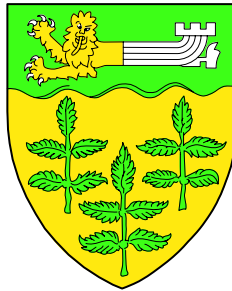


UPDATE TO REPORT FOR ANNUAL PROGRESS FOR
AIR QUALITY
May 2005



ASHFORD
BOROUGH COUNCIL

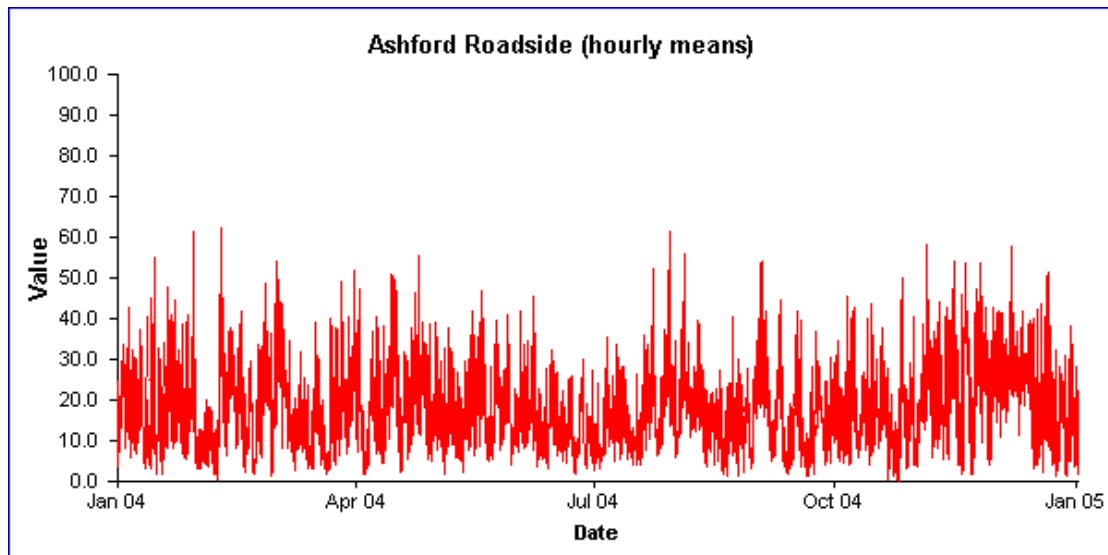
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1.0 INTRODUCTION:

The draft progress report issued to DEFRA in April 2005 excluded data relating to Ashford Roadside NO₂ continuous monitoring station due to the investigation by ERG of the contamination of the calibration gas bottle.

The data for NO₂ has now been ratified and the aim of this briefing note is to report the data obtained from this monitoring site.

- 2.0 Data capture for the Ashford roadside (AZ2) was 98% for 2004-2005. The annual mean was calculated using the Kent and Medway Partnership site www.kentair.org.uk, and this was 35ug/m-3 for 2004-2005, well within the AQO. In comparison last years annual mean for 2003-2004 was 36ug/m-3, so there has been a very slight reduction in the annual mean. A graph of the results for 2004-2005 is shown below.



Standard is no more than 18 occurrences of hourly mean >200ug/m-3.

- 2.1 In light of the result for NO₂ being well within the AQO, and despite there being inconclusive data from the diffusion tube survey due to the error introduced when there was a change of supplier, no further action is proposed at this stage with respect to Nitrogen Dioxide.
- 2.2 Two benzene diffusion tubes have been located in the area of Simone Weil Avenue as the diffusion tube results for the first three months have indicated levels of Nitrogen Dioxide close or exceeding the AQO. Benzene is not monitored anywhere currently within the District, therefore this will provide a useful baseline to review future monitoring needs.