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| Licensing and Regulatory Committee | Thursday, 06 March 2025 | Matter for Information and Decision |
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Report Title: **Air Quality Strategy (2025-2029)**

Report Author(s): **Jon Wells (Senior Strategic Development Manager)**

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| Purpose of Report: | To approve the Council's first ever Air Quality Strategy. |
| Report Summary: | The Council is required by Defra to produce an Air Quality Strategy. This strategy covers the whole borough and outlines our collective approach to improving air quality in Oadby and Wigston. It highlights the work we are already doing and focusses on key actions we need to collectively take to drive further improvements. The strategy focuses on improving outdoor air quality but also considers the quality of air indoors within people's homes, workplaces and schools. |
| Recommendation(s): | That the Air Quality Strategy (2025-2029) (provided at Appendix 1) is considered and recommended to the Policy, Finance and Development Committee for approval. |
| Senior Leadership, Head of Service, Manager, Officer and Other Contact(s): | David Gill (Head of Law and Democracy / Monitoring Officer) (0116) 257 2626 david.gill@oadby-wigston.gov.uk Jon Wells (Senior Strategic Development Manager) (0116) 257 2692 jon.wells@oadby-wigston.gov.uk |
| Strategic Objectives: | Our Council (SO1) Our Communities (SO2) Our Environment (SO4) Our Partners (SO5) |
| Vision and Values: | Proud of Everything We Do (V2) Collaborative & Creative (V3) Customer & Community Focused (V1) |
| Report Implications:- | |
| Legal: | There are no implications directly arising from this report. |
| Financial: | There are no implications directly arising from this report. |
| Corporate Risk Management: | Regulatory Governance (CR6) |
| Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA): | There are no implications arising from this report. |
| Human Rights: | There are no implications arising from this report. |
| Health and Safety: | There are no implications arising from this report. |

| Statutory Officers' Comments:- | |
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| Head of Paid Service: | The report is satisfactory. |
| Chief Finance Officer: | The report is satisfactory. |
| Monitoring Officer: | The report is satisfactory. |
| Consultees: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public consultation November 2024 • Consultation with key partners including Leicestershire Air Quality and Health Partnership Group, Highways and Public Health at Leicestershire County Council, NHS Children and Young People Services, East Leicestershire and Rutland CCG, Planning Department, and Climate Change Officer. |
| Background Papers: | None. |
| Appendices: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Air Quality Strategy (2025-2029) 2. Air Quality Strategy Consultation Report |

1. Background

- 1.1 Following changes in national policy the Council is now required to produce an Air Quality Strategy for the borough.
- 1.2 Oadby and Wigston Borough Council Air Quality Strategy (2025-2029) (AQS) provided at **Appendix 1** aims to improve air quality, raise the profile and importance of air quality, sets out our six aims, what we have done so far and our key priorities going forward. It also provides information on who we will be working with, how we will monitor and review our progress. The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) have made it clear that local government play an important role and have many of the powers and local insight to tackle issues that cause pollution locally.
- 1.3 The AQS sets out the following six aims:
- Reduce emissions from transport
 - Improve the health of children and young people
 - Raise awareness and influence change
 - Decrease exposure to air pollutants
 - Consider the impact of development on air quality
 - Ensure compliance with legislation
- 1.4 In Section 3 of the AQS future actions are detailed, those we can take and those we will need to work closely with others on.
- 1.5 The aims are all informed following feedback through the consultation process and from partners. Progress will be reported annually through our Annual Status Report (ASR) which is submitted to Defra for appraisal and approval.