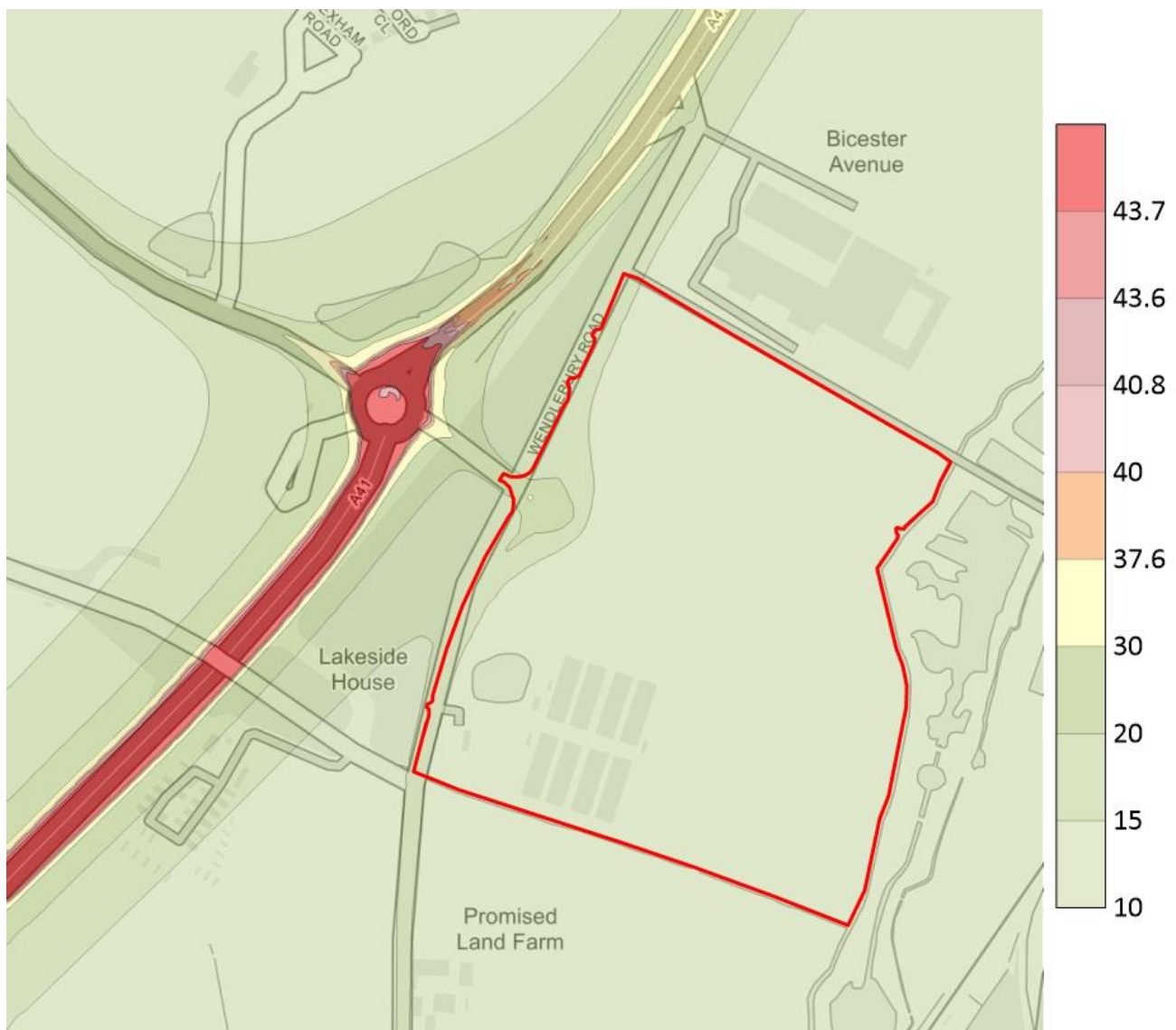
The predicted long-term NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations at all existing receptors are well below 60 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in all scenarios. Therefore, it is unlikely there will be any exceedances for the short-term NO<sub>2</sub> AQO at all modelled receptors as outlined in LAQM TG16 technical guidance.

**Figure 6-1**, **Figure 6-2**, and **Figure 6-3** below, illustrate the Total Long Term Annual Average Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) Contribution and Concentration at the Proposed Development (µg/m<sup>3</sup>).

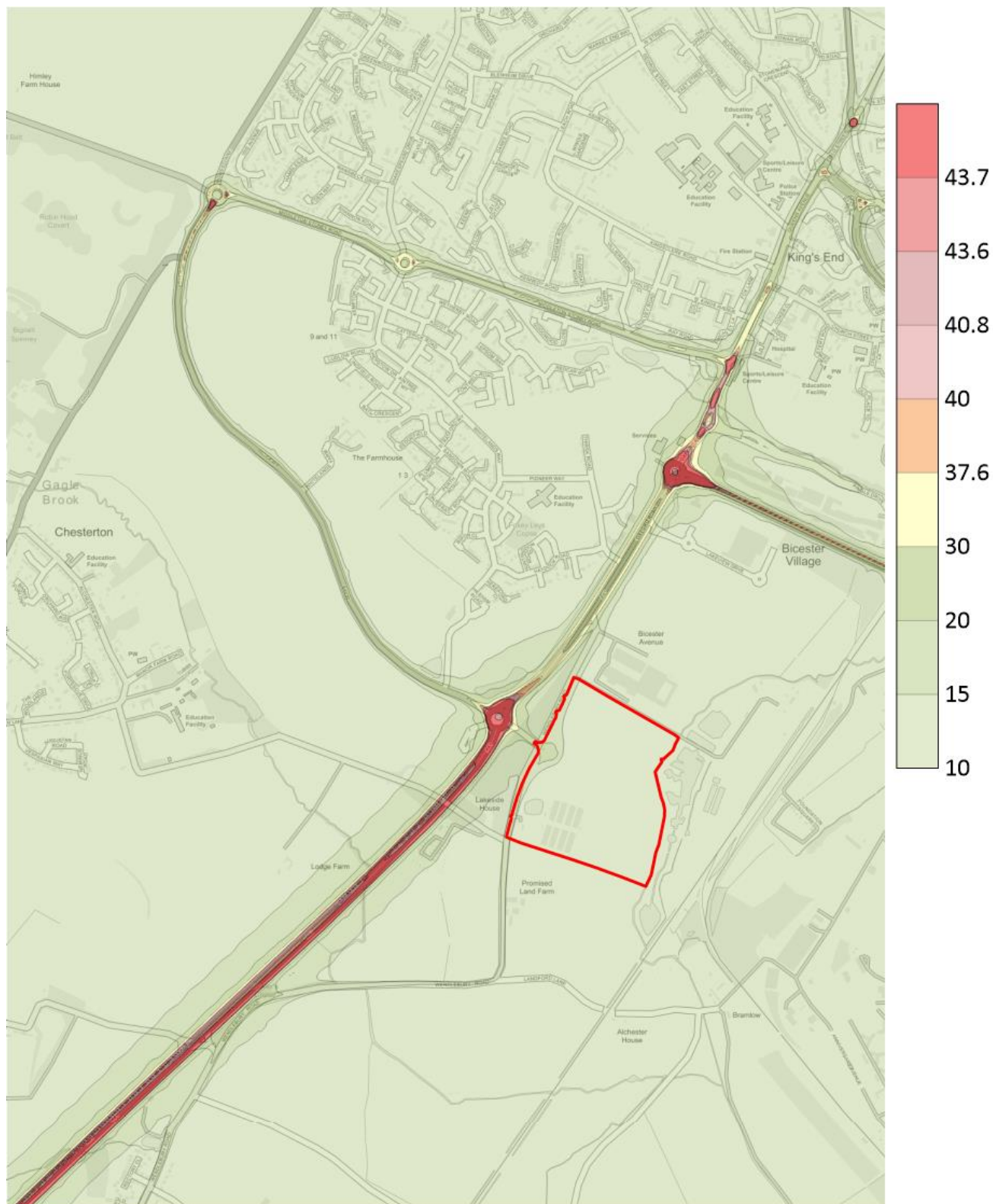
**Figure 6-1.** Annual Average Long-Term Nitrogen Dioxide ( $\text{NO}_2$ ) Contribution from Proposed Development ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )



**Figure 6-2.** Total Long Term Annual Average Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) Concentration at Proposed Development (µg/m<sup>3</sup>)



**Figure 6-3.** Total Long Term Annual Average Nitrogen Dioxide ( $\text{NO}_2$ ) Concentration Across the Study Area ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )



The impact description of changes in traffic flow associated with the proposed development with respect to annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> exposure has been assessed with reference to the criteria in Section 3. The outcomes of the assessment are summarised in **Table 6-8**.

**Table 6-8.** Impact Description of Effects at Key Receptors (NO<sub>2</sub>)

Impact Description of NO <sub>2</sub> Effects at Key Receptors					
Receptor	Change Due to Development (DS-DM) (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Change due to Development (% of AQO)	% Change in Concentration Relative to AQO	% Annual Mean Concentration in Assessment Year	Impact Description
R1	0.16	0.40	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R2	0.41	1.02	1%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R3	0.50	1.25	1%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R4*	0.43	1.07	1%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R5*	0.46	1.15	1%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R6	0.07	0.17	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R7*	0.41	1.02	1%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R8*	0.43	1.07	1%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R9*	0.50	1.25	1%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R10	0.03	0.07	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R11	0.19	0.47	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R12	0.10	0.25	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R13	0.18	0.45	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R14	0.24	0.60	1%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R15	0.34	0.85	1%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R16*	0.34	0.85	1%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R17	0.21	0.52	1%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R18	0.38	0.95	1%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R19	0.32	0.80	1%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R20	0.18	0.45	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R21	2.12	5.30	2-5%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible

+0% means a change of <0.5% as per explanatory note 2 of table 6.3 of the EPUK IAQM Guidance.

\*Located in the AQMA

The impact description of the effects of changes in traffic flow as a result of the proposed development, with respect to NO<sub>2</sub> exposure for existing receptors, is determined to be 'negligible' at all modelled receptors. This is based on the methodology outlined in section 3. Given the quantitative nature of the assessment and the verification of the air quality dispersion model, the level of accuracy of the assessment results is considered to be 'high'.

#### Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub>)

**Table 6-9** presents a summary of the predicted change in annual mean PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations at relevant receptor locations, due to changes in traffic flow associated with the proposed development, based on modelled 'Do Minimum' and 'Do Something' scenarios.

**Table 6-9.** Predicted Annual Average Concentrations of PM<sub>10</sub> at Receptor Locations

Receptor		PM <sub>10</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )			
		2019 Baseline	2026 Do Minimum	2026 Do Something	Development Contribution
R1	1 Haydock Road	18.53	18.62	18.68	0.06
R2	9 Newton Close	19.01	19.14	19.28	0.14
R3	58 Kings End	20.14	20.34	20.52	0.18
R4*	49 Kings End	19.76	19.99	20.16	0.17
R5*	Fox Cottage, Kings End	19.09	19.25	19.41	0.16
R6	St Mary's RC Primary School	15.84	15.87	15.90	0.03
R7*	Fane House	17.72	17.74	17.88	0.13
R8*	67 North Street	17.72	17.81	17.96	0.14
R9*	16A St John's Street	20.06	20.24	20.41	0.17
R10	1 Wendlebury Road	16.12	16.16	16.17	0.01
R11	Bicester Community Hospital	17.20	17.27	17.33	0.07
R12	8 Colwell Close	16.19	16.29	16.33	0.04
R13	6 Tubb Close	17.65	17.77	17.84	0.07
R14	8 St Mary's Close	18.52	18.68	18.78	0.09
R15	1 Queen's Court	17.25	17.35	17.48	0.13
R16*	9 Crockwell Close	17.29	17.35	17.47	0.12
R17	3 Banbury Road	16.70	16.75	16.82	0.07
R18	2 Buckingham Road	18.16	18.24	18.37	0.12
R19	Consented Residential Development	21.95	22.20	22.33	0.14
R20	Consented Residential Development	18.36	18.42	18.48	0.06
R21	Holiday Inn Express, Bicester	19.17	19.27	19.93	0.66
Annual Mean AQO		40 µg/m <sup>3</sup>			
*Located in the AQMA					

All modelled existing receptors are predicted to be below the AQO for PM<sub>10</sub> in both the 'Do Minimum' and 'Do Something' scenarios.

As indicated in **Table 6-9**, the maximum predicted increase in annual average exposure to PM<sub>10</sub> at any existing receptor, due to changes in traffic movements associated with the proposed development is 0.66 µg/m<sup>3</sup> at Holiday Inn Express, Bicester (R21).

The impact description of changes in traffic flow associated with the proposed development with respect to annual mean PM<sub>10</sub> exposure has been assessed with reference to the criteria in Section 3. The outcomes of the assessment are summarised in **Table 6-10**.

**Table 6-10.** Impact Description of Effects at Key Receptors (PM<sub>10</sub>)

Impact Description of PM <sub>10</sub> Effects at Key Receptors					
Receptor	Change Due to Development (DS-DM) (µg/m³)	Change due to Development (% of AQO)	% Change in Concentration Relative to AQO	% Annual Mean Concentration in Assessment Year	Impact Description
R1	0.06	0.16	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R2	0.14	0.35	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R3	0.18	0.45	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R4*	0.17	0.43	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R5*	0.16	0.40	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R6	0.03	0.07	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R7*	0.13	0.34	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R8*	0.14	0.36	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R9*	0.17	0.44	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R10	0.01	0.03	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R11	0.07	0.16	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R12	0.04	0.09	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R13	0.07	0.17	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R14	0.09	0.23	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R15	0.13	0.32	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R16*	0.12	0.30	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R17	0.07	0.17	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R18	0.12	0.31	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R19	0.14	0.34	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R20	0.06	0.15	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R21	0.66	1.66	2-5%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible

+0% means a change of <0.5% as per explanatory note 2 of table 6.3 of the EPUK IAQM Guidance.

\*Located in the AQMA

The impact description of the effects of changes in traffic as a result of the proposed development, with respect to annual mean PM<sub>10</sub> exposure for existing receptors is determined to be 'negligible' based on the methodology outlined in section 3. Given the quantitative nature of the assessment and the verification of the air quality dispersion model, the level of accuracy of the assessment results is considered to be 'high'.

#### Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>)

**Table 6-11** presents a summary of the predicted change in annual mean PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations at relevant receptor locations, due to changes in traffic flow associated with the proposed development, based on modelled 'Do Minimum' and 'Do Something' scenarios.

**Table 6-11.** Predicted Annual Average Concentrations of PM<sub>2.5</sub> at Receptor Locations

Receptor		PM <sub>2.5</sub> (µg/m³)			
		2019 Baseline	2026 Do Minimum	2026 Do Something	Development Contribution
R1	1 Haydock Road	11.28	11.28	11.32	0.03
R2	9 Newton Close	12.32	12.29	12.37	0.08
R3	58 Kings End	12.98	12.96	13.06	0.10
R4*	49 Kings End	12.88	12.89	12.99	0.10
R5*	Fox Cottage, Kings End	12.53	12.50	12.59	0.09
R6	St Mary's RC Primary School	10.61	10.61	10.62	0.01
R7*	Fane House	11.75	11.66	11.74	0.08
R8*	67 North Street	11.73	11.70	11.78	0.08
R9*	16A St John's Street	13.11	13.06	13.16	0.10
R10	1 Wendlebury Road	10.21	10.20	10.21	0.01
R11	Bicester Community Hospital	11.25	11.23	11.27	0.04
R12	8 Colwell Close	10.38	10.41	10.43	0.02
R13	6 Tubb Close	11.50	11.51	11.54	0.04
R14	8 St Mary's Close	12.00	12.01	12.06	0.05
R15	1 Queen's Court	11.43	11.43	11.50	0.07
R16*	9 Crockwell Close	11.47	11.43	11.50	0.07
R17	3 Banbury Road	11.12	11.10	11.14	0.04
R18	2 Buckingham Road	11.99	11.95	12.02	0.07
R19	Consented Residential Development	14.13	14.07	14.15	0.08
R20	Consented Residential Development	11.19	11.18	11.21	0.03
R21	Holiday Inn Express, Bicester	11.54	11.49	11.86	0.37
Annual Mean AQO		20 µg/m³			
*Located in the AQMA					

All modelled existing receptors are predicted to be below the AQO for PM<sub>2.5</sub> in both the 'Do Minimum' and 'Do Something' scenarios.

As indicated in **Table 6-11**, the maximum predicted increase in annual average exposure to PM<sub>2.5</sub> at any existing receptor, due to changes in traffic movements associated with the proposed development is 0.37 µg/m<sup>3</sup> at Holiday Inn Express, Bicester (R21).

The impact description of changes in traffic flow associated with the proposed development with respect to annual mean PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure has been assessed with reference to the criteria in Section 3. The outcomes of the assessment are summarised in **Table 6-12**.

**Table 6-12.** Impact Description of Effects at Key Receptors (PM<sub>2.5</sub>)

Impact Description of PM <sub>2.5</sub> Effects at Key Receptors					
Receptor	Change Due to Development (DS-DM) (µg/m³)	Change due to Development (% of AQO)	% Change in Concentration Relative to AQO	% Annual Mean Concentration in Assessment Year	Impact Description
R1	0.03	0.17	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R2	0.08	0.39	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R3	0.10	0.50	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R4*	0.10	0.48	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R5*	0.09	0.45	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R6	0.01	0.07	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R7*	0.08	0.38	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R8*	0.08	0.40	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R9*	0.10	0.49	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R10	0.01	0.03	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R11	0.04	0.18	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R12	0.02	0.10	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R13	0.04	0.19	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R14	0.05	0.26	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R15	0.07	0.36	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R16*	0.07	0.34	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R17	0.04	0.19	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R18	0.07	0.34	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R19	0.08	0.38	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R20	0.03	0.17	0%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible
R21	0.37	1.87	2-5%	≤75% of AQO	Negligible

+0% means a change of <0.5% as per explanatory note 2 of table 6.3 of the EPUK IAQM Guidance.

\*Located in the AQMA

The impact description of the effects of changes in traffic as a result of the proposed development, with respect to annual mean PM<sub>10</sub> exposure for existing receptors is determined to be 'negligible' based on the methodology outlined in section 3. Given the quantitative nature of the assessment and the verification of the air quality dispersion model, the level of accuracy of the assessment results is considered to be 'high'.

## 7.0 MITIGATION

### 7.1 CONSTRUCTION PHASE

The dust risk categories have been determined in Section 5 for each of the four construction activities. The assessment has determined that the potential impact description of dust emissions associated with the construction phase of the proposed development is 'low risk' at the worst affected receptors.

Using the methodology described in Appendix A, appropriate site-specific mitigation measures associated with the determined level of risk can be found in Section 8.2 of the 'IAQM Guidance on the Assessment of Dust from Demolition and Construction'.

The mitigation measures have been divided into general measures applicable to all sites and measures applicable specifically to earthworks, construction and trackout. They are categorised into 'highly recommended' and 'desirable' measures.

The mitigation measures for the proposed development are detailed in **Table 7-1** and **Table 7-2**.

**Table 7-1.** IAQM Guidance on the Assessment of Dust from Demolition and Construction 'Highly Recommended' Mitigation Measures

Communications
Display the name and contact details of person(s) accountable for air quality and dust issues on the site boundary. This may be the environment manager/engineer or the site manager.
Display the head or regional office contact information.
Dust Management
Record all dust and air quality complaints, identify cause(s), take appropriate measures to reduce emissions in a timely manner, and record the measures taken.
Make the complaints log available to the local authority when asked.
Record any exceptional incidents that cause dust and/or air emissions, either on- or offsite, and the action taken to resolve the situation in the log book.
Carry out regular site inspections to monitor compliance with the DMP, record inspection results, and make an inspection log available to the local authority when asked.
Increase the frequency of site inspections by the person accountable for air quality and dust issues on site when activities with a high potential to produce dust are being carried out and during prolonged dry or windy conditions.
Plan site layout so that machinery and dust causing activities are located away from receptors, as far as is possible.
Erect solid screens or barriers around dusty activities or the site boundary that are at least as high as any stockpiles on site.
Avoid site runoff of water or mud.
Ensure all vehicles switch off engines when stationary - no idling vehicles.
Avoid the use of diesel or petrol powered generators and use mains electricity or battery powered equipment where practicable.
Only use cutting, grinding or sawing equipment fitted or in conjunction with suitable dust suppression techniques such as water sprays or local extraction, e.g. suitable local exhaust ventilation systems.
Ensure an adequate water supply on the site for effective dust/particulate matter suppression/mitigation, using non-potable water where possible and appropriate.
Use enclosed chutes and conveyors and covered skips.
Minimise drop heights from conveyors, loading shovels, hoppers and other loading or handling equipment and use fine water sprays on such equipment wherever appropriate.
Avoid bonfires and burning of waste materials.
Earthworks
No Action Required.
Construction
No Action Required.

**Trackout**

No Action Required.

**Table 7-2. IAQM Guidance on the Assessment of Dust from Demolition and Construction ‘Desirable’ Mitigation Measures****Communications**

No Action Required.

**Dust Management**

Develop and implement a Dust Management Plan (DMP), which may include measures to control other emissions, approved by the Local Authority. The level of detail will depend on the risk, and should include as a minimum the highly recommended measures in this document. The desirable measures should be included as appropriate for the site. The DMP may include monitoring of dust deposition, dust flux, real time PM10 continuous monitoring and/or visual inspections.

Undertake daily on-site and off-site inspection, where receptors (including roads) are nearby, to monitor dust, record inspection results, and make the log available to the local authority when asked. This should include regular dust soiling checks of surfaces such as street furniture, cars and window sills within 100m of site boundary, with cleaning to be provided if necessary.

Fully enclose site or specific operations where there is a high potential for dust production and the site is active for an extensive period.

Keep site fencing, barriers and scaffolding clean using wet methods.

Remove materials that have a potential to produce dust from site as soon as possible, unless being re-used on site. If they are being re-used on-site cover as described below.

Cover, seed or fence stockpiles to prevent wind whipping.

Impose and signpost a maximum-speed-limit of 15 mph on surfaced and 10 mph on un-surfaced haul roads and work areas (if long haul routes are required these speeds may be increased with suitable additional control measures provided, subject to the approval of the nominated undertaker and with the agreement of the local authority, where appropriate).

Ensure equipment is readily available on site to clean any dry spillages, and clean up spillages as soon as reasonably practicable after the event using wet cleaning methods.

**Earthworks**

No Action Required.

**Construction**

Avoid scabbling (roughening of concrete surfaces) if possible.

Ensure sand and other aggregates are stored in bunded areas and are not allowed to dry out, unless this is required for a particular process, in which case ensure that appropriate additional control measures are in place.

**Trackout**

Use water-assisted dust sweeper(s) on the access and local roads, to remove, as necessary, any material tracked out of the site. This may require the sweeper being continuously in use.

Avoid dry sweeping of large areas.

Ensure vehicles entering and leaving sites are covered to prevent escape of materials during transport.

Record all inspections of haul routes and any subsequent action in a site log book.

Implement a wheel washing system (with rumble grids to dislodge accumulated dust and mud prior to leaving the site where reasonably practicable).

Following the implementation of the mitigation measures detailed in the tables above, the impact description of the construction phase is not considered to be significant.

## 8.0 CONCLUSIONS

Tetra Tech have undertaken an Air Quality Assessment to support of a planning application for the construction of a new employment development, known as Unit 7a at Catalyst Bicester, OX25 2BX.

### Construction Phase

Prior to the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures, the potential impact description of dust emissions associated with the construction phase of the proposed development is 'low risk' at the worst affected receptors without mitigation. However, appropriate site-specific mitigation measures have been proposed based on Section 8.2 of the IAQM Guidance on the Assessment of Dust from Demolition, Earthworks, Construction and Trackout. It is anticipated that with these appropriate mitigation measures in place, the risk of adverse effects due to dust emissions from the construction phase will not be significant.

### Operational Assessment

The 2026 assessment of the effect of emissions from traffic associated with the scheme, has determined that the maximum predicted increase in the annual average exposure to NO<sub>2</sub> at any existing receptor is likely to be 2.12 µg/m<sup>3</sup> at Holiday Inn Express, Bicester (R21).

For PM<sub>10</sub>, the maximum predicted increase in the annual average exposure is likely to be 0.66 µg/m<sup>3</sup> at Holiday Inn Express, Bicester (R21). For PM<sub>2.5</sub>, the maximum predicted increase in the annual average exposure is likely to be 0.37 µg/m<sup>3</sup> at Holiday Inn Express, Bicester (R21).

The impact description of the effects of changes in traffic flow as a result of the proposed development, with respect to NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure, is determined to be 'negligible' at all existing receptors.

Given the quantitative nature of the assessment and the verification of the air quality dispersion model, the level of accuracy of the assessment results is considered to be 'high'.

In conclusion, the development is not considered to be contrary to any of the national and local planning policies regarding air quality.

## APPENDIX A - FIGURES

**Legend**

- ADMS Road Source
- Diffusion Tube Location
- Existing Receptor Location
- Indicative Site Boundary
- AQMA Boundary

Map details include: Bicester, King's End, Bicester Village, Langford Village, Chesterton, Little Chesterton, and various roads and landmarks. The map is titled '1:15,213' and includes a scale bar from 0 to 900 metres. The map is dated 2014.

## APPENDIX B - CONSTRUCTION PHASE ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

The following information sets out the adopted approach to the construction phase impact assessment in accordance with the aforementioned IAQM guidance<sup>1</sup>.

### Step 1 – Screen the Requirement for a more Detailed Assessment

An assessment is required if there are sensitive receptors within 350m of the site boundary, within 50m of the route(s) used by construction vehicles on the surrounding road network, or within 500m from the site entrance. A detailed assessment is also required if there is an ecological receptor within 50m of the site boundary.

### Step 2A – Define the Potential Dust Emission Magnitude

#### Demolition

The dust emission magnitude for the demolition phase has been determined based on the below criteria:

- *Large:* Total building volume >50 000m<sup>3</sup>, potentially dusty construction (e.g. concrete), on-site crushing and screening, demolition activities >20m above ground level;
- *Medium:* Total building volume 20 000m<sup>3</sup> – 50 000m<sup>3</sup>, potentially dusty construction material, demolition activities 10-20m above ground level; and,
- *Small:* Total building volume <20 000m<sup>3</sup>, construction material with low potential for dust release (e.g. metal cladding or timber), demolition activities <10m above ground, demolition during wetter months.

#### Earthworks

The dust emission magnitude for the planned earthworks has been determined based on the below criteria:

- *Large:* Total site area >10 000m<sup>2</sup>, potentially dusty soil type (e.g. clay, which will be prone to suspension when dry due to small particle size), > 10 heavy earth moving vehicles active at any one time, formation of bunds >8m in height, total material moved >100 000 tonnes;
- *Medium:* Total site area 2 500m<sup>2</sup> – 10 000m<sup>2</sup>, moderately dusty soil type (e.g. silt), 5-10 heavy earth moving vehicles active at any one time, formation of bunds 4m-8m in height, total material moved 20 000 tonnes – 100 000 tonnes; and
- *Small:* Total site area <2 500 m<sup>2</sup>, soil type with large grain size (e.g. sand), <5 heavy earth moving vehicles active at any one time, formation of bunds <4 m in height, total material moved <10 000 tonnes, earthworks during wetter months.

#### Construction

The dust emission magnitude for the construction phase has been determined based on the below criteria:

- *Large:* Total building volume >100 000m<sup>3</sup>, on site concrete batching; sandblasting
- *Medium:* Total building volume 25 000m<sup>3</sup> – 100 000m<sup>3</sup>, potentially dusty construction material (e.g. concrete), on site concrete batching; and,
- *Small:* Total building volume <25 000m<sup>3</sup>, construction material with low potential for dust release (e.g. metal cladding or timber).

#### Trackout

The dust emission magnitude for trackout has been determined based on the below criteria:

- *Large:* >50 HGV (>3.5t) outward movements in any one day, potentially dusty surface material (e.g. high clay content), unpaved road length >100m;
- *Medium:* 10-50 HGV (>3.5t) outward movements in any one day, moderately dusty surface material (e.g. high clay content), unpaved road length 50m – 100m; and,
- *Small:* <10 HGV (>3.5t) outward movements in any one day, surface material with low potential for dust release, unpaved road length <50m.

### Step 2B - Defining the Sensitivity of the Area

#### Sensitivities of People to Dust Soiling Effects

- *High:*
  - \* Users can reasonably expect an enjoyment of a high level of amenity;
  - \* The appearance, aesthetics or value of their property would be diminished by soiling; and the people or property would reasonably expect to be present continuously, or at least regularly for extended periods, as part of the normal pattern of use of the land; and,
  - \* Indicative examples include dwellings, museums and other culturally important collections, medium- and long-term car parks

<sup>1</sup> Institute of Air Quality Management 2014. *Guidance on the Assessment of dust from demolition and construction*.

and car showrooms.

- **Medium:**
  - \* Users can reasonably expect to enjoy a reasonable level of amenity, but would not reasonably expect to enjoy the same level of amenity as in their home;
  - \* The appearance, aesthetics or value of their property could be diminished by soiling;
  - \* The people or property wouldn't reasonably be expected to be present here continuously or regularly for extended periods as part of the normal pattern of use of the land; and,
  - \* Indicative examples include parks and places of work.
- **Low:**
  - \* The enjoyment of amenity would not reasonably be expected;
  - \* Property would not reasonably be expected to be diminished in appearance, aesthetics or value by soiling;
  - \* There is transient exposure, where the people or property would reasonably be expected to be present only for limited periods of time as part of the normal pattern of use of the land; and,
  - \* Indicative examples include playing fields, farmland (unless commercially sensitive horticultural), footpaths, short term car parks and roads.

The sensitivity of the area should be derived for each of the four activities: demolition, construction, earthworks and trackout, using the following table:

**Table B-1.** Sensitivity of the Area to Dust Soiling Effects on People and Property

Receptor Sensitivity	Number of Receptors	Distance from the Source (m)			
		<20	<50	<100	<350
High	>100	High	High	Medium	Low
	10-100	High	Medium	Low	Low
	1-10	Medium	Low	Low	Low
Medium	>1	Medium	Low	Low	Low
Low	>1	Low	Low	Low	Low

*Note* - The likely routes the construction traffic will use should also be included to enable the presence of trackout receptors to be included in the assessment. As a general guidance, without site-specific mitigation, trackout may occur along the public highway up to 500 m from large sites (as defined in step 2A), 200 m from medium sites and 50 m from small sites, as measured from the site exit.

#### *Sensitivities of People to the Health Effects of PM<sub>10</sub>*

- **High:**
  - \* Locations where members of the public are exposed over a time period relevant to the air quality objective for PM<sub>10</sub> (in the case of the 24-hour objectives, a relevant location would be one where individuals may be exposed for eight hours or more in a day);
  - \* Indicative examples include residential properties. Hospitals, schools and residential care homes should also be considered as having equal sensitivity to residential areas for the purposes of this assessment.
- **Medium:**
  - \* Locations where the people exposed are workers, and exposure is over a time period relevant to the air quality objective for PM<sub>10</sub> (in the case of the 24-hour objectives, a relevant location would be one where individuals may be exposed for eight hours or more in a day); and,
  - \* Indicative examples include office and shop workers, but will generally not include workers occupationally exposed to PM<sub>10</sub>, as protection is covered by Health and Safety at Work legislation.
- **Low:**
  - \* Locations where human exposure is transient; and,
  - \* Indicative examples include public footpaths, playing fields, parks and shopping streets.

The sensitivity of the area should be derived for each of the four activities: demolition, construction, earthworks and trackout, using the following table:

**Table B-2.** Sensitivity of the Area to Human Health Impacts

Receptor Sensitivity	Annual Mean PM <sub>10</sub> Concentration	Number of Receptors	Distance from the Source (m)				
			<20	<50	<100	<200	<350
High	>32 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	>100	High	High	High	Medium	Low
		10-100	High	High	Medium	Low	Low
		1-10	High	Medium	Low	Low	Low
	28 - 32 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	>100	High	High	Medium	Low	Low
		10-100	High	Medium	Low	Low	Low
		1-10	High	Medium	Low	Low	Low
	24 – 28 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	>100	High	Medium	Low	Low	Low
		10-100	High	Medium	Low	Low	Low
		1-10	Medium	Low	Low	Low	Low
	<24 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	>100	Medium	Low	Low	Low	Low
		10-100	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
		1-10	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Medium	-	>10	High	Medium	Low	Low	Low
	-	1-10	Medium	Low	Low	Low	Low
Low	-	>1	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low

*Note* - The likely routes the construction traffic will use should also be included to enable the presence of trackout receptors to be included in the assessment. As a general guidance, without site-specific mitigation, trackout may occur along the public highway up to 500 m from large sites (as defined in step 2A), 200 m from medium sites and 50 m from small sites, as measured from the site exit.

#### *Sensitivities of Receptors to Ecological Effects*

- *High:*
  - \* Locations with an international or national designation and the designated features may be affected by dust soiling;
  - \* Locations where there is a community of a particularly dust sensitive species such as vascular species included in the Red Data List for Great Britain; and,
  - \* Indicative examples include a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) designated for acid heathlands or a local site designated for lichens adjacent to the demolition of a large site containing concrete (alkali) buildings.
- *Medium:*
  - \* Locations where there is a particularly important plant species, where its dust sensitivity is uncertain or unknown;
  - \* Locations with a national designation where the features may be affected by dust deposition; and,
  - \* Indicative example is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) with dust sensitive features.
- *Low:*
  - \* Locations with a local designation where the features may be affected by dust deposition; and,
  - \* Indicative example is a local Nature Reserve with dust sensitive features.

The sensitivity of the area should be derived for each of the four activities: demolition, construction, earthworks and trackout, using the following table:

**Table B-3.** Sensitivity of the Area to Ecological Impacts

Receptor Sensitivity	Distance from Source (m)	
	<20	<50
High	High	Medium
Medium	Medium	Low
Low	Low	Low

*Note* - The likely routes the construction traffic will use should also be included to enable the presence of trackout receptors to be included in the assessment. As a general guidance, without site-specific mitigation, trackout may occur along the public highway up to 500 m from large sites (as defined in step 2A), 200 m from medium sites and 50 m from small sites, as measured from the site exit.

#### **Step 2C - Defining the Risk of Impacts**

The risk of impacts with no mitigation is determined by combining the dust emission magnitude determined in Step 2A and the sensitivity of the area determined in Step 2B.

The following tables provide a method of assigning the level of risk for each activity.

*Demolition***Table B-4.** Risk of Dust Impacts, Demolition

Sensitivity of Area	Dust Emission Magnitude		
	Large	Medium	Small
High	High Risk	Medium Risk	Medium Risk
Medium	High Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Low	Medium Risk	Low Risk	Negligible

*Earthworks***Table B-5.** Risk of Dust Impacts, Earthworks

Sensitivity of Area	Dust Emission Magnitude		
	Large	Medium	Small
High	High Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Medium	Medium Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Low	Low Risk	Low Risk	Negligible

*Construction***Table B-6.** Risk of Dust Impacts, Construction

Sensitivity of Area	Dust Emission Magnitude		
	Large	Medium	Small
High	High Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Medium	Medium Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Low	Low Risk	Low Risk	Negligible

*Trackout***Table B-7.** Risk of Dust Impacts, Trackout

Sensitivity of Area	Dust Emission Magnitude		
	Large	Medium	Small
High	High Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Medium	Medium Risk	Low Risk	Negligible
Low	Low Risk	Low Risk	Negligible

**Step 3 – Site Specific Mitigation**

The dust risk categories for each of the four activities determined in Step 2C should be used to define the appropriate, site-specific mitigation measures to be adopted.

These mitigation measures are contained within section 8.2 of the IAQM Guidance on the Assessment of Dust from Demolition and Construction.

## APPENDIX C - REPORT TERMS & CONDITIONS

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