



Derry City & Strabane
District Council

Comhairle
**Chathair Dhoire &
Cheantar an tSratha Báin**

Derry Cittie & Stràbane
Deistrick Cooncil

Ref: EIR / 752

07 September 2016

Ms
Public Affairs and Policy Officer

Email: @blf.org.uk

Dear Ms

Environmental Information Regulations 2004 Request Air Pollutant Monitoring

I refer to your EIR request as above and respond as follows:

Please note that Derry City and Strabane District Council was formed under the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 effective 1 April 2015 following a Review of Public Administration and requests made to legacy councils of Strabane District Council and Derry City Council are treated as one request by Derry City and Strabane District Council.

1. How many air pollution monitors are actively recording and measuring air pollution levels in Derry (City of Londonderry)?

There are currently 3 continuous air monitoring stations located in Derry. The largest air monitoring station is located in Brooke Park. This station, classified as an urban background site, is part of the Automated Urban and Rural Network (AURN) and has recently been relocated, due to major refurbishments of the urban park itself, from the bottom of the park close to the gate lodge to near the top of the park.

The second air monitoring station is located at Dale's Corner, close to a major traffic junction, in the waterside area of the city. This is a smaller unit and is classified as a roadside site.

Derry

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98 Strand Road
Derry
BT48 7NN

Strabane

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47 Derry Road
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Details of these monitoring stations, including maps and photographs, can be accessed at:

http://www.airqualityni.co.uk/?t_action=stats&t=3&site_id=DER3&m=1.2&dy=2004&p=&ex=

A third temporary monitoring station has been commissioned at a residential address in the Culmore Point area of the district in response to complaints of airborne dust in the vicinity.

In the legacy Strabane District Council area there is currently one air quality monitoring station located at 113a Springhill Park, Strabane, BT82 8BY.

In addition to the above sites, Derry City and Strabane District Council (DCSDC) maintains a network of 50 diffusion tubes in and around the Council's 5 Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA's) declared for exceedance of the Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) pollutant health limit value. The diffusion tubes are individually much less expensive than the continuous monitoring stations and with appropriate data quality control, provide a valuable source of pollutant concentrations at areas of relevant public exposure.

2. What pollutants do these monitors measure? (if different for each monitor please provide breakdown)
 - i. The Brooke Park site monitors: Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂); Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂); Ozone (O₃); Particulate Matter (PM₁₀) and Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5}), which are both micro-size fine dust.
 - ii. The Dale's Corner site monitors NO₂. The primary source of NO₂ is traffic emissions.
 - iii. The temporary monitoring station at Culmore Point monitors Particulate Matter (PM₁₀).
 - iv. The network of 50 diffusion tubes monitors NO₂.
 - v. The Strabane site monitors Particles (PM₁₀) and Sulphur Dioxide.

3. How many of these air pollution monitors are within 10 metres of a primary or secondary school? If possible please provide co-ordinates of schools.
None of the air monitoring stations or NO₂ diffusion tubes is located within 10 metres of a school.

4. Are primary and secondary schools considered as priority locations when you are choosing where to put air pollution monitors?

Within the DEFRA document -Technical Guidance Local Air Quality

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Management (LAQM). TG(16), box 1.1, examples of locations where air quality objectives should apply, are given. Such locations, “where members of the public might be regularly exposed” (in other words, locations of relevant public exposure), include “building facades of residential properties, schools, hospitals, care homes etc.”

The Guidance states that the Objectives for the relevant pollutants (detailed in box 1.1 of the TG Guidance) are applicable to the various averaging periods – the annual, 24-hour, 8-hour, 1-hour or 15-minute means, depending on the pollutant. The Guidance also advises that local judgement/ knowledge should be applied when assessing any relevant public exposure to any of the relevant pollutants within a Council’s district. Therefore, if Council officers believe that there is relevant public exposure near schools, air quality assessments would be undertaken.

5. How many children do you estimate attend primary and secondary schools in Derry (City of Londonderry) and Strabane?

The Council does not hold statistics relating to numbers of pupils attending primary and secondary schools. I would refer you to the Western Region of the Education Authority for Northern Ireland

- **Education Authority Western Region Office**

1 Hospital Road

Omagh

Co. Tyrone BT79 0AW

Telephone 028 8241 1553 **Facsimile** 028 8241 1273

E-mail nigel.mccosker@eani.org.uk

and also to the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency
website: <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/default.asp6.htm>

If you are dissatisfied with our response you have rights of review and appeal; these rights consist of two review processes.

Firstly our internal review procedure is available by contacting:

John Kelpie

Chief Executive

Derry City and Strabane District Council

98 Strand Road

Derry BT48 7NN

Tel 028 71253253 or email john.kelpie@derrystrabane.com



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Secondly, you can appeal directly by contacting the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

CHESHIRE SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or email: casework@ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely

Head of Health & Community Wellbeing