



## Have your say on our draft Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) for Buckinghamshire

**Open date:** Monday 22 July 2024

**Close date:** Monday 30 September 2024

**Name:** Strategic Environmental Protection Team

**Email:** [environmentalhealth@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:environmentalhealth@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)

### Overview

#### We want your views on our draft Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) for Buckinghamshire.

We have a legal responsibility as a council to monitor and report on air quality in our region. In areas where the objectives are not met, Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) are declared to improve air quality.

There are currently nine Air Quality Management Areas in Buckinghamshire.

Where AQMAs are declared, we have to produce an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP). The aim of this is to reduce concentrations within those AQMAs to below the government's objectives.

The nine AQMAs are:

AQMA	Description
Friarage Road AQMA	An area encompassing several properties along the A418 (Friarage Road and Oxford Road) in Aylesbury
Stoke Road AQMA	An area encompassing the junction of the A413 Wendover Road, Walton St and the B4443 Stoke Road in Aylesbury
Tring Road AQMA	An area encompassing a stretch of the A41 Tring Road and properties bordering it between the Oakfield Road/King Edward Avenue junction and Queen Street in Aylesbury
Chesham AQMA	A small part of the A416 including Broad Street and Berkhamstead Road

<b>AQMA</b>	<b>Description</b>
South Bucks AQMA	An area surrounding the M25, M40 and M4 motorways
South Bucks District Council AQMA No 2	Iver Parish
AQMA No.1 (M40)	Along the M40 Motorway throughout District. Area includes land and property to each side of the carriageway that were modelled to have exceeded national air quality objectives for NO <sub>2</sub> (annual mean).
AQMA No.2 (High Wycombe)	Main arterial roads of High Wycombe including West Wycombe Rd, Oxford St, Hughenden Rd, Abbey Way, Marlow Hill, Bridge St, Crendon St, Queen Victoria Rd, Easton St, London Rd and Amersham Hill (part of). Area also includes properties to the side of these roads where exceedances were modelled to include an area that passed through a significant part of a building or plot of land.
AQMA No.3 (Marlow)	Area incorporates the High Street (between Station Rd / Pound Ln roundabout and West St / Spittal St roundabout), West St (between High St / Spittal St roundabout and Westwood Rd), Spittal St, Chapel St, Little Marlow Rd (between Chapel St and Foxes Piece School), and areas of land to either side of the carriageway on the aforementioned roads.

### **Revoking Air Quality Management Areas**

[Guidance published by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs \(Defra\)](#) states: "There should not be any declared AQMAs for which compliance with the relevant objective has been achieved for a consecutive five-year period." (Paragraph 3.57)

Monitoring data in four of our AQMAs has consistently been below the annual mean objective for nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) for five years or more. Also, predictions of future trends in NO<sub>2</sub> show that the probability of the objectives being exceeded again is highly unlikely. Therefore, we are revoking the following AQMAs:

- **Tring Road AQMA**
- **Chesham AQMA**
- **South Bucks AQMA**
- **AQMA No. 1 (M40)**

Although these AQMAs are being revoked, we will not stop monitoring air pollution in these areas. As part of the measures in our [Climate Change and Air Quality Strategy](#), we will continue to work to improve air quality across Buckinghamshire, even in the absence of an AQMA.

To make sure we are on course to further improve air quality across the Council area, we needed to review and consolidate the AQAPs previously developed by the legacy district councils into a single Plan for Buckinghamshire.

### **Draft Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP)**

Our draft Plan sets out the measures we intend to take to help address areas of poor air quality and to safeguard improvements to air quality in Buckinghamshire. It outlines the action we will take between 2024 and 2030 or until the NO<sub>2</sub> air quality objective is achieved throughout Buckinghamshire.

Air pollution cannot be dealt with by Buckinghamshire Council alone. Each person visiting, living, working, or studying in Buckinghamshire can help to reduce emissions and the risk of exposure to pollutants.

**We want to hear views on our draft Air Quality Action Plan from people living, studying and/or working in Buckinghamshire, and anyone who visits the area.**

### **Related documents and links**

Before you respond to this activity, please have a look at the following documents and links at [yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com](https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com):

- Draft Air Quality Action Plan for Buckinghamshire
- Map of the AQMAs and monitoring sites within Buckinghamshire

### **How to have your say**

You can tell us your views in one of the following ways:

- complete the online survey at [yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com](https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com)
- complete, and return, a printed version of the survey below

If you have any questions about this activity, please email us at [environmentalhealth@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:environmentalhealth@buckinghamshire.gov.uk).

**Please tell us your views by 11:59pm on Monday 30 September 2024.**

## **What happens next**

Consultation feedback will be used to:

- make any necessary amendments to the action plan
- inform stakeholders, including Defra, of public opinion regarding the changes needed to improve local air quality

The Leader of Buckinghamshire Council will make a final decision on the adoption of the AQAP in December 2024.

## **Privacy**

We will use the information you provide here only for this activity. We will store the information securely in line with data protection laws and will not share or publish any personal details. For more information about data and privacy, please see our [Privacy Policy](#).

If you have questions about data and privacy, please email us on [dataprotection@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:dataprotection@buckinghamshire.gov.uk). Or write to our Data Protection Officer at Buckinghamshire Council, The Gateway, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury, HP19 8FF.

# Draft Buckinghamshire Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) – Printed survey

## About the draft Air Quality Action Plan

### 1. Do you agree or disagree with our draft Air Quality Action Plan for Buckinghamshire?

Please tick (✓) one option

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- I don't know

Please tell us the reasons for your answer:

### 2. Before reading the draft Air Quality Action Plan, how concerned were you about air quality in your local area?

Please tick (✓) one option

- Seriously concerned
- Moderately concerned
- Slightly concerned
- Not at all concerned
- I don't know

### 3. After reading the draft Air Quality Action Plan, are you:

Please tick (✓) one option

- More concerned
- Less concerned
- The same
- I don't know

**4. On a scale of 1 to 5, how important do you feel the following broad principles will be in dealing with air quality?**

Where '1' is very important and '5' is not very important.

Please tick (✓) one option per statement

	1	2	3	4	5	I don't know
Transport planning and infrastructure to reduce congestion and improve air quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local Planning policies that consider Air Quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Promoting low emission vehicles and providing infrastructure to support electric vehicle charging	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Providing information to help people make informed travel, health and lifestyle choices	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Better access to public transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facilitating active travel such as walking and cycling in the county	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Addressing pollution around schools, hospitals and care homes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education on the impact of burning solid fuels in the home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**5. Do you think the Air Quality Action Plan will improve air quality in Buckinghamshire?**

Please tick (✓) one option

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

**6. What other measures, that are not in the Plan, do you feel the council should be taking to improve air quality?**

**7. What lifestyle or behaviour changes would you be willing to make to improve air quality?**

Please tick (✓) all that apply

- Replace my current vehicle with an electric vehicle or other ultra-low emission alternatives
- Install an electric charging point at my property if possible
- Walk my child/children to school
- Use a bicycle or walk for local journeys
- Take the bus as much as possible
- Take part in an anti-idling car engine campaign
- Use a car club rather than purchasing/replacing my car
- Only burn dry, well-seasoned wood or smokeless fuel on my stove, open fire or barbeque
- Replace my old boiler with ultra-low emission boilers
- Improve my understanding of air pollution by visiting the Council's website or other relevant websites regularly
- Other (please give details below):

**8. How can Buckinghamshire Council help you to make these changes?**

**9. If you think there is anything we should consider in the Buckinghamshire Air Quality Action Plan relating to equality, diversity and inclusion, please tell us here.**

We ask you not to identify yourself or anyone else within your response.

**About you**

We will use the information you provide here only for the purpose of this activity. We will store the information securely in line with data protection laws and will not share or publish any personal details.

**10. Which of the following describe you?**

Please tick (✓) all that apply

- I live in an Air Quality Management Area in Buckinghamshire
- I work or study in an Air Quality Management Area in Buckinghamshire
- I live in Buckinghamshire
- I work or study in Buckinghamshire
- I represent or own a business in Buckinghamshire
- I represent a community or voluntary group in Buckinghamshire
- I am an elected representative in Buckinghamshire
- I represent a Parish / Town Council or Town Committee in Buckinghamshire
- I work for Buckinghamshire Council
- Other (please give details below):

**11. How did you find out about this consultation?**

Please tick (✓) all that apply

- Local media (newspaper, radio, TV, website or newsfeed)
- Social media (Facebook, Twitter/X, Instagram, Nextdoor or LinkedIn)
- Buckinghamshire Council website or Your Voice Bucks website



- Email or newsletter from Buckinghamshire Council
- Buckinghamshire Council staff or other professionals
- Through working at Buckinghamshire Council
- Poster or leaflet
- Friend or family member
- Local community or special interest group
- Councillor, town/parish council or community board
- Other (please give details below):

**12. Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation (e.g. a business or a voluntary group)?**

Please tick (✓) one option

- As an individual (go to question 14)
- On behalf of an organisation

**On behalf of an organisation**

**13. Please provide the following details:**

Name of organisation:

Your job title:

**End of survey if responding on behalf of an organisation**

**More about you**

We want to hear from as many people as possible to understand the views and needs across Buckinghamshire. The following questions help us see if the communities we serve have had the opportunity to be heard through this activity.

All questions are optional. You can skip any questions you do not wish to answer.

**14. What is your postcode?**

We want to understand the views of people living in different areas. You don't have to provide your postcode, but it helps us plan and make considered decisions. If you live and work in Buckinghamshire, please provide both post codes.

**15. What is your age?**

**Why we ask this:** We want to understand the experiences and views of different age groups.

Please tick (✓) one option

- Under 16
- 16 to 24
- 25 to 34
- 35 to 44
- 45 to 54
- 55 to 64
- 65 to 74
- 75 to 84
- Over 85
- Prefer not to say

**16. Do you consider yourself to have a disability / disabilities, impairment(s) or long term health condition(s)?**

**Why we ask this:** We want to understand the experiences and views of disabled people, people with impairments and people with long term health conditions.

Please tick (✓) all that apply

- Disability / disabilities
- Impairment(s)
- Long term health condition(s)
- No
- Prefer not to say

**17. Are you:**

**Why we ask this:** We want to understand the experiences and views of different sexes.

Please tick (✓) one option

- Female
- Male
- Prefer not to say

**18. How would you describe your ethnicity?**

**Why we ask this:** We want to understand the experiences and views of different ethnicities.

Please tick (✓) one option

- Asian - British
- Asian - Bangladeshi
- Asian - Chinese
- Asian - Indian
- Asian - Pakistani
- Any other Asian background - Please give details below
- Black - African
- Black - British
- Black - Caribbean
- Any other Black, African or Caribbean background - Please give details below
- Mixed or multiple ethnic groups - White and Asian
- Mixed or multiple ethnic groups - White and Black African
- Mixed or multiple ethnic groups - White and Black British
- Mixed or multiple ethnic groups - White and Black Caribbean
- Mixed or multiple ethnic groups - Mixed or Multiple Ethnic backgrounds British
- Any other Mixed or Multiple ethnic background - Please give details below
- White - English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British
- White - Irish
- White - Gypsy or English traveller

- White - Irish Traveller
- White - European
- Any other White background - Please give details below
- Other ethnic group - Arab
- Other ethnic group - Arab British
- Other ethnic group - Please give details below
- Prefer not to say

Please give other details here:

### **End of the survey**

**Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.**

Please return your completed survey by 11:59pm on Monday 30 September 2024. You can:

- email it to [environmentalhealth@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:environmentalhealth@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)
- post it to Air Quality Action Plan consultation, Environmental Health, Buckinghamshire Council, Walton Street Offices, Walton Street, Aylesbury, HP20 1UA