

Air Quality Action Plan (updated November 2018)

STONEPOUND CROSSROADS AQAP IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2013-16 MONITORING REPORT- tabled at Steering Group Meeting 8th Nov 2018

Table 1: CURRENT ACTIONS

	Actions	Milestones	Date	Lead officer	Progress at January 2016 (updates shown in bold)
1.	Re-assess traffic light sequencing	Review of current sequencing to be undertaken by West Sussex County Council traffic signal engineers.	Dec 2019	Richard Speller WSCC Highways Area Manager, Mid Sussex	<p>There is very little alteration which can be made to the sequencing of lights which will increase the throughput of traffic. The traffic signal controlled already runs on software which monitors the throughput and queues on all approaches for each green light phase and makes decisions on when to turn from green to red to maximise capacity. WSCC revalidated the junction 14/7/14 when the operation of the signals was optimised with the current configuration. A traffic mitigation plan was submitted by the developer with the Ham Fields planning application and WSCC have considered upgrades to the software to improve the traffic light software, changes to the stage sequencing and changes to the island layouts and some road widening. WSCC concluded that these changes would result in a small improvement, but could not be introduced without a full refurbishment of the site costing in the region of £250k. These improvements are included in the Ham Fields application which has been approved is currently waiting detailed design submission. There have been some operational faults with the vehicle detection failing due to poor road surface over the past year, this has caused further congestion. These are currently resolved however to protect against the issues in the future a new above ground system will be trialled next year.</p> <p>WSCC to investigate the removal or replacement of the existing “cut Engine / cut pollution “signs (alternative designs required), Overgrown vegetation to be trimmed back around existing signs.</p> <p>Community Highway Scheme or LTIP scheme to incorporate a north south pedestrian crossing phase.</p>
2.	Minimising HGV movements – advisory lorry routes	Consider study of HGV traffic movements and liaise with local businesses to establish sign locations. Agree possible dates for signs to be put up	By end 2020	Jamie Dallen, WSCC Planning and Transport Policy Planner	Signage to encourage use of the A2300 from the A23 is already in place, but is not always the preferred option. There may be a local perception that the A2300 route has too great a delay or is unreliable. There are plans to upgrade the A2300 to dual carriageway between

		<p>on A273 Burgess Hill, A2300, A23 northbound, south of Pyecombe. Approaching Highways Agency to negotiate with sat nav companies to show HGV advisory routes.</p> <p>Approaching Burgess Hill Business Park co-ordinator to put information in their newsletter discouraging HGVs through the crossroads.</p>		<p>Jamie Dallen WSCC Planning and Transport Policy Planner</p>	<p>Burgess Hill Northern Arc Link Road and the A23 to support the planned housing and employment growth in the town proposed in the Northern Arc development. The upgrading of this route is expected to relieve pressure on the A273 to the north and south of Burgess Hill. A Strategic Outline Business Case was submitted in November 2014 and confirmation of receipt of £17m in Government funding to improve the A2300 link road was received in January 2015. Timing of improvements to the road will be linked to progress with the Northern Arc development. Preliminary design work started on the A2300 Corridor improvements scheme in January 2017, this is expected to be completed by May 2018, culminating in an Outline Business Case submission to the Coast to Capital LEP, to secure the £17m Local Growth Fund allocation.</p> <p>A publicity drive to be considered to encourage businesses to use the advisory HGV network</p> <p>https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/media/1980/alr_map_web.pdf .</p>
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3.	“Cut Engine, Cut pollution” signs	Agree date with WSCC for this to be achieved and process for approval.	By end 2018	Richard Speller WSCC Highways Area Manager, Mid Sussex	<p>Completed- four signs were installed on 29 August 2014, one on each approach. A joint press release was issued on 1 September and MSDC Cabinet Member conducted local radio interviews. An article regarding the signs and the Air Quality Action Plan appeared in the Winter 2014 edition of the MSDC magazine Mid Sussex Matters.</p> <p>WSCC to investigate the removal or replacement of the existing “cut Engine / cut pollution “signs (alternative designs required), Overgrown vegetation to be trimmed back around existing signs.</p>
4.	Mid Sussex District Council Travel Plan	MSDC to review its Green Travel Scheme, e.g. in respect of car share, public transport incentives, cycling, walking and promotion of sustainable business travel.	By end of 2015	MSDC Sustainability Officer Matthew Bird	<p>Travel Scheme review to be completed. MSDC has joined easit and are promoting train use to staff through discount cards. A Green Travel day was held at the Council in the Summer with incentives for staff to take sustainable methods of travel into work and promotion of easit cards.</p> <p>A new Cycle to Work scheme has been implemented. A further Staff Travel Event took place in September 2017. An online staff travel survey was distributed in May 2018. There was a 60% response rate. 82% of staff commute by car with 45% of respondents saying they wouldn't consider cycling because of the roads were perceived as being dangerous. 44% of staff stated they would use an electric bicycle for short journeys and a number of comments indicated an interest in electric vehicles. Since the survey a Staff Electric Bike scheme has been set up and use of the Council's electric vehicle</p>

					charging points has increased significantly.
5.	School and work travel plans	Work with WSCC School Travel Plan Co-ordinator to develop travel plans in Hassocks schools taking into account the AQMA. Develop work with private schools Promotion of Work Travel Plans for local businesses, e.g. West Sussex Car Share Scheme and Travelwise.	On-going	Bev Clayden WSCC Local Transport Improvements Project Officer MSDC Sustainability Officer Matthew Bird	<p>Hassocks schools are expanding their capacity and revising their travel plans accordingly. WSCC offers the opportunity to all school across the county to work with them to produce and update their School Travel Plans. The WSCC Local Transport Improvements Project Officer worked with Downlands to produce a new School Travel Plan in September 2017, including updated travel to school survey results.</p> <p>The Walk To programme led by Living Streets is working with a selection of schools in West Sussex, including Windmills Junior School. This provides an outreach project officer to work with pupils to encourage them to walk to school. Working with highway authorities, including WSCC, Living Streets secured funding to continue its previous Walk To project through the Department for Transport Access Fund from 2017/18 to 2019/20. Living Streets undertook a school route audit assessment with the schools and local community early in 2016 and recommendations within this report are currently being considered as part of the prioritisation of schemes to be taken forward across the county.</p> <p>The Council's Sustainability Officer has worked with the Downlands School Eco-Co-ordinator to arrange a series of "Bike It" events in the week of 28 September to 2 October. This also involved a number of other organisations such as Hassocks Community Bike Hire and Proper Cycle Café. 'Bike it' was designed to get more children to cycle to and from school, through events such as a smoothie bike lunchtime, bike maintenance workshops, BMX skills presentation and participation in the Hurst Bike Train. 68 children biked to school on at least one of the days.</p> <p>A meeting in Hassocks took place on 5th April with local stakeholders interested in developing cycling initiatives, This lead to a resident's engagement event to propose and plan local cycle routes. Will also include school engagement.</p> <p>WSCC continues to promote the West Sussex Car Share and Travelwise campaigns.</p> <p>WSCC Community Highway Scheme applications have been received to investigate cycleways from Alborne to Hassocks and from Hassocks to the South Downs Way. Neither of these schemes have been adopted so far.</p>
6.	Improve and promote cycle routes	Progress with specific cycle route schemes: Hassocks station to access Jack and Jill windmills by March 2015. Route from Hurstpierpoint-Hassocks-Keymer-	On-going	MSDC Sustainability Officer- Matthew Bird	Progress with the Hassocks station to the South Downs cyclepath has stalled due to land access issues. The alternative route that was considered to the east of the railway line has not proved to be viable.

		Ditchling, Woodlands Road and links with Burgess Hill. Promotion of West Sussex Cycle Planner and SDNP journey planner.			<p>'Get Hassocks Cycling' is a cycling interest group in Hassocks with Cllr representation. A recent engagement exercise with residents highlighting 3 routes showed 300 people in favour of a route between Hurstpierpoint and Ditchling roundabout (taking in Stonepound Crossroads) A draft feasibility study is being considered by Council before a final copy is produced.</p> <p>A Mid Sussex Cycle Forum has been set up and is chaired by the Hassocks representative. A Terms of Reference has been agreed and a further additions to the membership is being made. Some funding from a successful bid to Business Rates will be used to support the Forum.</p> <p>A Sustrans-commissioned feasibility study exploring route options between Burgess Hill and Haywards Heath has been completed and is now being considered as part of the Burgess Hill Sustainable Transport Package.</p> <p>The Consultation Draft Hassocks Neighbourhood Plan (2016 Draft now withdrawn, new draft plan under consultation Jan/Feb 2019) includes references to supporting additional cycleways and bridleways, including routes to Clayton and Hurstpierpoint.</p>
7.	Encourage alternate transport modes	Identifying popular travel routes, encouraging transport companies to provide transport and incentives to use them and to help advertise them. Projects under this action are closely linked to the other action points, e.g. 6, 8 and 9.	On-going	<p>MSDC Sustainability Officer Matthew Bird Andy Mouland, WSCC Senior Local Transport Improvements Officer</p> <p>Claire Onslow MSDC Parking Services Manager</p>	<p>South East Traveline website enables residents to plan journeys by bus, rail, bicycle. This available at http://www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk/ Note – mapping of local sustainable routes and services can be produced for local employers centred on their site, for a fee via a company called Pindar. Other initiatives that can be pursued include Bikeability training in schools (see Action 5 Downland School updates).</p> <p>Section 106 funds have been used to upgrade EV chargers in public carparks in Burgess Hill, Haywards Heath and East Grinstead.</p> <p>Podpoint have upgraded EV chargers at Hassocks train station New sites for EV chargers are being identified in liaison with Planning Officers and others. The Energise Network has ceased having spent it's funding. A new Sussex EV Group of local authorities have met a few times to update each other on current initiatives. A shared approach is being taken by MSDC, Horsham DC and Crawley BC in investigating the rollout of further EV infrastructure across Mid Sussex. A feasibility</p>

					<p>study of a number of potential sites in Mid Sussex is being carried out and a Residents Survey seeking views on electric cars is currently live.</p> <p>A Sustainable Travel Event aimed at Burgess Hill businesses took place on the 13th June at Martlets Hall in Burgess Hill . It was well attended by local businesses. Report can be found http://sustainablebusiness.org.uk/news/event-report-sustainable-travel-event/</p>
8.	Car share promotion	Promotion of the West Sussex Car Share Scheme- new website and WSCC will be running media campaigns. Consider item in Mid Sussex Matters. MSDC promotion of the easitMIDSUSSEX initiative	On-going	Andy Mouland, WSCC Travelwise MSDC Sustainability Officer Matthew Bird	<p>Previous WSCC projects under Travelwise Local Sustainable Transport Fund behaviour change initiatives have included promotion of West Sussex car share www.westsussexcarshare.com through radio and other media and provision of an online journey planner that promotes active travel and public transport. Local projects will be developed through MSDC's Sustainability Officer.</p> <p>MSDC has joined easit and is promoting its use by businesses through the Council's website, See http://www.easit.org.uk/</p> <p>Car sharing is promoted through the Green Travel Pages on the MSDC intranet. It was promoted in light of the Southern Strikes in 2016/17.</p>
9.	Partnership work with bus and train operators	WSCC approaching bus and train companies to encourage co-ordination of bus and train timetables Use of real time information at the station for bus arrivals.	On-going	Jamie Dallen WSCC Planning and Transport Policy Planner Gulu Sibanda WSCC Principal Community Officer	<p>Govia Thameslink Railway (GTR) operates the 7 year (2014-2021) Thameslink franchise with the operating brands of Southern, Thameslink, Gatwick Express and Great Northern. GTR is investing in improved station facilities such as cycle parking, station improvements and access to stations through this franchise. Real time information on bus arrivals will require investment from WSCC and bus companies. The limited number of bus services operating past Hassocks station means that the case for investment in real-time bus arrival information displays may be limited, although S106 funding has been confirmed for real-time information heads in nearby Burgess Hill.</p>
10.	Increase air quality information available	Provision of additional air quality information via Council website. MSDC Annual Monitoring Report	Ongoing	Nick Bennett MSDC Environmental Protection Officer	<p>Reports updated on the Council's website. This includes additional air quality data, including latest data for monitoring at Stonepound Crossroads.</p>
11.	Health and Wellbeing promotion	Promotion of service offered by Sussex Air, e.g. Airalert service through link on our website. Working through the Mid Sussex Wellbeing Hub regarding initiatives aimed at respiratory illnesses.	On-going	Nick Bennett MSDC Environmental Protection Officer Paul Turner MSDC Wellbeing Manager	<p>Links to Air alert and the ColdAlert service have been added to the MSDC website. Provision of services by Sussex Air is currently under review by the Council.</p> <p>No directly relevant initiatives aimed at respiratory illnesses are included in the current Mid Sussex Wellbeing programme.</p>

					<p>Promotion of service offered by Sussex Air, e.g. Airlert service through link on our website.</p> <p>Working through the Mid Sussex Wellbeing Hub regarding initiatives aimed at respiratory illnesses. Links to Air Alert and Cold Alert published 2016.</p>
12.	Promote national energy efficiency schemes e.g. Green Deal.- no longer viable	WSCC have been Green Deal leads and MSDC advocates to promote the scheme.	On-going	WSCC Green Deal lead MSDC Sustainability Officer Matthew Bird	A new Local Energy Advice Partnership (LEAP) has been launched which offers free home energy visits and support measures. A Warmer Sussex initiative aiming to create a multi-agency approach to increasing the energy efficiency of the existing housing stock in Sussex has just received funding from BEIS.
13.	EPA90 statutory nuisance	Usual enforcement of emissions from industrial, commercial and domestic sources (ad hoc) or targeted Hassocks initiative.	On-going	Environmental Health	<p>All complaints, including smoke from bonfires, are investigated for statutory nuisance as and when they are received. Environmental Health also regulates certain industrial process for emissions to the atmosphere, but there is currently none in the area of the AQMA</p> <p>Usual enforcement of emissions from industrial, commercial and domestic sources (ad hoc) or targeted Hassocks initiative. Ongoing - part of Environmental Protection normal workload</p>
14.	Mid Sussex District Plan & Local Development Framework	Submitted District Plan includes DP19 Transport and DP27 Noise, Air and Light pollution. Updated Transport Study information (see MIS Stage 2 Briefing Note)	On-going	MSDC Business Unit Leader Planning Policy and economy	<p>The Council consulted on Main Modifications to the District Plan in October-November 2017. Adoption of the Plan is anticipated in January 2018.</p> <p>The submitted District Plan includes Transport Policy DP19 and Noise, Air and Light Pollution policy DP27.</p> <p>Existing Local Plan policies require proposals for new development to be supported by transport mitigation plans, and that account is taken of air quality issues.</p>
15.	Incorporate "SAQP: Air Quality Guidance for Planners"	Arrangements for Development Management using the guidance. Implementation and publicity.	By end of 2018	Nick Rogers MSDC BUL Development Management	Currently Developers are directed to the Guidance and Environmental Health will reference it in their response to planning applications. Where required, Environmental Health also recommend conditions to planning permissions that minimise the adverse impacts on Air Quality. New guidance is being produced by the Sussex Air Working Group.
16.	Air Quality Monitoring	Continued air quality monitoring across the District,	On-going	Nick Bennett MSDC Environmental Protection Officer	On-going monitoring of air quality across the District. Results are referred to in the Annual Monitoring Report. Trends identified will be included in the action plan.
17.	Consider	Parking matters in Hassocks are already being	April	Claire Onslow	Actions in the Hassocks Parish Council Parking and Traffic Flow

	enforcement of commuter on-street car parking around Hassocks station.	considered through the Hassocks Parish Council Parking Working Group. See Actions in the Parking and Traffic Flow Report.	2019	MSDC Parking Service BUL WSCC Parking Strategy Team Miles Davy Richard Speller WSCC Highways Area Manager, Mid Sussex	Report include consideration of parking restrictions on the roads in the area NE of the crossroads (e.g. Stanford Avenue), which will dissuade commuters from driving through the AQMA to park up for free during the day. Public consultation on traffic issues in Hassocks took place in June 2016 and at March 2017 West Sussex County Council is looking to enter these proposals on to the Integrated Works Programme for the next financial year. Hassocks Parish Council is undertaking a self-financed Traffic Regulation Order to restrict parking around the railway station.
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Table 2: COMPLETED OR NON VIABLE ACTIONS

1.	Better driving techniques- Completed	Publicising the benefits of better driving techniques e.g. through website and MSM.	By end of May 2015	Nick Bennett MSDC Environmental Protection Officer.	A list of the top 10 better driving techniques will be made available on the Mid Sussex District Council website, once the review of the Air Quality information available is complete (see action 11). A link to eco-driving tips on the AA website was included in the Mid Sussex Matters article. Publicising the benefits of better driving techniques e.g. through website and MSM see link below:- http://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/sme-library/fleet-
2	Vehicle emission testing- not viable	Procedure for deciding upon and organising vehicle emission testing around the AQMA.	Once per year	Nick Bennett MSDC Environmental Protection Officer Taxi Licensing Officer- Jonathan Bryant	This action involves identifying a suitable site to carry out the exercise, organising the police to attend to pull vehicles in and VOSA officers to carry out the exhaust emissions tests on the vehicles. Mid Sussex District Council officers will provide information on air quality and vehicle emissions. <i>A date will be arranged for this exercise, subject to a suitable site being identified.</i> As part of its taxi licensing responsibilities, MSDC undertakes quarterly taxi cab emission testing. Exercise to be conducted targeted at taxi cabs that operate in Hassocks and publicised. Procedure for deciding upon and organising vehicle emission testing around the AQMA. – Due to the lack of resources and lack of safe location near the crossroads Police have advised that this is unworkable.
3	Consider	Discuss with WSCC Transport Planning Team*	Nov	Richard Speller	Completed- If there were more suitable alternative routes it would be

	introduction of lower speed limits and/or traffic calming measures to reduce the rate at which traffic arrives at the junction.		2017	WSCC Highways Area Manager, Mid Sussex	<p>an easier and more defensible action to dissuade traffic from using this route. Other action plan measures are considering the routing of HGVs via the A23, however any other local route would be an unsuitable alternative for longer distance through traffic.</p> <p>The success of a speed limit relies on a driver's understanding of the need to adopt a lower speed – for example in built up area or where there may be conflicting crossing movements. Therefore use of a lower speed limit without these other factors is unlikely to produce beneficial results and could just lead to more drivers ignoring speed limits. For this to be effective there also needs to be robust enforcement of the speed limit.</p>
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