

Sevenoaks District Council **Summary of our proposed Air Quality Action Plan**

December 2021



Air Quality Action Plan

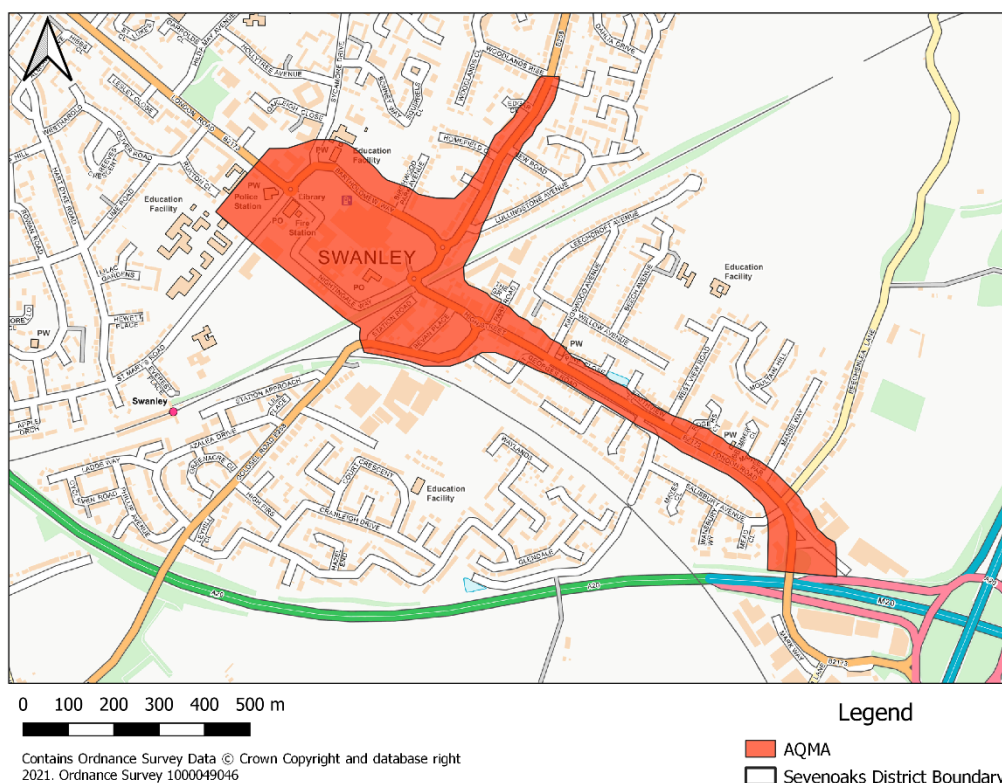
February 2022

Air pollution has got better in recent years and we want to build on these improvements. We have drafted a new Air Quality Action Plan, which outlines actions we intend to deliver between 2022 and 2027 to reduce air pollution and exposure to air pollution.

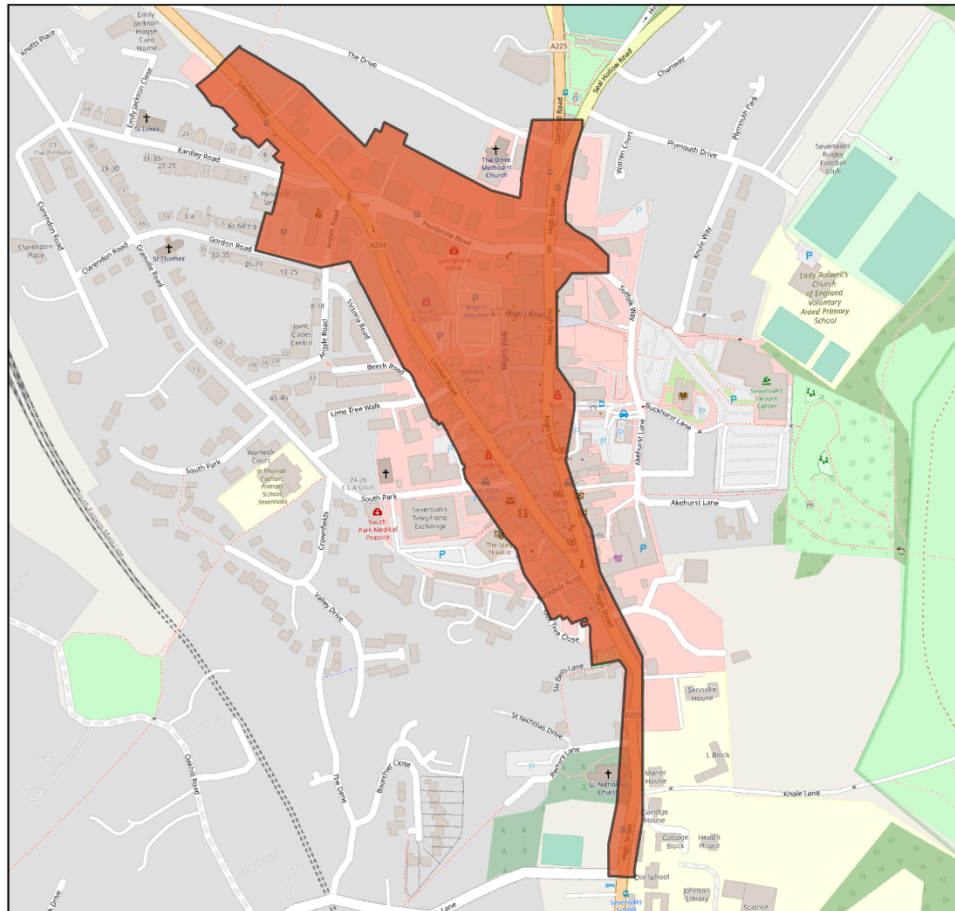
The main causes of poor air quality in our District are emissions from combustion engines (particularly diesel vehicles) and from residents' homes.

Our new plan seeks to reduce emissions from these sources to improve air quality across the entire District. We will also focus on measures on improving air quality within four Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) where air quality currently fails to meet National Objective Levels. These are:

- AQMA No.8 (Swanley Town Centre) - An area covering Swanley Town Centre, the High Street and London Road. Declared for exceeding the NO₂ annual mean objective.



- AQMA No.10 (Sevenoaks High Street) - An area covering Sevenoaks High Street and London Road. Declared for exceeding the NO2 annual mean objective;

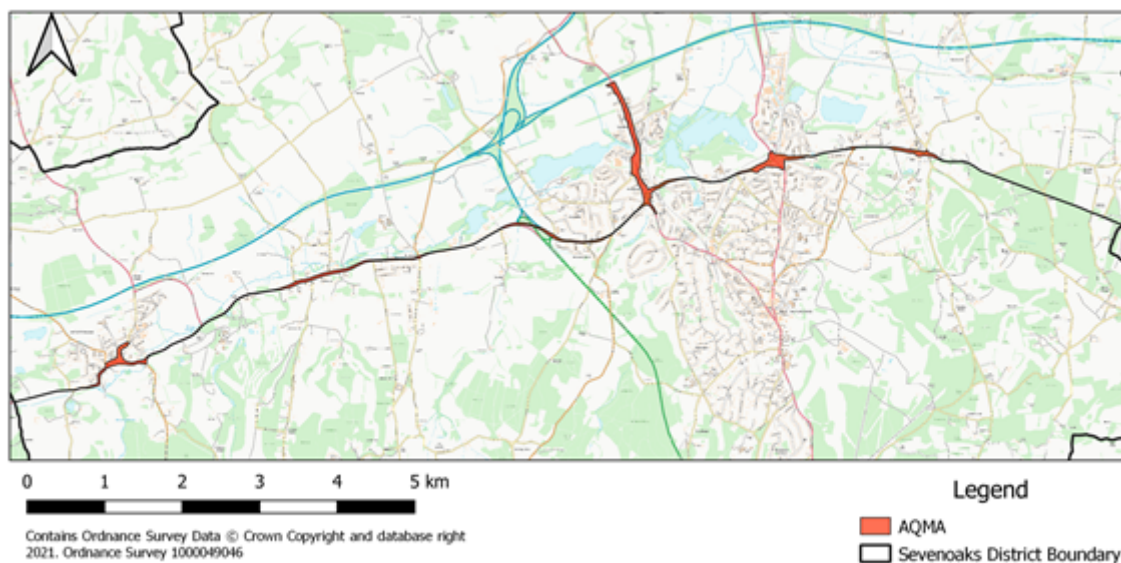


0 100 200 300 400 500 m

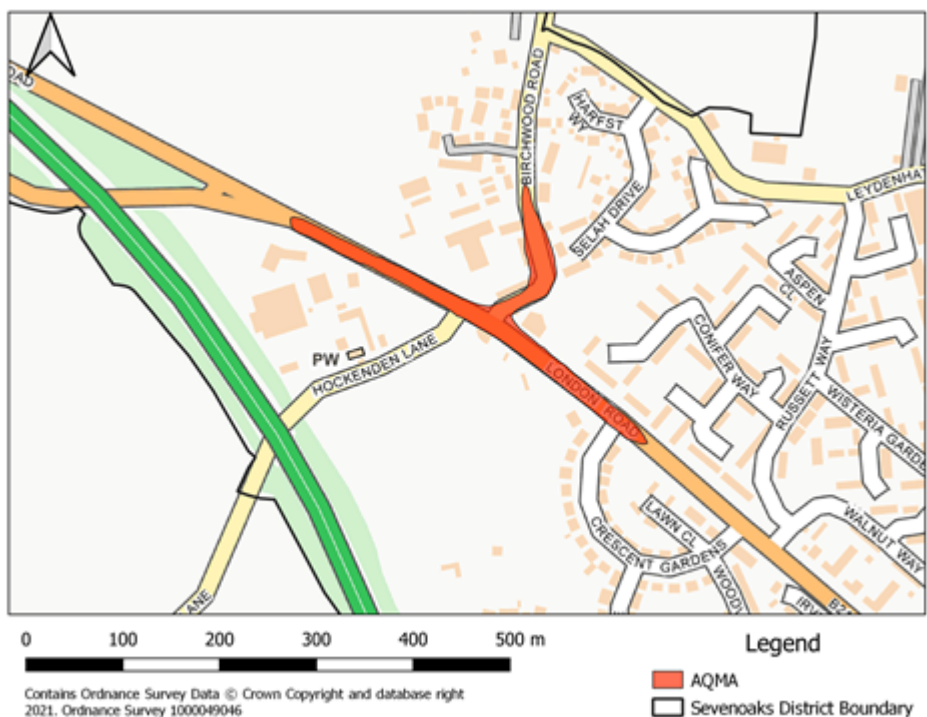
Legend

- AQMA
- Sevenoaks District Boundary

- AQMA No.13 (A25) - The entire length of the A25 from the border with Tonbridge and Malling in the east to the border with Tandridge on the west. Declared for exceeding the NO2 annual mean objective;



- AQMA No.14 (Junction of Birchwood and London Roads, Swanley). Declared for exceeding the NO2 annual mean objective.



We have identified a number of priorities to help us achieve our aims.

- **Promoting public health and wellbeing** – providing information of the impacts associated with poor air quality alongside information and guidance to residents on how they can help bring about improvements to air quality.
- **Reducing the need to travel** – supporting sustainable initiatives that support the local economy, services and facilities.
- **Active travel, public transport and low emission vehicles** – encouraging the uptake of alternatives to the car through improving cycling and walking opportunities, supporting public transport, car clubs and travel plans, encouraging the uptake of electric vehicles, improving the electric vehicle charging infrastructure and other initiatives.
- **Public information and behavioural change** – providing information on the causes and implications of poor air quality. Encouraging changing travel patterns and lower emission alternatives for domestic heating.
- **Local planning policy and development management** – ensuring new development does not add to existing poor air quality. The Local Plan will also support active travel, sustainable transport and electric vehicle charging infrastructure.
- **Sevenoaks District Council's vehicles** – we will look at our own vehicle fleet and operations to reduce harmful emissions and increase efficiency.
- **Transport planning and traffic management** – we will work with partners to improve traffic and transport issues as well as seeking opportunities for alternatives and improvement.

The tables below outlines the measure we intend to implement in order to achieve these priorities:

Measure no.	Measure	Category	Classification	Planning Phase	Implementation Phase	Key Performance Indicator
1	Local Plan policy and guidance	Policy Guidance and Development Control	Air Quality Planning and Policy Guidance	2021	Local Plan progress – Local Development Scheme	Implementation of policy
2	Junction improvements at Bat & Ball and the A224/A25 in Riverhead	Traffic Management	Urban Traffic Control Congestion management Traffic reduction	2021	Local Plan	Reduction in NO ₂ concentrations
3	Road improvements along the A225 in Sevenoaks High Street, A25 in Seal, and the A25 in Brasted	Traffic Management	Urban Traffic Control Congestion management, Traffic reduction	2021		Reduction in NO ₂ concentrations
4	Bike rental schemes	Transport Planning and Infrastructure	Public cycle hire scheme	2021		Number of bikes available and rentals
5	Promotion of active travel schemes	Promoting Travel Alternatives	Promotion of cycling	2021		Number of promotion events
6	Development of new walking and cycle routes	Transport Planning and Infrastructure	Cycle network	2021		Completion of cycle routes
7	District wide promotion of active travel	Promoting Travel Alternatives	Intensive active travel campaign & infrastructure	2021		Number of promotion events

Measure no.	Measure	Category	Classification	Planning Phase	Implementation Phase	Key Performance Indicator
8	Behavioural change campaigns to reduce single use occupancy car journeys	Public Information	Other	2021		Number of campaigns
9	Reducing vehicle idling	Traffic Management	Anti-idling enforcement	2021		Reduction in NO ₂ concentrations
10	Educational campaigns for schools	Public Information	Other	2021		Number of campaigns
11	Collaboration with bus operators to introduce ultra-low emission vehicles into the fleets	Vehicle Fleet Efficiency	Promoting Low Emission Public Transport	2021		Fleet composition
12	Transitioning the Council's fleet to low emission vehicles	Promoting Low Emission Transport	Company Vehicle Procurement -Prioritising uptake of low emission vehicles	2021		Fleet composition
13	Improving and developing the EV infrastructure within the district	Promoting Low Emission Transport	Procuring alternative Refuelling infrastructure to promote Low Emission Vehicles, EV recharging, Gas fuel recharging	2021		Number of EV charging points
14	Installing EV charging points within all Council owned carparks	Promoting Low Emission Transport	Procuring alternative Refuelling infrastructure to promote Low Emission Vehicles, EV recharging, Gas fuel recharging	2021		Number of EV charging points

Measure no.	Measure	Category	Classification	Planning Phase	Implementation Phase	Key Performance Indicator
15	Improving public transport infrastructure	Transport Planning and Infrastructure	Public transport improvements-interchanges stations and services	2021		Public transport usage
16	Promote the use of public transport	Promoting Travel Alternatives	Promote use of rail and inland waterways	2021		Number of promotional events
17	On and off-street parking charges linked to vehicle emissions standards	Promoting Low Emission Transport	Priority parking for Low Emissions Vehicles	2021		Number of discounted permits
18	Car Club / Sharing schemes	Alternatives to private vehicle use	Car Clubs	2021		Number of car sharing individuals
19	Exploring flexible working and home working	Promoting Travel Alternatives	Facilitate flexible and home-working	2021		Levels of home working
20	Walking to school incentives/ encouragement	Promoting Travel Alternatives	School Travel Plans	2021		Reduction in school vehicle drop-offs / pick-ups
21	Complete a detailed modelling assessment of the Swanley Area to quantify the local air quality	Traffic Management	Other	2021/2022	2022	Completion of the report
22	Hire an Air Quality Promotions Officer	Public Information	Other	2021	2022	Vacancy fulfilled

To find out more,
please contact us:

t 01732 227000

e air.quality@sevenoaks.gov.uk

w sevenoaks.gov.uk/airquality

Sevenoaks District Council, Council Offices,
Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1HG

Visit our Sevenoaks offices:

Monday to Thursday, 8.45am to 5pm

Friday 8.45am to 4.45pm

**This publication is available in large print
and can be explained in other languages
by calling 01732 227000**



sdc_newsdesk



Sevenoaks District Council Official



[sevenoaksdistrictcouncil](https://www.instagram.com/sevenoaksdistrictcouncil)
