

Title of meeting:	Cabinet Member for Traffic and Transportation Decision Meeting
Date of meeting:	16 March 2017
Subject:	Air Quality Strategy
Report by:	Alan Cufley, Director of Transport, Environment and Business Support
Wards affected:	All
Key decision:	No
Full Council decision:	No

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval to formally consult on the draft Air Quality Strategy as attached in:
Appendix A: Draft Air Quality Strategy 2017 - 2027

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That approval is given to consult on the draft Air Quality Strategy.**

3. Background

- 3.1 Clean air is essential for a good quality of life and good health. Harmful levels of pollutants in the air have an adverse effect on people's health, and the council is committed to improving air quality across the city. Improvements in air quality will bring significant and lasting benefits to current and future generations, with positive effects on economic development, public health and wellbeing, making Portsmouth a more attractive place to live, work and visit.
- 3.2 With only three roads linking Portsea Island to the mainland, and the city's unique geography, population density and visitor numbers, there is significant potential for traffic congestion, particularly at peak times. One of the key sources of air pollution in Portsmouth comes from transport, particularly road traffic.
- 3.3 The Air Quality Strategy details various approaches and actions which are intended to be taken to improve local air quality. Partnership working is very much at the heart of this strategy and working collaboratively both across the council and with external partners will be necessary in order to bring out meaningful improvements.
- 3.4 The Air Quality Strategy will drive improvements towards a healthier city for all, and ensure the continued effective management of air quality in the city.

4. Reasons for recommendations

- 4.1 To obtain approval to formally consult on the Portsmouth City Council Air Quality Strategy.

5. Equality Impact Assessment

5.1 A full equality impact assessment is not required as the recommendations do not have a disproportional negative impact on any of the specific protected characteristic as described in the Equality Act 2010. A preliminary equality impact assessment has been carried out for the Air Quality Strategy and this indicates that:

- The Air Quality Strategy has been developed to improve air quality across the city for the benefit of all, including those who live, work and visit the city, regardless of their equality group.
- The improvements to air quality that come out of this strategy will bring about significant and lasting benefits, with positive effects on public health and wellbeing for all.
- The strategy is not intended to discriminate against anyone and the various approaches and actions suggested within it are not considered to have any negative impacts on any protected characteristic.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 Section 1. of the Localism Act 2011 permits a Council to do anything in the discharge to its functions provided not otherwise restricted by existing legislation. This includes implementing policy designed to improve and deliver environmental protections and air quality measures in order to meet the requirements of the European Union Air Quality Directive.
- 6.2 The Environment Act 1995 also put a duty on the Council to constantly review and assess the air quality within its boundaries. In order not to exceed the European and national air quality standard, it is necessary to draw up and implement Air Quality Strategy to improve air quality across the city.

7. Director of Finance's comments

- 7.1 This recommendation has no financial implications.

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Signed by:
Alan Cufley
Director of Transport, Environment and Business Support

Appendices:
Appendix A - Air Quality Strategy (draft)

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location
Preliminary Equality Impact Assessment	Transport Planning Team, Corporate Communications Team and Equalities Unit.

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

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Signed by:
Councillor Jim Fleming
Cabinet Member for Traffic and Transportation

(End of report)