



**2015 Air Quality  
Updating and Screening  
Assessment:  
Ashford Borough Council**

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April 2015



Experts in air quality  
management & assessment

**Document Control**

<b>Client</b>	Ashford Borough Council	<b>Principal Contact</b>	Tracey Butler
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<b>Report Prepared By:</b>	Dr Clare Beattie and Paul Outen
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**Air Quality Consultants Ltd**  
**23 Coldharbour Road, Bristol BS6 7JT Tel: 0117 974 1086**  
**12 Airedale Road, London SW12 8SF Tel: 0208 673 4313**  
**[aqc@aqconsultants.co.uk](mailto:aqc@aqconsultants.co.uk)**

Registered Office: 12 St Oswalds Road, Bristol, BS6 7HT  
Companies House Registration No: 2814570

## Executive Summary

This report fulfils the requirements of the Local Air Quality Management process as set out in Part IV of the Environment Act (1995), the Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland 2007 and the relevant Policy and Technical Guidance documents.

This document is Ashford Borough Council's 2015 Updating and Screening Assessment. Results from monitoring by the Council are presented and sources of air pollution are identified. The Updating and Screening Assessment determines those changes since the last assessment, which could lead to the risk of an air quality objective being exceeded.

This Updating and Screening Assessment confirms that air quality within Ashford continues to meet the relevant air quality objectives. There is no requirement to proceed to a Detailed Assessment for any pollutant.

The Updating and Screening Assessment has not identified any significant changes in emissions sources within the Ashford district area. There have been no new relevant industrial installations and no new significant commercial, domestic or fugitive sources of emissions.

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1. Description of Local Authority Area

Ashford is the largest borough in Kent, with a fast-growing population. In 2003, Ashford was identified as one of the Growth Areas in the government's Sustainable Communities Plan with a £2.5 billion investment programme underway to provide 31,000 new homes and 28,000 new jobs by 2031. Although the urban area of Ashford is expanding, much of the borough is rural in character, including protected areas such as the North Downs and the High Weald.

The main source of air pollution in the borough is road traffic emissions from major roads, notably the M20, A20, A28 and A292. Other pollution sources, including commercial, industrial and domestic sources, also make a contribution to background pollution concentrations.

## 1.2. Purpose of Report

This report fulfils the requirements of the Local Air Quality Management process as set out in Part IV of the Environment Act (1995), the Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland 2007 and the relevant Policy and Technical Guidance documents. The LAQM process places an obligation on all local authorities to regularly review and assess air quality in their areas, and to determine whether or not the air quality objectives are likely to be achieved. Where exceedences are considered likely, the local authority must then declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and prepare an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) setting out the measures it intends to put in place in pursuit of the objectives.

The objective of this Updating and Screening Assessment is to identify any matters that have changed which may lead to risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. A checklist approach and screening tools are used to identify significant new sources or changes and whether there is a need for a Detailed Assessment. The Updating and Screening Assessment report should provide an update of any outstanding information requested previously in Review and Assessment reports.

## 1.3. Air Quality Objectives

The air quality objectives applicable to LAQM in England are set out in the Air Quality (England) Regulations 2000 (SI 928), and Air Quality (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2002 (SI 3043), and are summarised in Table 1.1. This table shows the objectives in units of micrograms per cubic metre  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  (milligrams per cubic metre,  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$  for carbon monoxide) with the number of exceedences in each year that are permitted (where applicable).

**Table 1.1: Air Quality Objectives included in Regulations for the purpose of LAQM in England**

Pollutant	Air Quality Objective		Date to be achieved by
	Concentration	Measured as	
Benzene	16.25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Running annual mean	31.12.2003
	5.00 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Running annual mean	31.12.2010
1,3-Butadiene	2.25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Running annual mean	31.12.2003
Carbon monoxide	10.0 $\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$	Running 8-hour mean	31.12.2003
Lead	0.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Annual mean	31.12.2004
	0.25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Annual mean	31.12.2008
Nitrogen dioxide	200 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	1-hour mean	31.12.2005
	40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Annual mean	31.12.2005
Particles ( $\text{PM}_{10}$ ) (gravimetric)	50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	24-hour mean	31.12.2004
	40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Annual mean	31.12.2004
Sulphur dioxide	350 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , not to be exceeded more than 24 times a year	1-hour mean	31.12.2004
	125 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , not to be exceeded more than 3 times a year	24-hour mean	31.12.2004
	266 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	15-minute mean	31.12.2005

#### 1.4. Summary of Previous Review and Assessments

Between 1998 and 2001, Ashford Borough Council undertook its first round of review and assessment of air quality. The first round assessments (Stages 1, 2 and 3) concluded that it was not necessary to declare any Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) for any pollutant.

The first phase of the second round of review and assessment, the Updating and Screening Assessment, was completed in May 2003, and this provided an update with respect to air quality issues within the borough since the previous round. The Updating and Screening Assessment concluded that a Detailed Assessment was required for particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) due to road traffic emissions from the M20, between Junctions 9 & 10. A Detailed Assessment was carried out in April 2004 and concluded that the objectives would be met at relevant receptors near the M20, and no AQMA declaration was required.

The third round of review and assessment, undertaken between 2006 and 2008, concluded that all prescribed objectives would be met and no Detailed Assessment was required. Therefore, no AQMA was declared.

The first phase of the fourth round of review and assessment (2009 Updating and Screening Assessment) concluded that the air quality objectives for benzene, 1, 3-butadiene, carbon monoxide, lead, PM<sub>10</sub> and sulphur dioxide would be met. However, the Updating and Screening Assessment identified likely exceedences of the annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> objective in 2008 as follows:

- At one location in Lees Road, near the M20 junction 10 (identified through passive diffusion tube monitoring);
- At a kerbside location on Canterbury Road (identified through passive diffusion tube monitoring), where there was no relevant exposure. This site was re-located in 2008 to a relevant receptor location in Gore Court;
- On the basis of DMRB modelling, annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations were predicted to be above 36 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (but met the objective of 40µg/m<sup>3</sup>) at three locations, such as to warrant further investigation. These locations were junctions of the A292 Somerset Road with North Street, Wellesley Road and New Street.

At the time of the Updating and Screening Assessment, proposals by the Highway Agency to build a new junction 10A on the M20 (as the capacity of junction 10 is insufficient to enable further major development in the southeast part of Ashford) had not been finalised<sup>1</sup>. Also, proposals to address 'Operation Stack' (when Kent Police use the M20 for parking HGVs when there is a problem at the Port of Dover) were unclear. Therefore, Ashford Borough Council did not consider it prudent to proceed to a Detailed Assessment on the basis of the

<sup>1</sup> The M20 Junction 10A scheme consultation has been delayed until June 2015 due to the Purdah period of the General Election. Consultation on plans is likely to run to 28<sup>th</sup> August 2015. The Highways Agency became Highways England in April 2015.



marginal NO<sub>2</sub> annual mean exceedence in Lees Road, but instead established a continuous NO<sub>2</sub> analyser in the locality.

In addition, since the 2009 Updating and Screening Assessment, Ashford Borough Council has undertaken monitoring of NO<sub>2</sub> using passive diffusion tubes at relevant locations at junctions along the A292 Ashford Circular Road where DMRB model predictions in 2008 were above 36µg/m<sup>3</sup>.

The 2010 Progress Report concluded there were no exceedences of the annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> objective, identified through 6 months real time monitoring, near junction 10 of the M20 at the location relevant of public exposure. Also, diffusion tube monitoring indicated the objectives were likely to be met at the junctions along the A292 Ashford Circular Road system. Thus, there was no need for any Detailed Assessments at that time.

The 2011 Progress Report included 12 months of real time monitoring at the site near Junction 10 of the M20 and concluded that all prescribed objectives would be met at that location and elsewhere, and that there was no requirement to undertake a Detailed Assessment. Passive monitoring is continuing in the vicinity of Junction 10 of the M20.

The 2012 Updating and Screening Assessment did not identify any exceedences of the annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> objectives at any of the monitoring sites. Also, monitoring at Victoria Way, a new road which opened in 2011, identified that objectives were unlikely to be exceeded at relevant receptors in the vicinity of the new road.

The 2014 Annual Progress Report concluded there were no exceedences of the annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> objective, identified through passive monitoring at 16 sites, and thus there was no need for any Detailed Assessment at that time.

## **2 New Monitoring Data**

### **2.1. Summary of Monitoring Undertaken**

#### **2.1.1. Automatic Monitoring Sites**

The Ashford Background automatic monitoring site measuring NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub> and ozone operated from September 2008 until April 2011. This site was closed as it became unreliable. No other automatic monitoring has been carried out in the borough since.

#### **2.1.2. Non-Automatic Monitoring Sites**

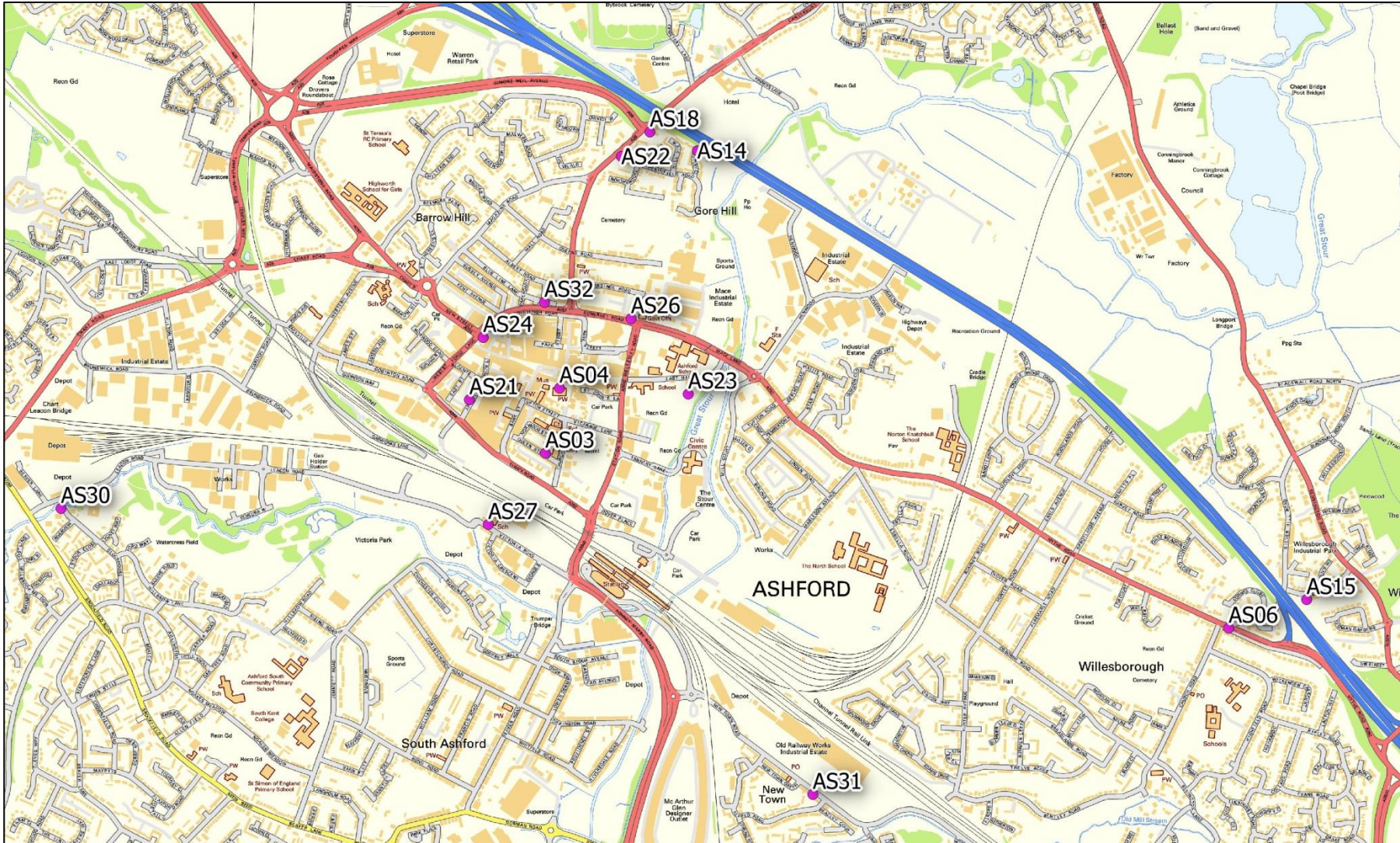
Ashford Borough Council undertook monitoring at 16 nitrogen dioxide diffusion tube sites in 2014, shown in Figure 1 - 2. Three of these sites, AS30, AS31 and AS32, are new sites for 2014, and replace the previous tubes AS25, AS28 and AS29. The diffusion tubes are supplied and analysed by ESG Didcot utilising the 50% Triethanolamine (TEA) in acetone preparation method. Full details of the bias adjustment and QA/QC procedure are provided in Appendix A.

### **2.2. Comparison of Monitoring Results with AQ Objectives**

#### **2.2.1. Nitrogen Dioxide**

The annual mean nitrogen dioxide objective was not exceeded at any of the 16 monitoring sites in 2014.

**Figure 1: Map of Non-Automatic Monitoring Sites in Ashford**







**Table 2.1: Details of Non-Automatic Monitoring Sites (2014)**

Site Name	Site ID	Site Type	X OS Grid Ref	Y OS Grid Ref	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Co-located with a Continuous Analyser?	Relevant Exposure?	Distance to kerb of nearest road (m)	Worst-case exposure?
39 Queens Street, Ashford	AS03	Roadside	600976	142547	NO <sub>2</sub>	N	N	Y (0 m)	3 m	N
Ashford 6n Church Yard	AS04	Background	601021	142754	NO <sub>2</sub>	N	N	N	N/A	N
Hythe Road	AS06	Roadside	603153	141990	NO <sub>2</sub>	N	N	Y (6 m)	2 m	N
High Street, Tenterden	AS07	Roadside	587945	133079	NO <sub>2</sub>	N	N	N	8 m	N
Nutley Close	AS14	Roadside	601460	143509	NO <sub>2</sub>	N	N	Y (0 m)	22 m	N
Lees Road	AS15	Roadside	603401	142081	NO <sub>2</sub>	N	N	Y (0 m)	30 m (M20)	N
Hill View Nursing Home	AS18	Roadside	601309	143569	NO <sub>2</sub>	N	N	Y (0 m)	16.5 m	N
Apsley Street	AS21	Roadside	600734	142717	NO <sub>2</sub>	N	N	Y (0 m)	3.5 m	N
Gore Court	AS22	Roadside	601218	143491	NO <sub>2</sub>	N	N	Y (0 m)	11 m	N
Ashford School Background	AS23	Background	601431	142735	NO <sub>2</sub>	N	Y <sup>b</sup>	Y (0 m)	N/A	N
New Street, Ashford	AS24	Roadside	600778	142915	NO <sub>2</sub>	N	N	N	10 m	N
Hardy House, Somerset Road, Ashford	AS26	Roadside	601249	142975	NO <sub>2</sub>	N	N	Y (1.8 m)	3.5 m	Y
Victoria Road School	AS27	Roadside	600794	142320	NO <sub>2</sub>	N	N	Y (0m)	2.1 m	Y

Site Name	Site ID	Site Type	X OS Grid Ref	Y OS Grid Ref	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Co-located with a Continuous Analyser?	Relevant Exposure?	Distance to kerb of nearest road (m)	Worst-case exposure?
78 - 100, Clockhouse, Ashford <sup>a</sup>	AS30	Background	599433	142371	NO <sub>2</sub>	N	N	Y (3.9 m)	N/A	N
42, Newtown Green, Ashford <sup>a</sup>	AS31	Roadside	601828	141461	NO <sub>2</sub>	N	N	Y (0 m)	1.4 m	Y
2a Hollington Place, Ashford <sup>a</sup>	AS32	Kerbside	600973	143027	NO <sub>2</sub>	N	N	Y (1 m)	7.3 m	Y

<sup>a</sup> Monitoring commenced on 08/01/2014

### 2.2.2. Diffusion Tube Monitoring Data

The NO<sub>2</sub> diffusion tube data are summarised in Table 2.5. The full dataset (monthly mean values) is included in Appendix A2. The annual mean objective was not exceeded at any of the diffusion tube sites in Ashford in 2014. There are also no sites exceeding 60 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, and there is therefore no likelihood of any exceedence of the 1-hour mean NO<sub>2</sub> objective.

**Table 2.2: Results of Nitrogen Dioxide Diffusion Tubes in 2014**

Site ID	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Triplicate or Co-located Tube	Data Capture 2014 (%) <sup>a</sup>	Data with fewer than 9 months have been annualised	Data have been distance corrected	Annual mean concentration (Bias Adjustment factor = 0.81)
							2014 (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )
AS03	Roadside	N	N	100	N/A	N	19.2
AS04	Background	N	N	100	N/A	N	17.0
AS06	Roadside	N	N	100	N/A	N	29.3
AS07	Roadside	N	N	100	N/A	N	25.1
AS14	Roadside	N	N	100	N/A	N	22.8
AS15	Roadside	N	Y	100	N/A	N	37.1
AS18	Roadside	N	Y	100	N/A	N	29.3
AS21	Roadside	N	N	100	N/A	N	20.7
AS22	Roadside	N	N	100	N/A	N	30.7
AS23	Background	N	Y	83	N/A	N	18.3
AS24	Roadside	N	N	100	N/A	N	21.1
AS26	Roadside	N	N	100	N/A	N	29.4
AS27	Roadside	N	N	100	N/A	N	19.7
AS30	Background	N	N	67 <sup>b</sup>	N	N	18.1
AS31	Roadside	N	N	83	N/A	N	19.8
AS32	Roadside	N	N	100	N/A	N	20.6

<sup>a</sup> i.e. data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for six months the maximum data capture for the full calendar year would be 50%).

<sup>b</sup> Data capture <75%, however data has not been annualised as the calculated annual mean concentration is well below the air quality objective and comparable to that of other background sites (AS04 and AS23)

**Table 2.3: Results of Nitrogen Dioxide Diffusion Tubes (2012 to 2014)**

Site ID	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Annual Mean Concentration (adjusted for bias) $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$		
			2012 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.79)	2013 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.80)	2014 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.81)
AS03	Roadside	No	20.0	20.7	19.2
AS04	Background	No	18.8	18.0	17.0
AS06	Roadside	No	31.1	33.3	29.3
AS07	Roadside	No	24.6	26.2	25.1
AS14	Roadside	No	25.9	27.3	22.8
AS15 <sup>a</sup>	Roadside	No	38.6	32.5	37.1
AS18 <sup>a</sup>	Roadside	No	29.2	31.7	29.3
AS21	Roadside	No	23.2	24.3	20.7
AS22	Roadside	No	32.3	31.6	30.7
AS23 <sup>a</sup>	Background	No	19.3	19.9	18.3
AS24	Roadside	No	23.2	22.3	21.1
AS25	Roadside	No	22.2	20.8	-
AS26	Roadside	No	30.5	33.0	29.4
AS27	Roadside	No	21.3	21.2	19.7
AS28	Kerbside	No	13.8	14.6	-
AS29	Kerbside	No	16.4	17.4	-
AS30	Background	No	-	-	18.1 <sup>b</sup>
AS31	Roadside	No	-	-	19.8
AS32	Roadside	No	-	-	20.6

<sup>a</sup> Average of triplicate sites.

<sup>b</sup> Data capture <75%, however data has not been annualised as the calculated annual mean concentration is well below the air quality objective and comparable to that of other background sites (AS04 and AS23)

### 2.2.3. *PM<sub>10</sub>*

Monitoring of *PM<sub>10</sub>* ceased in 2011 when the Ashford Background automatic monitoring site closed.

### 2.2.4. *Sulphur Dioxide*

No monitoring of sulphur dioxide was undertaken by Ashford Borough Council in 2014.



#### **2.2.5. Benzene**

No monitoring of benzene was undertaken by Ashford Borough Council in 2014.

#### **2.2.6. Ozone**

Ozone monitoring was carried out at the Ashford Background automatic monitoring site until its closure in April 2011.

### **2.3. Summary of Compliance with AQS Objectives**

Ashford Borough Council has examined the results from monitoring in the borough. Concentrations are all below the objectives, therefore there is no need to proceed to a Detailed Assessment.

### 3 Road Traffic Sources

#### 3.1. Narrow Congested Streets with Residential Properties Close to the Kerb

The criteria for assessing narrow congested streets are set out in Box 5.3, section A1 of TG(09). Roads with a high flow of buses and/or HGVs were considered in previous Updating and Screening Assessments and no such locations identified.

Ashford Borough Council confirms that there are no new/newly identified congested streets with a flow above 5,000 vehicles per day and residential properties close to the kerb, that have not been adequately considered in previous rounds of Review and Assessment.

#### 3.2. Busy Streets Where People May Spend 1-hour or More Close to Traffic

The criteria for assessing busy streets relevant for the hourly nitrogen dioxide objective are set out in Box 5.3, section A2 of TG(09). Busy streets where people may spend 1-hour or more close to traffic were considered in the previous Updating and Screening Assessment and no such locations identified.

Ashford Borough Council confirms that there are no new/newly identified busy streets where people may spend 1 hour or more close to traffic.

#### 3.3. Roads with a High Flow of Buses and/or HGVs.

The criteria for assessing roads with high flows of buses and/or HGVs are set out in Box 5.3, section A3 of TG(09). Roads with a high flow of buses and/or HGVs were considered in previous Updating and Screening Assessments and no such locations identified.

Ashford Borough Council confirms that there are no new/newly identified roads with high flows of buses/HGVs.

#### 3.4. Junctions

The criteria for assessing junctions are set out in Box 5.3, section A4 of TG(09). Junctions were considered in detail in previous Updating and Screening Assessments and where relevant have been included in Detailed Assessments.

Ashford Borough Council confirms that there are no new/newly identified busy junctions/busy roads.

### 3.5. New Roads Constructed or Proposed Since the Last Round of Review and Assessment

A new road, Victoria Way, opened on 4 November 2011. The road goes from Victoria Road, through Gasworks Lane, and joins with Leacon Road in Ashford. A diffusion tube located at Victoria School on Victoria Road (AS27), which is 2.1 m from the kerb, measured concentrations of  $19.7 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  in 2014, which is lower than in the previous two years of monitoring. Monitoring data will continue to be reviewed on an annual basis through the Review and Assessment process.

Ashford Borough Council has assessed Victoria Way, a new road meeting the criteria in Section A.5 of Box 5.3 in TG(09), and concluded that it will not be necessary to proceed to a Detailed Assessment.

### 3.6. Roads with Significantly Changed Traffic Flows

The criteria for assessing roads with significantly changed traffic flows are set out in Box 5.3, section A6 of TG(09).

Ashford Borough Council confirms that there are no new/newly identified roads with significantly changed traffic flows.

### 3.7. Bus and Coach Stations

The criteria for assessing roads with significantly changed traffic flows are set out in Box 5.3, section A7 of TG(09). Bus and coach stations were considered in previous Updating and Screening Assessments and no such locations identified.

Ashford Borough Council confirms that there are no relevant bus stations in the Local Authority area.

## 4 Other Transport Sources

### 4.1. Airports

The criteria for assessing airports are set out in Box 5.4, section B1 of TG(09). Airports were considered in previous Updating and Screening Assessments and no such locations identified.

Ashford Borough Council confirms that there are no airports in the Local Authority area.

### 4.2. Railways (Diesel and Steam Trains)

#### 4.2.1. Stationary Trains

The criteria for assessing stationary locomotives are set out in Box 5.4, section B2 of TG(09) (Approach 1). There are no locations in Ashford where trains are stationary for 15 minutes or more, more than three times a day.

Ashford Borough Council confirms that there are no locations where diesel or steam trains are regularly stationary for periods of 15 minutes or more, with potential for relevant exposure within 15m.

#### 4.2.2. Moving Trains

The criteria for assessing moving locomotives are set out in Box 5.4, section B2 of TG(09) (Approach 2).

Ashford Borough Council confirms that there are no locations with a large number of movements of diesel locomotives, and potential long-term relevant exposure within 30m.

### 4.3. Ports (Shipping)

The criteria for assessing ports are set out in Box 5.4, section B3 of TG(09) and are unchanged from previous rounds of Review and Assessment. There is no shipping activity in Ashford.

Ashford Borough Council confirms that there are no ports or shipping that meet the specified criteria within the Local Authority area.

## 5 Industrial Sources

### 5.1. Industrial Installations

#### ***5.1.1. New or Proposed Installations for which an Air Quality Assessment has been Carried Out***

The criteria for assessing industrial installations are set out in Box 5.5, section C1 of TG(09). There are no new or proposed industrial installations within Ashford since the last Updating and Screening Assessment.

Ashford Borough Council confirms that there are no new or proposed industrial installations for which planning approval has been granted within its area or nearby in a neighbouring authority.

#### ***5.1.2. Existing Installations where Emissions have Increased Substantially or New Relevant Exposure has been Introduced***

None of the industrial installations identified in previous Updating and Screening Assessments have substantially increased emissions and no new exposure has been introduced nearby.

Ashford Borough Council confirms that there are no industrial installations with substantially increased emissions or new relevant exposure in their vicinity within its area or nearby in a neighbouring authority.

#### ***5.1.3. New or Significantly Changed Installations with No Previous Air Quality Assessment***

The criteria for assessing industrial installations are set out in Box 5.5, section C1 of TG(09). There are no new or significantly changed industrial installations within Ashford since the last Updating and Screening Assessment.

Ashford Borough Council confirms that there are no new or significantly changed industrial installations for which planning approval has been granted within its area or nearby in a neighbouring authority.

## 5.2. Major Fuel (Petrol) Storage Depots

The criteria for assessing major fuel (petrol) storage depots are set out in Box 5.5, section C2 of TG(09). Major petrol storage depots were considered in the previous Updating and Screening Assessments and no such locations identified.

There are no major fuel (petrol) storage depots within the Local Authority area.

## 5.3. Petrol Stations

The criteria for assessing petrol stations are set out in Box 5.5, section C3 of TG(09). There are no petrol stations within Ashford that fulfil the criteria.

Ashford Borough Council confirms that there are no petrol stations meeting the specified criteria.

## 5.4. Poultry Farms

The criteria for assessing poultry farms are set out in Box 5.5, section C4 of TG(09). No farms exceeding the relevant criteria (turkey units with greater than 100,000 birds, naturally ventilated units with greater than 200,000 birds or mechanically ventilated units with greater than 400,000) have been identified.

Ashford Borough Council confirms that there are no poultry farms meeting the specified criteria.

## 6 Commercial and Domestic Sources

### 6.1. Biomass Combustion – Individual Installations

The criteria for assessing biomass combustion (individual installations) are set out in Box 5.8, section D1 of TG(09). There has been one new installation approved in Ashford since the last Updating and Screening Assessment in 2012, the details of which are as follows:

- 1 x 300-400 KW wood chip boiler at the Godmersham Park House, Godmersham Park, Canterbury Road, Godmersham, Canterbury (planning application 13/00636/AS, registered on 7 June 2013, planning permission granted on 24 July 2013).

The potential air quality impacts from this new plant were assessed in the 2014 Progress Report and were judged to be insignificant.

Ashford Borough Council confirms that there is one new biomass installation for which planning approval has been granted within its area or nearby in a neighbouring authority, the impacts of which were screened out in the 2014 Progress Report.

### 6.2. Biomass Combustion – Combined Impacts

The criteria for assessing biomass combustion (combined impacts) are set out in Box 5.8, section D2 of TG(09). The likelihood of areas of combined biomass combustion exceeding the criteria is considered highly unlikely.

Ashford Borough Council confirms that the risk of combined biomass combustion exceeding the criteria in the Local Authority area is highly unlikely. The new biomass plant in Ashford is located in a rural area at a considerable distance from other plant.

### 6.3. Domestic Solid-Fuel Burning

The criteria for assessing domestic solid-fuel burning are set out in Box 5.8, section D2 of TG(09). Ashford Borough Council has not identified any areas where significant coal burning takes place.

Ashford Borough Council confirms that there are no areas of significant domestic fuel use in the Local Authority area.

## 7 Fugitive or Uncontrolled Sources

The criteria for assessing fugitive or uncontrolled sources are set out in Box 5.10, section E1 of TG(09). There are no quarries, landfill sites or other dusty operations in Ashford that have the potential to have a significant effect on PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations at residential properties.

Ashford Borough Council confirms that there are no potential sources of fugitive particulate matter emissions in the Local Authority area.



## **8 Conclusions and Proposed Actions**

### **8.1. Conclusions from New Monitoring Data**

This Updating and Screening Assessment confirms that air quality within Ashford continues to meet the relevant air quality objectives. There is no requirement to proceed to a Detailed Assessment for any pollutant.

### **8.2. Conclusions from Assessment of Sources**

The Updating and Screening Assessment has not identified any significant changes in emissions sources within the Ashford district area. There have been no new relevant industrial installations and no new significant commercial, domestic or fugitive sources of emissions.

### **8.3. Proposed Actions**

Changes to the LAQM process are currently being consulted on and it is therefore likely by 2016 the LAQM process will have changed with further guidance produced for local authorities to follow. Ashford Borough Council will keep up to date with any changes to the LAQM process and produce a report in 2016 which complies with the guidance at that time.

## 9 References

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**10 Appendices**

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## A1 Appendix 1: QA:QC Data

### Diffusion Tube Bias Adjustment Factors

The Technical Guidance TG(09) and the LAQM Support Helpdesk recommend use of a local bias adjustment factor where available, and where it is relevant to the diffusion tube sites. The Ashford Borough Council background site co-location study was closed in April 2011 and therefore it is not appropriate to use these data to calculate a bias adjustment factor. Therefore, the bias factor has been taken from the diffusion tube spreadsheet of national comparison studies. This has given a bias-adjustment factor for 2014 of 0.81. The bias adjustment factors for previous years were 0.84 in 2011, 0.79 in 2012 and 0.80 in 2013.

### QA/QC of diffusion tube monitoring

Nitrogen dioxide analysis procedures are compliant with the Diffusion Tubes for Ambient NO<sub>2</sub> Monitoring: Practical Guidance for users and laboratories (February 2008). ESG Didcot is a UKAS accredited laboratory which participates in the AEA inter-comparison and the WASP scheme. In 2013, ESG Didcot was 100% satisfactory in all WASP trials.

## A2 Appendix 2: Monthly Diffusion Tube Values

**Table A2. 1: Monthly non-automatic nitrogen dioxide monitoring results, unadjusted raw data**

Site ID	Site Type	NO <sub>2</sub> concentrations per month (2014) (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )												
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average
AS03	Roadside	26.2	23.4	29.2	22.0	20.7	14.1	16.7	20.1	25.4	22.3	34.4	30.1	23.7
AS04	Background	23.9	17.5	30.1	18.9	18.2	16.4	15.5	15.6	21.5	19.1	28.8	26.5	21.0
AS06	Roadside	34.8	31.3	47.1	34.1	30.7	35.3	33.2	30.3	47.4	31.4	46.2	32.7	36.2
AS07	Roadside	29.6	26.6	37.4	30.0	30.2	24.1	27.6	26.8	33.6	29.9	42.6	33.6	31.0
AS14	Roadside	31.4	25.3	40.3	29.5	17.2	17.1	30.2	14.7	41.6	24.2	32.5	33.5	28.1
AS15	Roadside	57.4	56.9	51.2	43.0	45.5	26.4	34.7	48.7	30.0	56.3	45.7	53.3	45.8
AS18	Roadside	37.4	28.1	44.2	34.1	32.1	30.5	35.1	29.4	45.3	29.8	39.9	48.0	36.2
AS21	Roadside	30.3	22.2	32.2	26.2	19.8	16.6	21.3	20.0	23.6	26.7	31.3	37.1	25.6
AS22	Roadside	38.6	37.3	45.7	33.9	35.7	31.8	33.2	33.0	46.2	36.7	34.3	48.8	37.9
AS23	Background	-	24.8	22.9	18.9	-	14.9	14.1	16.5	19.2	23.3	32.6	38.4	22.6
AS24	Roadside	31.0	25.0	33.3	25.1	22.9	16.1	22.9	16.8	26.0	23.6	34.0	36.5	26.1
AS26	Roadside	29.9	41.6	44.8	32.5	32.1	23.1	21.9	31.7	38.2	44.1	48.1	47.3	36.3
AS27	Roadside	29.1	22.7	32.1	22.8	19.0	17.6	9.1	16.3	28.4	24.2	39.7	31.3	24.4
AS30	Background	25.3	19.4	30.2	-	-	-	16.6	19.8	22.3	18.0	27.6	-	22.4
AS31	Roadside	28.2	23.9	30.3	23.8	-	18.0	20.5	16.5	27.2	23.7	32.4	-	24.5
AS32	Kerbside	31.1	28.2	31.3	23.8	21.5	15.2	18.6	18.9	25.6	25.0	27.8	37.6	25.4