



ENVIRONMENT AND HIGHWAYS CABINET BOARD

*Immediately Following Scrutiny Committee on
THURSDAY, 1 SEPTEMBER 2016*

MEETING ROOM GNOLL COUNTRY PARK

PART 1

1. To agree the Chairperson for this Meeting.
2. To receive any declarations of interest from Members.
3. To receive the Minutes of the previous Environment and Highways Cabinet Board held on 7 July 2016 (*Pages 5 - 16*)
4. To receive the Forward Work Programme 2016/17 (*Pages 17 - 18*)

To receive the Joint Report of the Head of Engineering and Transport, the Head of Streetcare and the Head of Planning and Public Protection

5. Environment and Highways Performance Indicators for Quarter 1 of 2016/17 (*Pages 19 - 36*)

To receive the Report of the Head of Streetcare

6. Highway and Drainage Services Operational Business Plan (*Pages 37 - 62*)
7. Lighting Services Operational Business Plan (*Pages 63 - 80*)
8. Building Services Operational Business Plan (*Pages 81 - 102*)

9. Street Lighting Rowantree Avenue (*Pages 103 - 108*)

To receive the Report of the Head of Legal Services

10. Alleged Public Footpath from Lloyd Street to Footpath No. 3 Community of Pontardawe (*Pages 109 - 128*)

To receive the Report of the Head of Planning and Public Protection

11. Air Quality Progress Report Wales 2016 (*Pages 129 - 290*)
12. Changes to Officer Delegation Arrangements - the Highways Act 1980, the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 (*Pages 291 - 294*)

To receive the Reports of the Head of Engineering and Transport

13. Proposed Traffic Orders: Llandarcy Village (*Pages 295 - 298*)
14. Proposed Prohibition of Waiting at any Time Traffic Regulation Order Maes Y Pergwm/Addoldy Road, Glynneath (*Pages 299 - 302*)
15. Any urgent items (whether public or exempt) at the discretion of the Chairman pursuant to Statutory Instrument 2001 No 2290 (as amended).
16. Access to Meetings - to resolve to exclude the public for the following items pursuant to Regulation 4(3) and (5) of Statutory Instrument 2001 No. 2290 and the relevant exempt paragraphs of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

PART 2

To receive the Private Report of the Head of Corporate Strategy and Democratic Services

17. Urgency Action 0149 (Exempt under Paragraph 14) (*Pages 303 - 312*)

S.Phillips
Chief Executive

Civic Centre
Port Talbot

Wednesday, 24 August 2016

Cabinet Board Members:

Councillors: E.V.Latham and Mrs.S.Miller

Notes:

- (1) *If any Cabinet Board Member is unable to attend, any other Cabinet Member may substitute as a voting Member on the Committee. Members are asked to make these arrangements direct and then to advise the committee Section.*
- (2) *The views of the earlier Scrutiny Committee are to be taken into account in arriving at decisions (pre decision scrutiny process).*

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EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORD

CABINET BOARD - 7 JULY, 2016

ENVIRONMENT AND HIGHWAYS CABINET BOARD

Cabinet Board Members:

Councillors: E.V.Latham (Chairperson) and Mrs.S.Miller

Officer in Attendance:

Mrs.T.Davies

1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON**

Agreed that Councillor E.V.Latham be appointed Chairperson for the meeting.

2. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENT AND HIGHWAYS CABINET BOARD HELD ON 26 MAY, 2016 AND THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON 3 JUNE, 2016**

Noted by the Committee.

3. **ENVIRONMENT AND HIGHWAYS PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR QUARTER 4 OF 2015/16**

Decision:

That the monitoring report be noted.

4. **ASSET SPONSORSHIP**

Decisions:

1. That rule 2.1 of the Contract Procedure Rules be excluded and that the contract with Immediate Solutions be varied to allow the trial of additional pilot schemes identified in the circulated report;
2. That delegated authority be given to the Head of Planning and Public Protection to determine what additional assets are to be included in the revised contract;
3. That a procurement exercise in parallel be agreed, to obtain a long term partner with any future contract to commence after the current contract term has expired in the summer of 2017.

Reason for Decisions:

To ensure compliance with the Public Contract Regulations 2015; to generate optimum levels of revenue in the short and long term to assist the Council in carrying out its functions; and to continue to provide businesses operating locally the opportunity to promote their identities.

Implementation of Decisions:

The decisions will be implemented after the three day call in period.

5. **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND TRADING STANDARDS -
CHANGES TO OFFICER DELEGATION**

Decisions:

1. That the delegation arrangements in respect of the Environmental Health and Trading Standards Service which are set out in version 14.08.15 of the authority's Constitution [i.e. in Part 3 - Officer of the Council Delegation Arrangements: {c} Environmental Health and Trading Standards - Schedule 1] be amended to:

[a] add the Housing [Wales] Act 2014 to the list of legislation [set out in the above referred to Schedule 1] delegated to the Director of Environment, the Head of Planning and Public Protection and the Environmental Health & Trading Standards Manager;

[b] delegate to those officers in [a] above the authority to authorise individual competent and qualified officers to act under that legislation;

[c] delegate to those officers in [a] above the authority to institute legal proceedings under the provisions contained in the Housing [Wales] Act 2015 in conjunction with the Head of Legal Services [including the signing of any cautions in accordance with Home Office Guidelines] and, where an alleged offender is being held in custody in relation to an offence, to institute proceedings by way of charge;

2. That the Head of Legal Services be authorised to seek amendment of the Constitution by the Council in due course: in order to reflect the above changes to the authority's delegation arrangements.

Reason for Decisions:

To ensure that the Constitution reflects changes that have been made to certain legislation and that identified further legislation has been added.

Implementation of Decisions:

The decisions will be implemented after the three day call in period.

6. **AWARD OF CONTRACTS - SUBSIDISED BUS ROUTES**

Decision:

That the report be noted.

7. **BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

Members agreed with the recommendation of the Scrutiny Committee that the words 'after 3pm' be added to decision No. 3 (below) in line with decision No. 1, and noted that all decisions were subject to the formal constitution of the Business Improvement District (BID).

Decisions:

1. That free car parking after 3pm on the top floor of the Neath multi-storey car park in partnership with the BID be agreed for a 12 month period;
2. That the scheme be reviewed in 12 months' time and a report be brought back for scrutiny on its benefits/dis-benefits;
3. That the enforcement of the top level of the car park during the 12 month period, after 3pm, be suspended.

Reason for Decisions:

To enhance the vitality of the Town Centre.

Implementation of Decisions:

The decisions will be implemented after the three day call in period.

8. **LIST OF APPROVED CONTRACTORS**

Decision:

That Glamorgan White Lining Ltd be included on the Approved List for category 82, as detailed in the circulated report.

Reason for Decision:

To keep the Approved List up to date and as far as possible to ensure a competitive procurement process, as well as for the purpose of supplying a List of Contractors for invitation to tender within the relevant category.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

9. **ACCEPTANCE AND USE OF THE NEATH PORT TALBOT SPECIFICATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTIONS OF ROADS FOR ADOPTION**

Decision:

That authority be granted to accept the use of the highway specification standards, as detailed within the circulated report, and to grant delegated powers to the Director of Environment and the Head of Engineering and Transport, to make any future changes to the Neath Port Talbot Specification for the Construction of Roads for Adoption as required.

Reason for Decision:

To ensure that highway elements of a new residential or commercial development are constructed to the current highway standards that will support the health and wellbeing of the residents that live on these streets.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

Consultation:

This item has been subject to consultation within the Environment Directorate of the Local Authority.

10. **RECYCLING VEHICLE RENEWAL**

Decision:

That early renewal of 2 vehicles with the purchase of 2 Romaquip short wheel base vehicles via grant money, as detailed within the circulated report, be approved.

Reason for Decision:

To continue making progress with implementing the Council's Waste Strategy, with achieving statutory targets and avoiding financial penalties for non-conformance.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

11. **TRAFFIC ORDERS - ABERAVON**

Decision:

That the objection received be overruled and the Traffic Orders (Prohibition of Waiting at any Time on Water Street and Afan Way, Aberavon and Prohibition of Waiting, Loading and Unloading at any Time on Water Street, Aberavon) be implemented as advertised, and the objector informed accordingly.

Reason for Decision:

The scheme is necessary to prevent indiscriminate parking in the interest of road safety.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

Consultation:

This item has been subject to external consultation.

12. **TRAFFIC ORDERS - ABERAVON, BAGLAN & PORT TALBOT**

Decision:

That the proposed measures (a 7.5 tonne Weight Restriction Except for Access Order on A48 Pentyla Road, Baglan, a No Entry and One Way Order on Ty-Draw Hill, Port Talbot and a Prohibition of Driving Order on A4241 Seaway Parade - Rutherglen Roundabout) be advertised as detailed on the attached plans (Appendices A, B and C to the circulated report) and the Orders be implemented, subject to there being no objections.

Reason for Decision:

To control vehicular movement on the local highway network in the interest of road safety.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

Consultation:

A consultation exercise will be carried out when the scheme is advertised

13. **TRAFFIC CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2016/2017 - TRAFFIC ORDERS**

Decision:

That the schemes contained within the Traffic Capital Programme 2016/2017 (as detailed within the circulated report) be advertised in accordance with the statutory requirements, and subject to there being no objections received, the schemes be implemented in accordance with the relevant statutory requirements contained within the current Road Traffic Regulations - in the event of any objections being received in respect of any schemes, these will be reported back to the Environment and Highways Cabinet Board for a decision.

Reason for Decision:

The schemes are necessary in the interest of road safety within the County Boundary.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

Consultation:

This item will be subject to external consultation.

14. **INCORPORATION OF NON-OPERATIONAL COUNCIL LAND INTO THE HIGHWAY**

Decision:

That the area of land within Gwaun Cae Gurwen (as detailed within the circulated report and marked blue on the plan attached there to) be

transferred from Estates ownership to that of highway maintainable at the public expense.

Reason for Decision:

To ensure the land forming the visibility splay is under Highway Authority responsibility.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

15. **ALLEGED PUBLIC FOOTPATH - BLAENGWRACH**

Decision:

That a Modification Order be made to include the two lengths of paths (A-B1-C and B1-D between High Street, Empire Avenue and Heol Y Felin in the Community of Blaengwrach) as public footpaths only, and if no objections are received to confirm the same as an unopposed Order.

Reason for Decision:

To recognise the public's right of way on the above-mentioned footpaths in the Community of Blaengwrach.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

Consultation:

This item has been subject to external consultation.

16. **ALLEGED PUBLIC FOOTPATH - MARGAM**

Decision:

That a Modification Order be made to recognise the path from Points A-H (from Water Street to Footpath No. 90 in the Community of Margam) as shown on plan no.1 to the circulated report as a public footpath, and if no objections are received, to confirm the same as an unopposed Order.

Reason for Decision:

To recognise the public's right of way on the above-mentioned footpath in the Community of Margam.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

Consultation:

This item has been subject to external consultation.

17. **ALLEGED PUBLIC FOOTPATH - PONTARDAWE**

Decision:

That a Modification Order be made to show the paths A-B-C and B-D (from Swansea Road to Footpath No. 42 in the Community of Pontardawe) as public footpaths, and if no objections are received, to confirm the same as an unopposed Order.

Reason for Decision:

To recognise the public's right of way on the above-mentioned footpath in the Community of Pontardawe.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

Consultation:

This item has been subject to external consultation.

18. **ALLEGED PUBLIC FOOTPATHS - BRITON FERRY AND NEATH**

Decisions:

1. That no Modification Order be made for the length of path A-C (from Gardeners Lane to Eaglesbush Valley in the Community of Neath) as a public footpath and the application be refused;
2. That no Modification Order be made for the length of path C-B-D-E-F (from Eaglesbush Valley to Ynysmaerdy Road in the Communities of Briton Ferry and Neath) as a public footpath and the application be refused.

Reason for Decisions:

The evidence does not establish that it is reasonable to allege such a public path exists.

Implementation of Decisions:

The decisions will be implemented after the three day call in period.

Consultation:

This item has been subject to external consultation.

19. **FOOT GOLF AT GNOLL COUNTRY PARK**

Members requested that the next meetings of the Environment and Highways Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet Board be held at the Gnoll Country Park.

Decision:

That Foot Golf be trialled within the Gnoll Country Park, and Officers purchase the necessary set-up and subscription, as detailed in the circulated report.

Reason for Decision:

To increase income in line with Forward Financial Plan aspirations and to encourage more visitors to the Gnoll Country Park.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

20. **WASTE SERVICES BUSINESS PLAN**

Decision:

That the Waste Services Operational Business Plan for 2016/17, as detailed within the circulated report, be approved.

Reason for Decision:

To implement the Council's Performance Management Framework.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

Consultation:

This item has been subject to consultation within the Local Authority.

21. **NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES BUSINESS PLAN**

Decision:

That the Neighbourhood Services Operational Business Plan for 2016/17, as detailed within the circulated report, be approved.

Reason for Decision:

To implement the Council's Performance Management Framework.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

Consultation:

This item has been subject to consultation within the Local Authority.

22. **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2016/17**

Decision:

That the Forward Work Programme 2016-17, be noted.

CHAIRPERSON

2016/2017 FORWARD WORK PLAN (DRAFT)

ENVIRONMENT AND HIGHWAYS CABINET BOARD

Meeting Date and Time	Agenda Items	Type (Decision, Monitoring or Information)	Rotation (Topical, ,Annual, Biannual, Quarterly, Monthly)	Contact
24th Nov 2016	Quarterly Performance Monitoring (Q2)	Monitor	Quarterly	A.Headon
	Food and Feed Law Enforcement Service Delivery Plan 2016-17	Decision	Topical	Mark Thomas/ N.Pearce
	Food and Feed Enforcement Performance	Information	Topical	Mark Thomas/ N.Pearce

Environment and Highways Cabinet Board – Forward Work Programme (DRAFT)

Meeting Date and Time	Agenda Items	Type (Decision, Monitoring or Information)	Rotation (Topical, ,Annual, Biannual, Quarterly, Monthly)	Contact
5th Jan 2017				

Meeting Date and Time	Agenda Items	Type (Decision, Monitoring or Information)	Rotation (Topical, ,Annual, Biannual, Quarterly, Monthly)	Contact
16th Feb 2017	Quarterly Performance Monitoring (Q3)	Monitor	Quarterly	A.Headon
	Vehicle Fleet Procurement Programme 2017/18		Annual	D.Griffiths

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Environment and Highways Cabinet Board

1st September 2016

Joint Report of

Head of Engineering & Transport – D. W. Griffiths

Head of Streetcare – M. Roberts

Head of Planning and Public Protection – N. Pearce

Matter for Monitoring

Wards Affected: ALL

Environment and Highways Performance Indicators for Quarter 1 of 2016/17

- 1 Quarterly Performance Management Data 2016-2017 – Quarter 1 Performance (1st April – 30th June 2016)

Purpose of the Report

- 2 To report quarter 1 performance management data for the period 1st April to 30th June 2016 for Environment. This will enable the Environment and Highways Cabinet Board and Scrutiny Members to discharge their functions in relation to performance management.

Executive Summary

- 3 In line with the Council's six improvement priorities embedded within the Corporate Improvement Plan, Environment scrutinise performance within Waste Management, Transport and Highways, Public Protection and Private Sector Renewal. On the whole performance demonstrates improvement in line with what we planned to deliver.

Background

4 The role of Scrutiny Committees was amended at the Annual Meeting of Council in May 2010 to reflect the changes introduced by the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009; Environment will:

- Scrutinise the performance of all services and the extent to which services are continuously improving.
- Ensure performance measures are in place for each service and that the measures reflect what matters to local citizens.
- Promote innovation by challenging the status quo and encourage different ways of thinking and options for service delivery

Failure to produce a compliant report within the timescales can lead to non-compliance with our Constitution. Furthermore failure to have robust performance monitoring arrangements could result in poor performance going undetected.

Financial Impact

5 The performance described in the report is being delivered against a challenging financial background.

Equality Impact Assessment

6 This report is not subject to an Equality Impact Assessment.

Workforce Impacts

7 During 2015/16, the Environment Directorate saw a further downsizing of its workforce (by 87 employees) as it sought to deliver savings of 2.717million in the year.

Legal Impacts

8 This progress report is prepared under:

1. The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 and discharges the Council's duties to "make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of its functions".

2. The Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Constitution requires each cabinet committee to monitor quarterly budgets and performance in securing continuous improvement of all the functions within its purview.

Risk Management

- 9 Failure to produce a compliant report within the timescales can lead to non – compliance with our Constitution. Also failure to have robust performance monitoring arrangements could result in poor performance going undetected.

Consultation

- 10 No requirement to consult.

Recommendations

- 11 Members monitor performance contained within this report.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

- 12 Matter for monitoring. No decision required.

Implementation of Decision

- 13 Matter for monitoring. No decision required.

Appendices

- 14 Appendix 1 - Quarterly Performance Management Data 2016–2017 Quarter 1 Performance (1st April – 30th June 2016) – APPENDIX 1

List of Background Papers

- 15 The Neath Port Talbot [Corporate Improvement Plan - 2015/2018](#) “Rising to the Challenge”;

Officer Contact

- 16 Joy Smith, Road Safety and Business Performance Manager
Tel. No: 01639 686581 email: j.smith@npt.gov.uk



**Quarterly Performance Management Data 2016-2017 – Quarter 1
Performance (1st April to 30th June 2016)**

Report Contents:

Section 1: Key points.

Section 2: Quarterly Performance Management Data and performance key

Section 3: Compliments & Complaints Data

Section 1: Key Points

Waste Management

The Council is progressing with the implementation of its waste strategy and achieved the 2015/16 statutory recycling and composting target of 58%. The next target to reuse / recycle / compost 64% of waste collected by 2019/20.

Transport and Highways

The Council continues to progress its street lighting renewal project. Similarly, improvements are being seen in respect of overall road conditions as a result of the improvements made by the Council in respect of Highway Asset Management Planning.

The increase in average repair time has increased to 1.96 days from the first quarter last year due to an increase in the number of regional electricity company's network repair times and an increase in repair times of authority faults due to operational conditions.

The percentage of adults over 60 who hold a bus pass has decreased slightly due to data cleansing.

Street Scene & Countryside Management

The performance data for street cleanliness is reported annually and therefore will be reported in Quarter 4.

Housing – Private Sector Renewal

Largely properties that are brought back into use are outside of the control of the service, for example, they are affected by external factors such as the local housing market. The service does, however, contact owners of all such properties to provide advice on ways to bring them back into occupation and to direct them towards funding which may assist them. In addition the service takes enforcement action whenever necessary. This performance indicator is currently under review nationally and is reported annually.

The number of licenced Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) remains the same. However, the percentage has dropped slightly due to an increase in the number of HMO's that do not require a licence.

Public Protection

92.57% of food establishments were “broadly” compliant with food hygiene standards, marginally down on last year’s performance within the same period of 92.8%. The percentage of high risk businesses inspected for food hygiene equals the same period last year. However, the percentage of high risk businesses that have been inspected by Trading Standards is considerably lower as the department is detecting and dealing with more complex and significant infringements of consumer fraud and resources have been diverted to deal with them. These investigations are not necessarily related to high risk businesses, but are as a result of intelligence received.

The percentage of significant breaches that were rectified by intervention has increased for Trading Standards (43.75% in comparison to 15.7%) and Animal Health (100% in comparison to 80%). Rectification was achieved through the issuing of written warnings or the provision of formal advice to traders.

The percentage of identified new businesses which were subject to a food hygiene risk assessment visit is considerably lower than last year. This is as a consequence of there being a delay between the provision of advice to the new business and the actual start-up of that business. This is a matter which is beyond the control of the service. Nevertheless, all businesses are, and will continue to be, coached and advised prior to the commencement of trading to help raise standards and legal compliance. The risk assessment inspection can only take place when the business is trading, therefore there is always a lag period between food businesses becoming registered and actually having an unannounced inspection.

Section 2: Quarterly Performance Management Data and Performance Key

2016-2017 – Quarter 1 Performance (1st April to 30th June 2016)

Note: The following references are included in the table. Explanations for these are as follows:

(NSI) National Strategic Indicators (NSIs) - are used to measure the performance of local authorities at a national level and focus on key strategic priorities. The Welsh Government recently published a written statement confirming the revocation of the Local Government (Performance Indicators) (Wales) Order 2012. As such, 2015-16 will be the final year of collection of the former National Strategic Indicators (NSIs) by Welsh Government. In order to ensure minimal disruption for local authorities, many of whom will have included these indicators in their improvement plans for the current financial year, the WLGA's (Welsh Local Government Association) coordinating committee agreed that local authorities should collect them alongside the PAMs for 2016-17.







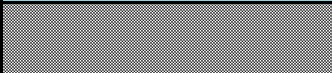
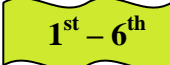
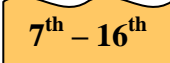
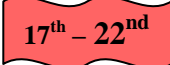
(PAM) Public Accountability Measures - consist of a small set of "outcome focussed" indicators, selected initially from within the existing Performance Measurement Framework. They will reflect those aspects of local authority work which local authorities agree are considered to be important in terms of public accountability. For example, recycling, educational attainment, sustainable development, etc. This information is required and reported nationally, validated, and published annually.

(SID) Service Improvement Data - can be used by local authority services and their regulators as they plan, deliver and improve services.


All Wales - The data shown in this column is the figure calculated using the base data supplied by all authorities for 2014/2015 i.e. an overall performance indicator value for Wales.

***The All Wales figures for 2015/16 will be published on 7th September 2016 and will be included in the Quarter 2 Performance Report.**


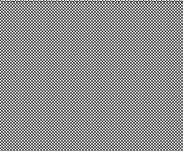
(L) Local Performance Indicator set by the Council.

	Performance Key
	Maximum Performance
	Performance has improved
	Performance has been maintained
	Performance is within 5% of previous year's performance
	Performance has declined by 5% or more on previous year's performance - Where performance has declined by 5% or more for the period in comparison to the previous year, an explanation is provided directly below the relevant performance indicator.
	No comparable data (data not suitable for comparison /no data available for comparison)
	No All Wales data available for comparison.
	2014/15 NPT performance in upper quartile (top six of 22 local authorities) in comparison with All Wales national published measures (NSI & PAM's).
	2014/15 NPT performance in mid quartiles (7 th – 16 th) in comparison with All Wales national published measures (NSI & PAM's).
	2014/15 NPT performance in lower quartile (17 th – 22 nd) in comparison with All Wales national published measures (NSI & PAM's).


1. Environment & Transport – Waste Management

No	PI Reference	PI Description	NPT Actual 2015/16	All Wales 2014/15	NPT Quarter 1 2015/16	NPT Quarter 1 2016/17	Direction of Improvement
1	WMT/012 (SID)	The percentage of local authority collected municipal waste used to recover heat and power.	29.20%		20.04%	30.00%	↑
2	WMT/010i (SID)	The percentage of local authority municipal waste: Prepared for re-use.	0.45%		0.44%	0.54%	↑
3	WMT/009b (NSI/PAM)	The percentage of municipal waste collected by local authorities and prepared for reuse and/or recycled, including source segregated bio wastes that are composted or treated biologically in another way.	58.32%	56.24% 	58.73%	60.22%	↑
4	WMT/010ii (SID)	The percentage of local authority municipal waste: Recycled.	37.68%		36.05%	39.83%	↑
		a) Incinerator Bottom Ash recycling rate	1.97%		n/a	2.86%	—
		b) Kerbside dry recycling rate	16.40%		n/a	16.44%	—
		c) Household Waste Recycling Centres dry recycling rate	19.31%		n/a	20.53%	—

1. Environment & Transport – Waste Management (cont.)

No	PI Reference	PI Description	NPT Actual 2015/16	All Wales 2014/15	NPT Quarter 1 2015/16	NPT Quarter 1 2016/17	Direction of Improvement
5	WMT/004b (NSI/PAM)	The percentage of municipal waste collected by local authorities sent to landfill.	14.04%	29.38% 	10.40%	8.77%	↑
6	WMT/010iii (SID)	The percentage of local authority municipal waste: Collected as source segregated bio-wastes and composted or treated biologically in another way.	19.88%		22.25%	19.84%	v

2. Environment & Transport – Transport and Highways



No	PI Reference	PI Description	NPT Actual 2015/16	All Wales 2014/15	NPT Quarter 1 2015/16	NPT Quarter 1 2016/17	Direction of Improvement
7	THS/007 (NSI)	The percentage of adults aged 60 or over who hold a concessionary bus pass.	92.1%	85.8% 	91.3%	88%	v
8	THS/009 (SID)	The average number of calendar days taken to repair street lamp failures during the year.	1.83	1.56	1.25	1.96	↓

Although there is a slight increase, response times are well within Council's service time recognising that FFP targets have had an effect

2. Environment & Transport – Transport and Highways (Cont.)


No	PI Reference	PI Description	NPT Actual 2015/16	All Wales 2014/15	NPT Quarter 1 2015/16	NPT Quarter 1 2016/17	Direction of Improvement
9	THS/011a (SID)	The percentage of: Principal (A) roads in overall poor condition.	4.5%		Reported Annually		—
10	THS/011b (SID)	The percentage of: Non-principal/classified (B) roads in overall poor condition.	2.6%				—
Page 29	THS/012 (PAM)	The percentage of Principal (A) roads, Non-principal (B) roads and Non-principal C roads that are in overall poor condition.	4.3%	11.9%. 3 rd			—
12	THS/011c (SID)	The percentage of: Non-principal /classified C roads in overall poor condition.	5.9%				—

3. Environment & Transport - Street Scene

No	PI Reference	PI Description	NPT Actual 2015/16	All Wales 2014/15	NPT Quarter 1 2015/16	NPT Quarter 1 2016/17	Direction of Improvement
13	STS/005a (SID)	The cleanliness Indicator	70.5		Reported Annually		—
14	STS/005b (PAM)	The percentage of highways and relevant land inspected of a high or acceptable standard of cleanliness.	93.57%	96.9% 			—
15	STS/006 (NSI)	The percentage of reported fly tipping incidents cleared within 5 working days	67.67%	93.05% 			—

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4. Planning and Regulatory Services – Private Sector Renewal

No	PI Reference	PI Description	NPT Actual 2015/16	All Wales 2014/15	NPT Quarter 1 2015/16	NPT Quarter 1 2016/17	Direction of Improvement
16	PSR/004 (NSI)	The percentage of private sector dwellings that had been vacant for more than 6 months at 1 April that were returned to occupation during the year through direct action by the local authority	40.20%	11.76% 	Reported Annually		—

4. Planning and Regulatory Services – Private Sector Renewal (Cont.)

No	PI Reference	PI Description	NPT Actual 2015/16	All Wales 2014/15	NPT Quarter 1 2015/16	NPT Quarter 1 2016/17	Direction of Improvement
17	PSR/007a	Of the 446 houses in multiple occupation known to the Local Authority, the percentage that: Have a full licence	1.35%		1.4%	1.34%	v
18	PSR/007b	Of the 446 houses in multiple occupation known to the Local Authority, the percentage that: Have been issued with a licence with conditions attached	0%		0%	0%	—
Page 31	PSR/007c	Of the 446 houses in multiple occupation known to the Local Authority, the percentage that: Are subject to enforcement activity	0%		0%	0%	—

5. Planning and Regulatory Services – Public Protection

No	PI Reference	PI Description	NPT Actual 2015/16	All Wales 2014/15	NPT Quarter 1 2015/16	NPT Quarter 1 2016/17	Direction of Improvement
20	PPN/007i (SID)	The percentage of significant breaches that were rectified by intervention during the year for Trading Standards	73.5%		15.7%	43.75%	↑
<p>This is a significant increase over the same period last year. A number of significant breaches that have been detected in the first quarter have been resolved by written warnings or formal advice to traders. However, there is still a notable number that are still under investigation</p>							
Page 32	PPN/007ii (SID)	The percentage of significant breaches that were rectified by intervention during the year for Animal Health	100%		80%	100%	↑
<p>A number of significant breaches that have been detected in the first quarter have been resolved by written warnings or formal advice to traders</p>							
22	PPN/001ii (SID)	The percentage of high risk businesses that were liable to a programmed inspection that were inspected for Food Hygiene	100%		21%	21%	↔
<p>Food hygiene inspections of High Risk food premises remain a key priority for the service. The quarterly percentages are accumulative, and currently in line with the same quarter last year. Additionally, a plan is being implemented for the further improvement in the subsequent quarters of 2016/17 – as the target remains at 100% at the end of quarter 4</p>							

4. Planning and Regulatory Services – Public Protection (Cont.)

23	PPN/001iii (SID)	The percentage of high risk businesses that were liable to a programmed inspection that were inspected for Animal Health	100%		40%	40%	↔
24	PPN/009 (NSI/PAM)	The percentage of food establishments which are “broadly” compliant with food hygiene standards	92.7%	94.2% 17 th	92.82%	92.57%	v
Of 1104 registered food establishments, 1022 were “broadly compliant” with food hygiene standards, compared to 1034 out of 1114 during the same period in 2015-16							
Page 33 25	PPN/001i (SID)	The percentage of high risk businesses that were liable to a programmed inspection that were inspected for Trading Standards	100%		19.5%	3.7%	↓
The department is detecting more complex and significant infringements of consumer fraud and is targeting resources to address them. High risk business inspections are spread throughout the financial year. Some high risk businesses were inspected at the end of the last financial year and it would be too early to inspect them in the first quarter of the current year as it would not give the department a good indication of how the business is developing over time. Officers are regularly reminded that they are the priority for the work programme. Certain inspections require specialist equipment and for efficiency and reasons of costs these businesses are all inspected at the same time.							

5. Planning and Regulatory Services – Public Protection (Cont.)

No	PI Reference	PI Description	NPT Actual 2015/16	All Wales 2014/15	NPT Quarter 1 2015/16	NPT Quarter 1 2016/17	Direction of Improvement
26	PPN/008ii (SID)	The percentage of new businesses identified which were subject to a risk assessment visit or returned a self-assessment questionnaire during the year: Food Hygiene	92%		76%	38%	↓
	Page 34	Of the 16 new businesses identified by Food Hygiene, 6 were subject to a risk assessment visit for this period compared to 25 out of 33 for the same period in 2015-16. There is usually a lag period between new food businesses becoming registered and seeking advice on food hygiene in relation to their emerging business and actually opening the business, thus necessitating the need for an unannounced inspection. This delay between advice received and the commencement of use of the business is beyond the control of the service. However, all businesses are coached / advised and where appropriate some are visited prior to commencing trading to ensure they are able to comply with basic legal requirements.					
27	PPN/008iii (SID)	The percentage of new businesses identified which were subject to a risk assessment visit or returned a self-assessment questionnaire during the year: Animal Health	100%		See note	See note	—

- Note : There were no new businesses detected for Animal Health in this period

Section 3: Compliments and Complaints

2016/2017 – Quarter 1 (1st April to 30th June 2016) – Cumulative data for E&H Board

	Performance Key
↑	Improvement : Reduction in Complaints/ Increase in Compliments
↔	No change in the number of Complaints/Compliments
v	Increase in Complaints but within 5% / Reduction in Compliments but within 5% of previous year.
↓	Increase in Complaints by 5% or more/ Reduction in Compliments by 5% or more of previous year.

No	PI Description	Full year 2015-16	Quarter 1 2015/16	Quarter 1 2016/17	Direction of Improvement
Page 35 1	<u>Total Complaints - Stage 1</u>	31	0	8	↓
	a - Complaints - Stage 1 upheld	15	0	1	
	b -Complaints - Stage 1 <u>not</u> upheld	16	0	7	
	c -Complaints - Stage 1 partially upheld	0	0	0	

No	PI Description	Full year 2015-16	Quarter 1 2015/16	Quarter 1 2016/17	Direction of Improvement
2	<u>Total Complaints - Stage 2</u>	5	2	1	↑
	a - Complaints - Stage 2 upheld	2	0	0	
	b - Complaints - Stage 2 <u>not</u> upheld	3	2	1	
	c- Complaints - Stage 2 partially upheld	0	0	0	
Page 36	<u>Total - Ombudsman investigations</u>	0	0	1	v
	a - Complaints - Ombudsman investigations upheld	0	0	0	
	b - Complaints - Ombudsman investigations <u>not</u> upheld	0	0	1	
4	Number of Compliments	23	5	31	↑
<p>Complaints: The increase in the number of Stage 1 complaints for Quarter 1 is due to increased recording</p> <p>Compliments: The awareness of compliments received and recording them has resulted in an increase. In addition, social media compliments have also been included in these figures.</p> <p>Welsh Language – There was one Welsh Language complaint reported during the 2015-16 financial year which was not upheld</p>					

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Environment and Highways Cabinet Board

1st September 2016

Report of the Head of Streetcare

M. Roberts

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected: All

Operational Business Plan for Highway & Drainage Services

Purpose of Report

- 1 To seek Member approval for the Operational Business Plan for Highway & Drainage Services

Executive Summary

- 2 Operational Business Plans contribute to service improvement by setting out service specific issues and priorities for the next 12 months, along with how they will be addressed.

Background

- 3 Every Division/Business Unit within the Authority is required to complete an OBP for each financial year outlining, amongst other issues, the following:-
 - Performance against last year's Action Plan and Targets
 - The actions and targets for the 12 months from April 2016 to March 2017

Financial Impact

- 4 There are no financial impacts associated with this report

Equality Impact Assessment

- 5 No specific Equalities Impact Screening or Assessment has been undertaken in respect of this Business Plan as any related savings required under the forward Financial Plan or service changes needed to

deliver the action plan have or will be subject to specific decision reports as required which will address equalities and other issues.

Workforce Impact

6 There are no workforce impacts associated with this report

Legal Impact

7 There are no legal impacts associated with this report

Risk Management

8 In line with Corporate requirements, risks to the service are identified and addressed where relevant in the Action Plan

Consultation

9 Employees within the individual services and external customers where relevant have been consulted in the development of the Action Plan

Recommendation

10 It is recommended that the Cabinet Board endorses the Highway & Drainage Services Operational Business Plan for 2016/17

Reason for Proposed Decision

11 To implement the Council's Performance Management Framework

Implementation of Decision

12 The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

Appendices

13 Highway & Drainage Services Operational Business Plan for 2016/17

List of Background Papers

14 None

Officer Contact

- 15 Steve Owen, Highway & Drainage Services Manager, Tel: 01639 686304 or e-mail: s.owen@npt.gov.uk

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Environment Directorate

Business Plan 2016 / 2017

For

Highways and Drainage Services

Prepared by the

**Highways and Drainage Services Manager
and
Head of Service, Streetcare Division**

Sponsor

Councillor Mrs. S. Miller

Cabinet Member for Streetcare and Highways

Section 1 - Introduction

The Highway and Drainage Section forms part of the Streetcare Services Division and details of the staffing structure are shown in Appendix 1. In summary there are 82 employees within the section (and a pool of 50 casual survey staff) working from the main building and Service Response Centre at Briton Ferry.

The service is responsible for the following key areas of activity:

- Maintenance of ditches, culverts and trash screens, gullies and carrier drains;
- Coastal Management and flood alleviation schemes;
- Planned and emergency adverse weather response, and responding to general/oil pollution emergencies;
- Highway asset management: inventory management, conditions surveys and analysis, highway inspections, works costing and works prioritisation;
- Planned and Reactive Highway Maintenance;
- Highway management and enforcement (Street works coordination, skip/scaffold/hoarding permits, vehicle crossings applications, removal of highway obstructions, enforcing the Highways Act etc.);
- Maintenance of non-illuminated signs, road markings and safety barriers;
- Undertaking capital and revenue civil engineering schemes as part of the works programme and managing the annual surfacing programme.
- Co-ordinate and control the stores for Streetcare services.

The Highways and Drainage revenue budget for 2016/17 is as follows:

Minor Works (including £450k one-off monies)	550,000
Highway Network Maintenance (e.g. safety fencing, signs etc.)	277,438
Reactive Highways Maintenance	1,944,206
Coastal Protection	12,000
Streetworks Monitoring and Co-ordination	223,289
Additional Pot Hole, Slips and trips work (funded by Insurance Sect)	379,390
Road Markings	31,469
Network Management	271,131
Survey Team	89,072
Drainage Services	<u>951,461</u>
Total	4,729,456

There is also a capital budget for planned highways and engineering work of £3,148,000 to be managed (made up of £1,925,000 NPT monies and £1,223,000 Welsh Assembly Grant monies), of which work to the value of £1,773,000 is currently

planned to be undertaken by the Highway and Drainage Service. In addition, the section is responsible for the Stores, which typically holds stock to the value of circa £350,000.

Section 2 - Priorities

Progress with achieving the priorities in 2015/16

Progress with achieving the priorities set last year was as follows:

- Continued to maintain the overall condition of the network in the context of budget reductions.
- Managed resources within budget and delivered all service related savings required in the Forward Financial Plan.
- Delivered contribution to works programme to time and cost
- Maintained draining systems to minimise flooding incidents.
- Continued the upgrading of pumping stations and commenced tendering process for the maintenance of pumping stations through the Sell 2 Wales and OJEU web sites.
- Delivery of Flood Risk Management Plan within required timescales.
- Annual training programme completed including 135 general training days with an additional 31 days of driver CPC training.
- Transfer of stores & purchasing section completed.
- Trained four Roadworker apprentices.

Priorities to be delivered in 2016-2017

The most important things for the service to achieve are to:

- Delivering the 2016/17 Works Programme (including carriageway and footway resurfacing programme).
- Formulating the 2017/18 Works Programme (including carriageway and footway resurfacing programme)
- Produce and award tender for Road Markings, Studs and Ancillary Works 2016-19.
- Implementation of key tasks as outlined in Flood Risk Management Plan.
- Maximise impact of increasingly constrained available resources.
- Maintain high standards of Health and Safety at Work.
- Deliver Financial Savings allocated in the Forward Financial Plan
- Maximise attendance at work and minimise sickness absence

- Ensure performance management arrangements are effective and in line with the Council's corporate framework.
- Continue to invest in our staff taking account of succession planning.
- Continue to develop collaborative work internally and with other agencies where beneficial.
- Measure customer satisfaction.
- Provide high quality materials at competitive rates using National Procurement Frameworks.
- Produce a Status and Options report for Highways as part of Highways Asset Management Planning

Why are these priorities?

Through focusing on these priorities we aim to play a key role in ensuring Neath Port Talbot is a place where people want to live, work and visit. Specifically, they flow from the following corporate priorities:

- Corporate improvement priority 4, Prosperity for All, so the service is well placed to play a role in physical regeneration;
- Corporate improvement priority 6, Digital by Choice, to improve service access and efficiency

The set priorities are also needed to:

- Meet the Council's obligations as Highway Authority.
- Fulfil the requirements of the Council's adopted Forward Financial Plan.
- Take forward the outcome of the corporate reviews of Performance Management and Sickness Management
- Ensure business continuity and resilience
- Continue maximising efficiency and value for money.
- Help deliver 'what matters' to our customers, as identified by survey results
- Ensure long term sustainability of the service.
- Meet legislative requirements such as the Well-Being of Future Generations Act and those relating to flood risk management.
- Deliver the annual works programme agreed with Members.

Delivery of these priorities will help ensure the long term sustainability of the service and deliver the resultant user benefits as set out in the service objectives.

What is our approach to achieving these priorities?

Our approach to delivering these priorities is to undertake our work via a mixed economy of in-house and external service delivery as provides best value to the Council and our customers.

Actions and Measures

See Appendices

Section 3 – Risk Management

To assess what risks the service faces and identify how any risks will be managed an annual risk assessment is undertaken. The risk assessment for Highways and Drainage Services is given in Appendix 2 below.

Section 4 - Workforce Planning

Graphs showing some details of the employee profile are shown in Appendix 3.

Shorter term observations

The Highways and Drainage section has continued to adapt to staff reductions and changes to requirements. Following a succession of budget reductions accompanied by voluntary redundancies and associated reorganisation the service is now at a minimum staffing level, particularly with respect to office based staff, and succession planning is a priority. Continued training is needed to meet certain requirements particularly with respect to the changing materials, technologies and legislation.

Longer term observations

There will be a need to continue to ensure expert leadership and technical skills are in place so that the council's Highways and Drainage requirements are met going forward in the face of continuous industry changes and changing service demands. Whilst the extent may vary, this will be true whatever service delivery model is in place.

The current training matrix needs to be maintained and complemented with an apprentice and graduate training programme to supplement skills and experience that have been, and will be, lost to retirement. These additional programmes need to be resourced as an essential part of succession planning, with the position concerning future senior technical and managerial staff needing particular consideration.

There is a potential for key senior staff to leave the Authority when they meet the '85 year' rule (i.e. when employees can take early retirement without notice/approval from their employer). Given the smaller workforce this is an issue that needs further consideration taking account of the age profile analysis in appendix 3, which links with the need to establish a more robust succession plan within the division. Failure to address this issue could lead to a sudden and unplanned decrease in competent and qualified staff leaving the Council vulnerable and unable to meet its statutory duties.

The extent and exact nature of any apprentice/graduate programmes can be tailored to any decision regarding future service delivery model but in the absence of any programme, the mix of in-house and external services provision will continue to drift towards the latter regardless of value for money. There are 82 employees in Highway and Drainage Services and it can be seen from the graphs that around half of all personnel are over 50, with around one-third approximately in the age range 50 – 55. In the event of a failure to complete a training programme within ten years, not only would there be a sudden dramatic fall in staff with retirement there would be no expert and experience staff to train others. Current standby/winter gritting arrangements also require a critical mass of staff to operate and should any standalone arrangement be necessary it can be expected to be more expensive.

Actions identified from above are included in the Priorities / Actions / Outcomes Table in Appendix 3.

Section5 – Property consequences of the adopted priorities

Highways and Drainage Services operate from The Quays, Tawe Terrace and the Service Response Centre.

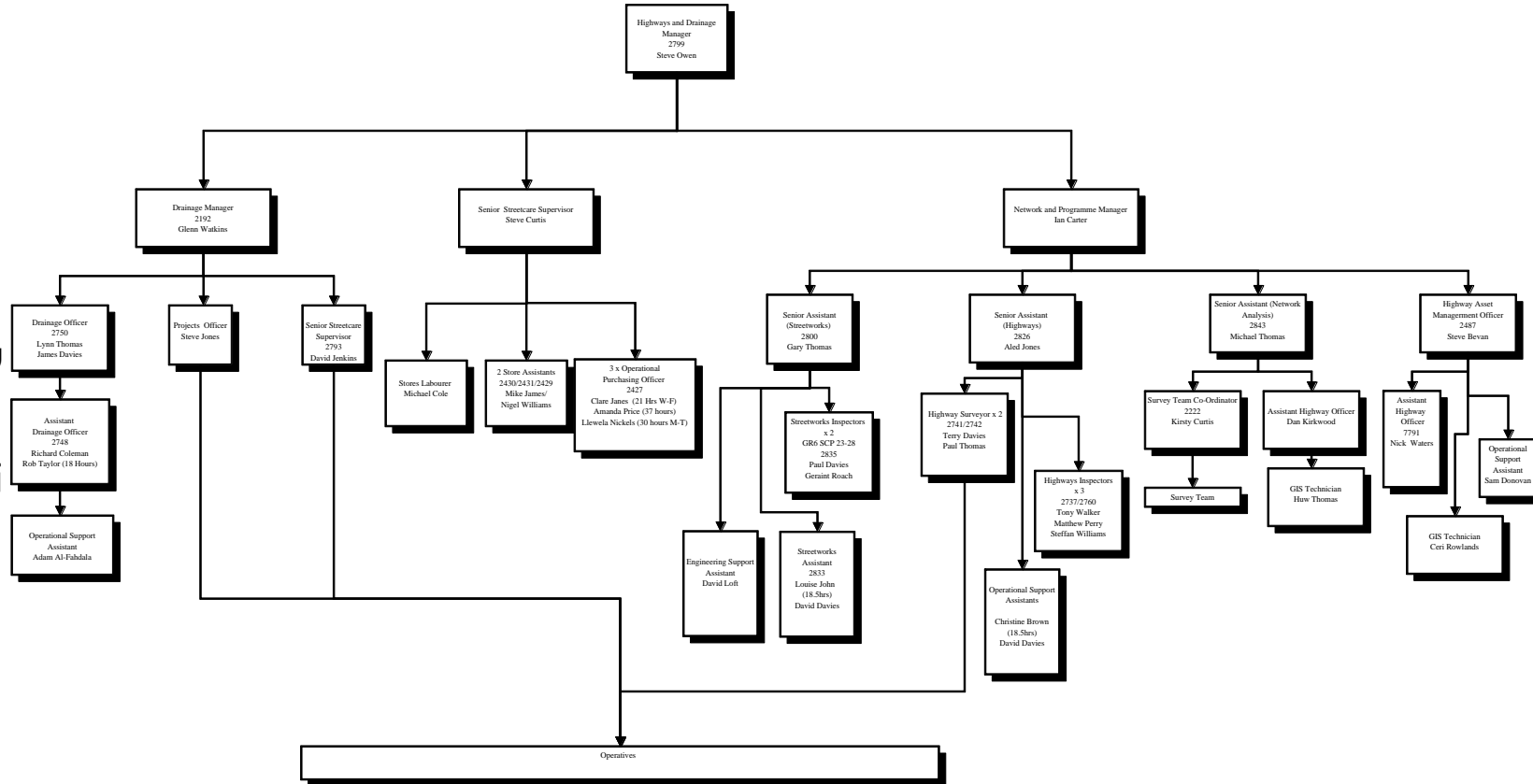
Property Table:

<u>Property Name</u>	<u>Required Change</u>	<u>Why</u>	<u>Impact</u>
The Quays	None	All service needs satisfied	No impact
Service Response Centre	None	All service needs satisfied	No impact

Tawe Terrace	None	All service needs satisfied	No impact
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Environment
Streetcare - Highway & Drainage Services
April 2016

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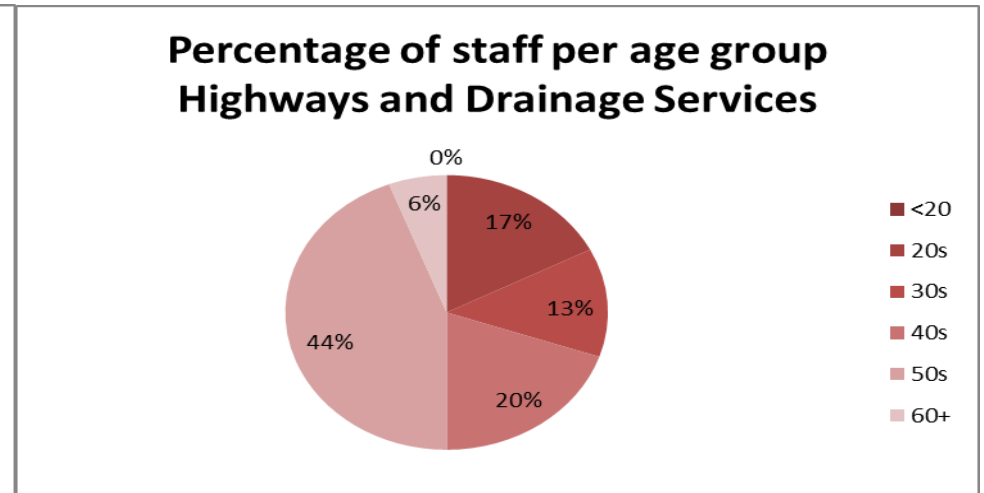
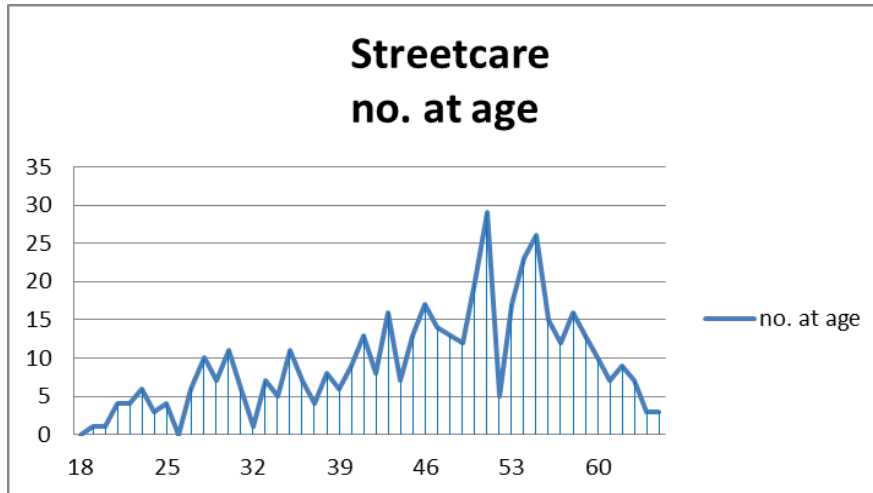
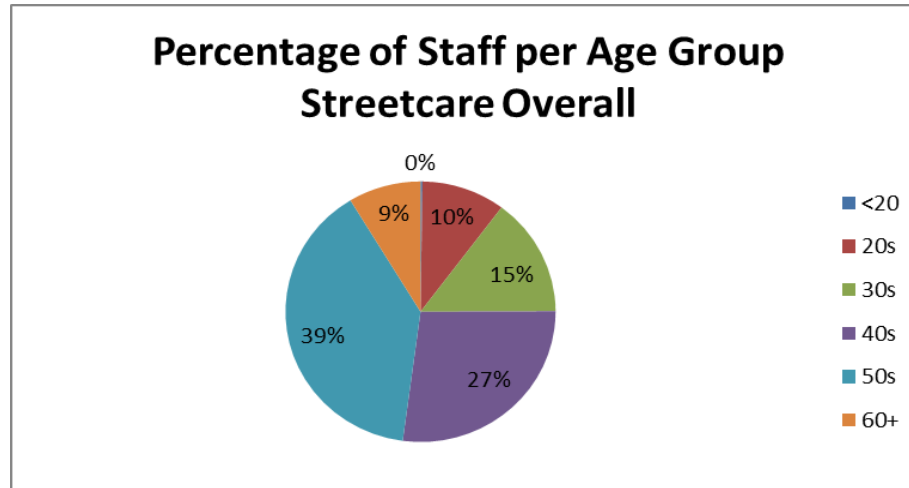
Risk Management Table:

Appendix 2

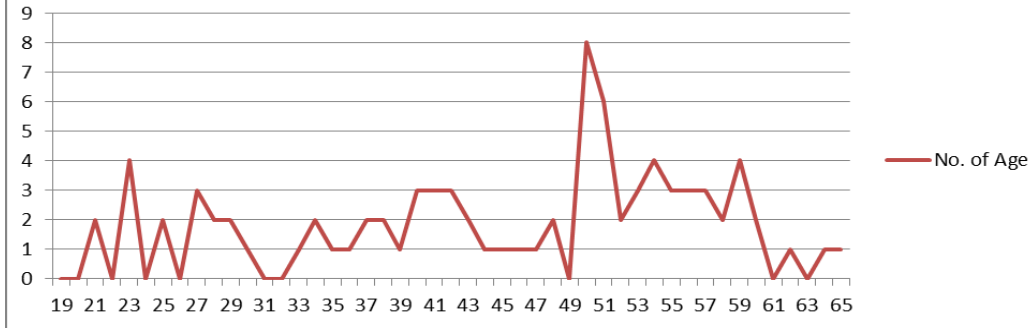
Ref	Risk Description	Likelihood Score	Impact Score	Overall Risk (LxI)	Proximity	Mitigating Action	Target Date	Risk Owner
R1	Failure to manage increasing incidents of flooding taking account of climate change	3	3	9M	1	Agreed Flood Risk Strategy. Identify areas for service improvements, address hot spots, review and implement emergency flooding procedures. Ensure continued ability to provide out of hours service by monitoring of standby rota and availability of operatives. Implementation of Flood Risk Management Plan	annually	SO
R2	Failure to maintain culverts and ditches (and impact of blockages ditches on flooding) in a manner taking into account ecological/biodiversity issues and land ownership.	3	3	9M	1	Implementation of Drainage Service Review, changes in working practises to make smarter use of resources. Continue to develop pro- active maintenance regime on authority critical culverts and ditches and liaise with Development Control on any maintenance issues on private land so that they might take appropriate action. Raise awareness at operative level of ecological issues and constraints. Establish database of locations where Highway drains are on private land and notice should be served or protocol established.	Ongoing	SO

Ref	Risk Description	Likelihood Score	Impact Score	Overall Risk (LxI)	Proximity	Mitigating Action	Target Date	Risk Owner
R3	NPTCBC now has statutory role as Lead Local Flood Authority and as a result has significant additional responsibilities and risks.	3	3	9M	1	Continue to lobby for funding for additional responsibilities and utilise Welsh Government Grant funding as far as possible.	Ongoing	SO
R4	Failure to maintain gully drainage system effectively	2	3	6M	1	Implement improvements identified during system review. Review rounds and deploy resources to best effect.	Ongoing	SO
R5	Winter Service does not meet expectations of the public in the context of a severe winter	2	3	6M	1	Continued monitoring of Winter Service Operational Plan and standby rotas	Ongoing	SO
R6	Sub-standard asset management and resultant claims. (e.g. failure to maintain skid resistance across the Network, failure to address safety defects in line with Maintenance Plan)	2	2	4L	1	Continued monitoring and development of Highway Asset Management Planning	Ongoing	SO
R7	Failure to provide necessary materials to end users or have quality related issues with materials	2	3	6M	1	Maintain sufficient supply of regularly used products. Ensure more than one supplier for essential materials are available to deliver at short notice.	Ongoing	SO
R8	Failure to provide estimates for invited tenders on time.	2	3	6M	1	Forward planning and clear communication with Building Maintenance estimators is essential.	Ongoing	SO

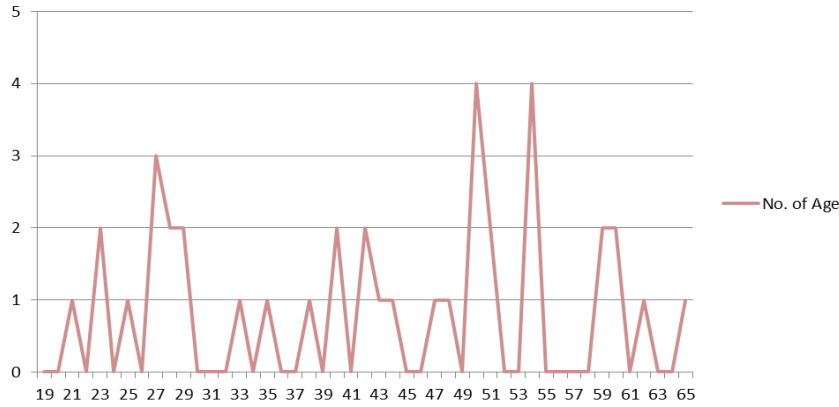
Ref	Risk Description	Likelihood Score	Impact Score	Overall Risk (LxI)	Proximity	Mitigating Action	Target Date	Risk Owner
R9	Inability to maintain standby rota	2	4	8M	1	An assessment of all operatives' skills to be undertaken to establish service capacity and training requirements for succession planning. Service to be periodically reviewed to maximise efficiency.	September 2016	SO
R10	Readiness for oil pollution event	2	5	10M	1	To work with the JRU to update the Oil pollution Plan. Ensure that trained employees and supervisors carry out refresher training for Beach masters/ beach operators. Exercise the revised plan with neighbouring authorities, coordinated by the JRU	March 2017	SO/MR



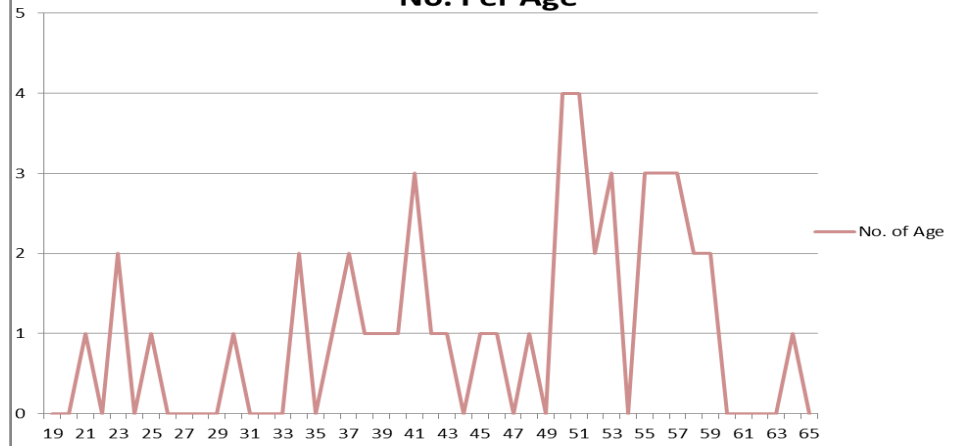
Highway & Drainage Services Employees per Age



Highway and Drainage Services - Office Staff No. per Age



Highway and Drainage Services - Workforce No. Per Age



Priority 1 – Delivering the 2016/17 Works Programme (including carriageway and footway resurfacing programme)			
Actions	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular monitoring of progress and spend. • Regular progress meetings with stakeholders to identify potential problems and solutions. • Regular consultation with public and Ward Members. 	Ian Carter (Network and Programme Manager)	Annual (March 2017)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful delivery of programme within timescale and budget. • Minutes of Works Progress meetings
Priority 2 – Formulating the 2017 / 18 Works Programme (including carriageway and footway resurfacing programme)			
Actions	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual meetings with Ward Members to discuss priorities • Formulation of draft programme based on Member and Officer priorities • Consultation with H of S and Cabinet Members in finalising programme 	Ian Carter (Network and Programme Manager)	Annual (March 2017)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment and Highways Cabinet Board approval for spend. • Works Programme • Minutes of Members Surgeries
Priority 3 – Produce and award tender for Road Markings, Studs and Ancillary Works 2016/19			
Actions	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production of tender document in consultation with relevant officers. • Invitation to tender, tender evaluation and award of contract. 	Ian Carter (Network and Programme Manager)	1 st September 2016	Successful award of Contract
Priority 4 – Implementation of tasks and objectives as outlined in Flood Risk Management Plan.			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a Flood Warning Service 	Glenn Watkins (Drainage Manager)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 17 • Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of output to confirm successful delivery of action plan

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey and update of GIS and Asset Records • Inspection and Maintenance of Flood Assets • Establish Liaison with owners of Significant Flood Assets • Delivery of Local Community Level Actions on the priority basis. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing • Ongoing • March 17 	<p>within timescale and budget.</p>
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Priority 5 – Maximise impact of increasingly constrained resources

Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To prioritise work against available resources to maximise efficiency and spread workload. 	Steve Owen	Annually/Monthly/Weekly/Daily	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review budgets/resources and deliver services to establish and prioritise progress, noting that extreme weather events or infrastructure failure can result in changing priorities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide training to employees 	SO/GW/IC	Annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review training needs from section heads annually and revise as necessary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve management of activities undertaken by others on the highway to reduce Authority risk 	Steve Owen	Monthly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Records of intervention and defect levels.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement and develop web based systems for reporting and payments 	SO/GW/IC	Annual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify list of services/transactions that could be transferred on line. • Records of prioritisation for addressing identified services/transactions (not already completed) via Corporate Digital by Choice Project Board. • Availability of online systems.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce sickness absence 	Steve Owen	Monthly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly sickness meetings.
Priority 6 – Maintain high standards of Health and Safety at Work			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to train and refresh staff to the appropriate standards Deliver new and revise Risk Assessments Continue to Manage and monitor staff in conjunction with the H&S team 	Steve Owen	Monthly	Minutes of Health and Safety Meetings and associated statistics
Priority 7 – Deliver financial savings allocated in the Forward Financial Plan			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximise efficiency and deliver the FFP savings for 2016/17 Revise staffing structures as required 	Steve Owen	Monthly/As required	Remain within allocated budgets
Priority 8 – Maximise attendance at work and minimise sickness absence			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to manage sickness under the corporate policy. 	Steve Owen (Highway and Drainage Manager)	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Records of return to work interviews. Records of OHU referral where necessary. Records of disciplinary action where required. End of year sickness figures
Priority 9 – To ensure performance management arrangements are effective and in line with the Council’s corporate framework, including the completion of Employment Development Reviews			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
Carry out annual appraisal/development reviews	SO and Line Managers	Annual	Records of appraisal and any associated actions.

Priority 10 – To continue to invest in out staff taking account of succession planning			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop Highways and Drainage Training and succession Plan. 	Steve Owen (Highway and Drainage Manager)	Ongoing	Training plan.
Priority 11 – To continue to develop collaborative work internally and with other agencies where beneficial and to measure customer satisfaction			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued working of The Neath Estuary Group in partnership with Port of Neath and NRW to work towards mutual benefits To liaise with WG (and other partners such as NRW) on the Innovative Funding Coastal Programme Initiative and to develop the four Coastal Programme schemes as currently submitted by NPT (and approved at the first stage of funding by WG) 	Glenn Watkins (Drainage Manager)	Annual (March 2017)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of Meetings Feasibility reports.
Priority 12 – To provide high quality materials at competitive rates using National Procurement Frameworks			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with suppliers through the National Procurement Frameworks and conduct product trials to establish best brand and value, not necessarily cheapest. 	Steve Curtis	On-going	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procurement through National Framework where available. Record of product trials and satisfaction surveys.

Priority 13 - Produce Status and Options Report for Highway Pavements

Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
<p>Produce an SOR report detailing a summary of the council's road assets. The report will describe:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The current condition of the asset.• The existing levels of service.• Long term forecasts / predictions for different levels of service options.	<p>Ian Carter (Network and Programme Manager)</p>	<p>Periodic (March 2017)</p>	<p>Environment and Highways Cabinet Board approval.</p>

Priority Measures Table:

Appendix 5

Priority Measures (2016-2017)	2014-2015 Performance (if available)	2015-2016 Performance (if available)	2016-2017 Performance Outlook
<p>PM1 – Improve management of activities undertaken by others on our highway, through regular inspections and testing of reinstatements.</p> <p>At present, approximately 30% of statutory undertaker works are inspected/monitored each year and the categories of inspection are as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Undertaken during the progress of the works b) Undertaken within the six months following interim or permanent reinstatement c) Undertaken within the three months preceding the end of the guarantee period 	<p>110 cores taken</p> <p>4,511 notices received</p>	<p>100 cores taken</p> <p>4,566 notices received</p>	<p>Maintain level of coring and inspections.</p>
<p>PM2 – Produce prioritised Work Programme for 2017/18 through annual meetings with Ward Members to discuss priorities</p>	<p>Successfully delivered</p>	<p>Successfully delivered</p>	<p>Maintain: Proposed programme to Board prior to end March 2017.</p>
<p>PM3 – Delivery of 2016/17 Works Programme on time and within budget.</p>	<p>£179,000 (slippage)</p>	<p>£229,000 (slippage)</p>	<p>Improve by reducing slippage</p>
<p>PM4 – Benchmark Highways & Footways service performance (i.e. safety condition, asset preservation, third party claims & financial) via APSE submissions, which supply performance comparisons with other Welsh Authorities.</p>	<p>Submitted by due date</p>	<p>Submitted by due date</p>	<p>Maintain (submit by due date)</p>

Priority Measures (2016-2017)	2014-2015 Performance (if available)	2015-2016 Performance (if available)	2016-2017 Performance Outlook
PM4 - % of gullies cleaned annually	89%	93%	Improve (dependent on weather conditions and capacity)
PM5 - % of culvert trash screens maintained as per schedule frequency (inventory to date is 450 culverts)	100%	100%	Maintain
PM6 – No. of reported properties flooded	11	10	Monitor
PM7 – No. of section 72 default notices served	110	164	Continue to intervene where required
PM8 - Mail responded to within 8 working days	72%	74%	Improve
PM9 – Condition of Principal Roads: Percentage of principal (A) road network in poor overall condition and requiring planned maintenance within a year or so	5.8%	4.5%	Maintain / Improve (dependant on investment)
PM10 – Condition of Non Principal roads: Percentage of the non-principal (B) road network in poor overall condition and requiring planned maintenance within a year or so	4.0%	2.6%	Maintain / Improve (dependant on investment)
PM11 - Condition of Non Principal roads: Percentage of the non-principal (C) road network in poor overall condition and requiring planned maintenance within a year or so	7.0%	5.9%	Maintain
PM12 – Average condition of ABC routes	5.6%	4.3%	Maintain
PM13 – Number of ‘vehicle crossing’ requests received and dealt with	103	108	Process and inspect as required
PM14 – Number of skip permits issued	596	643	Process and inspect as required
PM15 – Number of scaffold permits issued	135	192	Process and inspect as required
PM14 – Number of ‘Section 81’ Notices served to ensure utility covers and frames comply with standards	299	273	Enforce, process and inspect as required
PM16 – Number of temporary road closure applications processed	34	39	Process, advise and inspect as required
PM17 – Number of licence applications for the installation of private apparatus in the highway processed	19	12	Process and inspect as required

Priority Measures (2016-2017)	2014-2015 Performance (if available)	2015-2016 Performance (if available)	2016-2017 Performance Outlook
PM18 – Number of third party insurance claims against the Council on Highway related claims.	89	110	Improve: The number of claims increased in 2015/16 due to a particular issue associated with road surfacing in the Cwmafan Road area which increased claims by 25. Notwithstanding this issue, insurance claims have been reducing for the last 5 years
PM19 – Total number of defects identified within annual inspection regime	12,037	12,469	To record and analyse defect data

Mandatory Corporate Measures Table

Appendix 6

Mandatory Measures (2016-2017)	2014-2015 Performance (if available)	2015-2016 Performance (if available)	2016-2017 Performance Outlook
<p>CM01 % (no.) of transactional services that are web enabled</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>0%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 65%, The following services were web enabled (apply and pay online) from the start of 2016-17:- Skip, scaffold, container, office, roll on-off, hoarding, builders materials, oversail. <p>Next step is to consider Section 50 Licences, Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (Road Closures), Self-constructed vehicle crossing, H-Bar applications, Temporary Excavations, Pavement Café Licences, and A Frames requests.</p>
<p>CM02 % of revenue only expenditure within budget</p>	<p>95.84%</p>	<p>96.35%</p>	<p>>98%</p>
<p>CM03 % (amount) of FFP savings at risk</p>	<p>0%</p>	<p>0%</p>	<p>0%</p>
<p>CM04 Average FTE (full time equivalent) days lost due to sickness</p>	<p>11.3</p>	<p>10.2</p>	<p>Reduce</p>

Mandatory Measures (2016-2017)	2014-2015 Performance (if available)	2015-2016 Performance (if available)	2016-2017 Performance Outlook
CM05 % (no.) of staff performance appraisals to be completed during 2016-2017	Informal process completed	Informal process completed	Establish baseline performance
CM06 No. of employees who left due to unplanned departures	0	0	Monitor
CM07 Total no of complaints: Internal External	Unknown 1	1 1	Maintain
CM08 Total no of compliments: Internal External	5 Unknown	8 3	Monitor
CM09 % (no.) of services measuring customer satisfaction	Unmeasured	Unmeasured	Improve
CM10 % (no.) of service report cards to be produced by 31.03.17	100%	100%	Maintain
CM11 %of services measuring staff engagement	N/A	N/A	Corporate Strategy will be developing an engagement toolkit during 2016/17

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Environment and Highways Cabinet Board

1st September 2016

Report of the Head of Streetcare

M. Roberts

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected: All

Operational Business Plan for Lighting Services

Purpose of Report

- 1 To seek Member approval for the Operational Business Plan for Lighting Services.

Executive Summary

- 2 Operational Business Plans contribute to service improvement by setting out service specific issues and priorities for the next 12 months, along with how they will be addressed.

Background

- 3 Every Division/Business Unit within the Authority is required to complete an OBP for each financial year outlining, amongst other issues, the following:-
 - Performance against last year's Action Plan and Targets.
 - The actions and targets for the 12 months from April 2016 to March 2017.

Financial Impact

- 4 There are no financial impacts associated with this report.

Equality Impact Assessment

- 5 No specific Equalities Impact Screening or Assessment has been undertaken in respect of this Business Plan as any related savings required under the forward Financial Plan or service changes needed to

deliver the action plan have or will be subject to specific decision reports as required which will address equalities and other issues.

Workforce Impact

6 There are no workforce impacts associated with this report.

Legal Impact

7 There are no legal impacts associated with this report.

Risk Management

8 In line with Corporate requirements, risks to the service are identified and addressed where relevant in the Action Plan.

Consultation

9 Employees within the individual services and external customers where relevant have been consulted in the development of the Action Plan.

Recommendation

10 It is recommended that the Cabinet Board endorses the Lighting Services Operational Business Plan for 2016/17.

Reason for Proposed Decision

11 To implement the Council's Performance Management Framework.

Implementation of Decision

12 The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

Appendices

13 Lighting Services Operational Business Plan for 2016/17.

List of Background Papers

14 None

Officer Contact

- 15 Mike Key, Lighting and Building Services Manager, Tel: 01639 686442
or e-mail: m.key@npt.gov.uk

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Environment Directorate

Business Plan 2016 / 2017

For

Lighting Services

Prepared by the

**Lighting & Building Services Manager
and
Head of Service, Streetcare Division**

Sponsor

Councillor Mrs. Sandra Miller

Cabinet Member for Streetcare and Highways

Section 1 - Introduction

Lighting Services forms part of the Lighting and Building Services section. The section was established as part of service realignment with the Streetcare Services Division in February 2011 and details of the staffing structure and operating centres are shown in Appendix 1. In summary there are currently 16 employees within the Lighting Service working from the Service Response Centre at The Quays in Briton Ferry.

The service is responsible for the following:

- Providing design and installation services to internal teams.
- Undertaking capital and revenue schemes with regards to public lighting and traffic signal schemes (Telematics).
- Completing Major/Minor works as in-house contractor as appropriate.
- Construction of Public Lighting infrastructure renewals
- Maintaining public lighting.
- Management of the Service Level Agreement for traffic signal equipment maintenance with the City and County of Swansea.
- The provision of 'out of hours' emergency call-out services.
- Responding to public correspondence and enquiries.
- The installation and renewal of traffic signal equipment.
- Collecting and maintain lighting information for the Welsh Government on the Motorway and Trunk Road network.
- Analysing technical and condition survey data and recommending maintenance schemes for inclusion in annual works programmes.
- Provision of technical services to internal and external clients.

The revenue budget for the service in 2016/17 is £1,995,308 including £901,386 for energy charges and approximately £100,000 of 'externally' funded work.

Section 2 - Priorities

Progress with achieving the priorities in 2015/16

Progress with achieving the priorities set last year was as follows:

- Managed resources within budget and delivered all service related savings required in the Forward Financial Plan.

- Delivered all minor lighting schemes within the agreed works programme to time and budget
- Completed Phase 2 of the Council's large scale Lighting Renewal Project, including resolution of the long standing 'two wire line' issue, and tendered the third and final phase.
- Amended lamp change regime in line with new infrastructure
- APSE Awards 2015 – Finalist in the 'Best Performer' and Most Improved category.
- Annual employee training and development programme completed

Priorities to be delivered in 2016-2017

The most important things for the Service to achieve are to:

1. Implement a medium to long term planned maintenance programme for effectively managing the infrastructure that not covered by the renewal project
2. Formulate and implement a revised strategy for maintenance of the new infrastructure.
3. Continue to deliver a balanced financial outcome for the service area.
4. Be proactive in maximising the attendance at work.
5. Ensure completion of EDR's, and the development of staff/operatives.
6. To continually manage and monitor the Public Lighting infrastructure energy budget.
7. To progress Phase Three of the Lighting Renewal Project and continue to deliver capital improvements in the traffic signal infrastructure within the set budget.
8. Pursue grant opportunities for LED lighting

Why are these priorities?

Through focusing on these priorities we aim to play a key role in ensuring Neath Port Talbot is a place where people want to live, work and visit. Specifically, they flow from the following:

- Corporate improvement priority 2, Better Schools/Better Prospects and are designed to ensure the service can play its part in the Strategic School Improvement Plan, by improving access via safe route to schools initiative's and lighting design and installation in the Authority's school transformation programme;
- Corporate improvement priority 4, Prosperity for All, so the service is well placed to play a role in physical regeneration in the investment in our Town Centre and Communities, by renewing and replacing the Street Lighting infrastructure;
- Corporate improvement priority 5, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, so the service can make its contribution to delivering statutory waste reduction and recycling targets;
- Corporate improvement priority 6, Digital by Choice, to improve service access and efficiency;

The set priorities are also needed to:

- Fulfil the requirements of the Council's adopted Forward Financial Plan, specifically, by reducing energy consumption.
- Take forward the outcome of the corporate reviews of Performance Management and Sickness Management
- Ensure business continuity and resilience
- Continue maximising efficiency and value for money.
- Help deliver 'what matters' to our customers, as identified by survey results
- Ensure long term sustainability of the service.
- To meet legislative requirements such as the Well-Being of Future Generations Act

What is our approach to achieving these priorities?

Our approach to delivering these priorities is to undertake our work via a mixed economy of in-house and external service delivery as provides best value to the Council and our customers.

Actions and Measures

See Appendices 4

Section 3 – Risk Management

To assess what risks the service faces and identify how any risks will be managed an annual risk assessment is undertaken. The risk assessment for Lighting Services is given in Appendix 2 below.

Section 4 - Workforce Planning

Graphs showing some details of the employee profile are shown in Appendix 3.

Shorter term observations

Lighting Services five year renewal programme is due to be completed by October 2017, and is currently on target and budget. Staffing and skills requirements to be reviewed for personnel after completion in line with revised maintenance requirements.

The service is currently at a minimum staffing level and succession planning is a priority.

Continued development of the workforce is required to ensure that the service is not compromised which includes any technology or legislation changes. The workforce is actively encouraged to work flexibly and workforce turnover is minimal.

Longer term observations

There will be a need to continue to ensure that expert leadership and technical skills are in place to ensure the council's Street Lighting and Telematics and requirements are met going forward in the face of continuous technical changes and changing service demands. Whilst the extent may vary, this will be the case whatever service delivery model is in place.

The current training matrix needs to be maintained and complemented with an apprentice and graduate training programme to supplement technical experts that have been, and will be, lost to retirement. This training would need to be resourced as part of succession planning.

The extent and exact nature of any apprentice/graduate programmes can be tailored to any decision regarding future service delivery model but in the absence of any programme, or positive decision concerning the future service delivery model, then

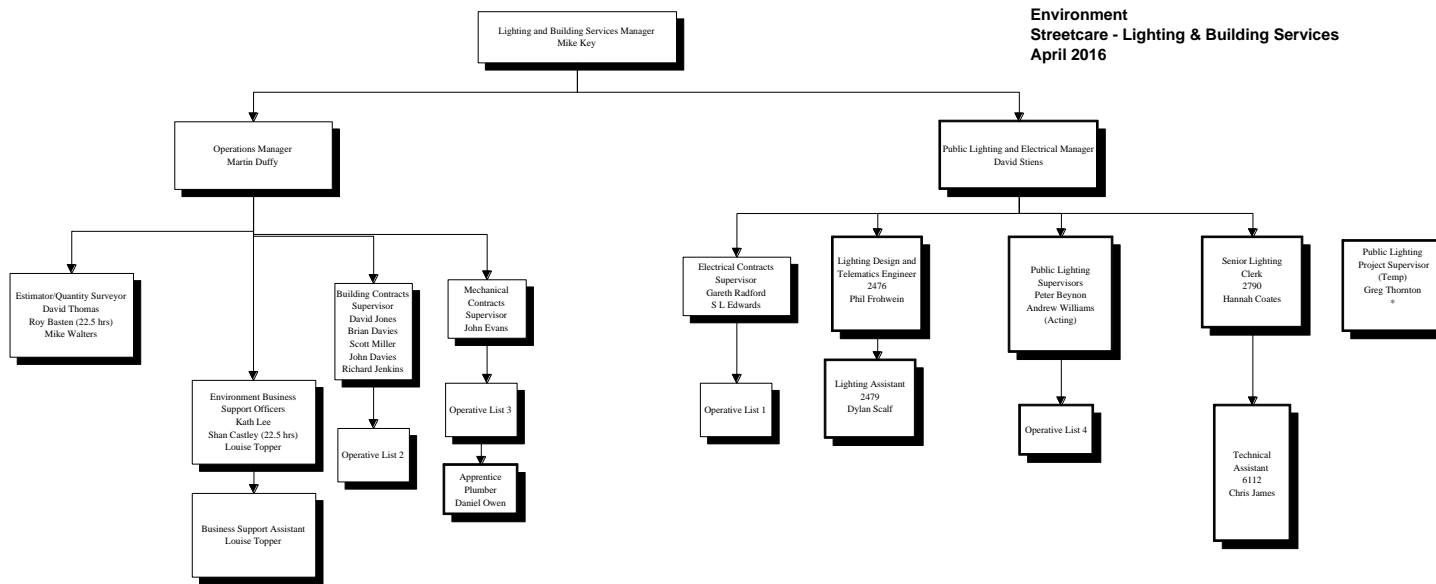
in any case there will be a service delivery model change 'by default' within the next ten years or so. There are 16 employees in Lighting Services and it can be seen from the graphs that around half of all personnel are over 50. In the event of a failure to complete a training programme within ten years, not only will there be a sudden dramatic fall in staff with retirement there will be no expert and experience staff to train others.

A programme of retraining for a different mix of work will be required for the workforce going forward after the renewal project is completed with less emphasise on excavation and associated works, and more emphasis on technical maintenance aspects including testing of programmes and servicing of the electronic equipment.

Section5 – Property consequences of the adopted priorities

Property Table:

<u>Property Name</u>	<u>Required Change</u>	<u>Why</u>	<u>Impact</u>
The Quays	None	All service needs satisfied	No impact



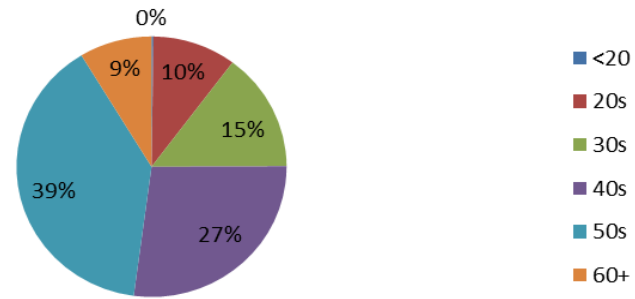
* on secondment to Lighting Project

Risk Management Table:

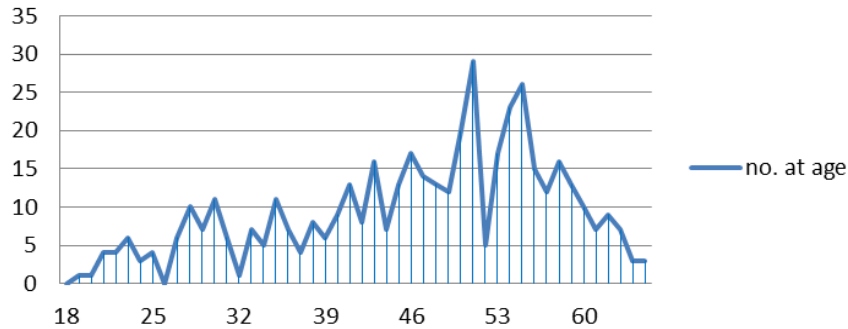
Appendix 2

Ref	Risk Description	Likelihood Score	Impact Score	Overall Risk (L x I)	Proximity	Mitigating Action	Target Date	Risk Owner
R1	Future lack of information concerning lighting failures for lamps not on remote monitoring.	4	2	8M	1	Development of on line reporting and extension of remote monitoring where possible..	2016/17	MK/DS
R2	Reducing workload capacity with ageing workforce profile and gradual loss of skilled personnel.	4	2	8M	1	Flexible use of employees, employment of contractors as appropriate, and succession planning	Ongoing	MK
R3	Service disruption due to implementation of service changes, in particular with developing new technology systems for maintenance duties.	2	2	4L	1	Close supervision and management of the introduction of the process.	Ongoing	MK/DS
R4	Loss of moral leading to increased staff turnover	4	2	6M	1	Ensure development needs are addressed by targeted spend of training budget.	Ongoing	MK
R5	Reduced capital funding for signal / aids to movement replacement	2	2	4L	2	Early forecasting of system deterioration / failures	Ongoing	Head of Service/MK
R6	Failure to meet the electrical safety, quality and continuity regulations for council owned distribution network.	1	3	3L	2	5 year investment programme.	2018	MK
R7	Renewal project delays due to sickness / staff absence.	2	1	2L	2	Close management of site activity and sickness and develop greater staff flexibility.	2018	MK
R8	Inability to achieve required energy savings in 2016/17	2	2	4L	1	Trial further dimming and other energy savings options.;	2018	MK/DS
R9	Lighting Project overspend	1	3	3L	2	Monthly progress and budget monitoring plus control of issued work.	2018	MK/DS

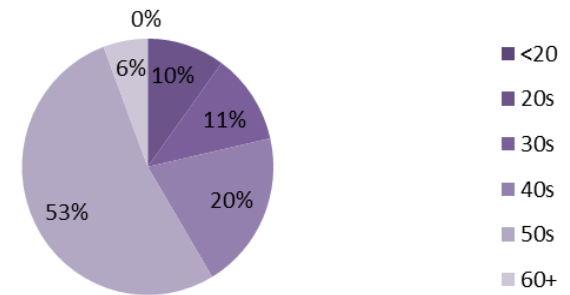
**Percentage of Staff per Age Group
Streetcare Overall**



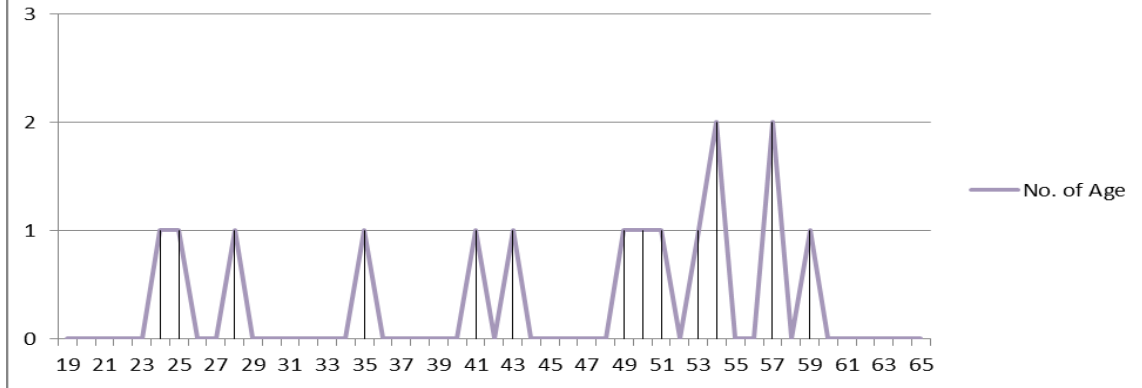
**Streetcare
no. at age**



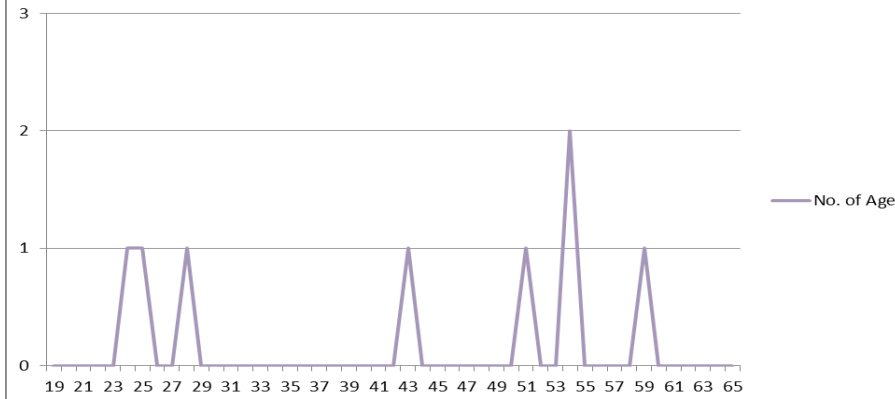
**Percentage of staff per age group
Lighting and Building Services**



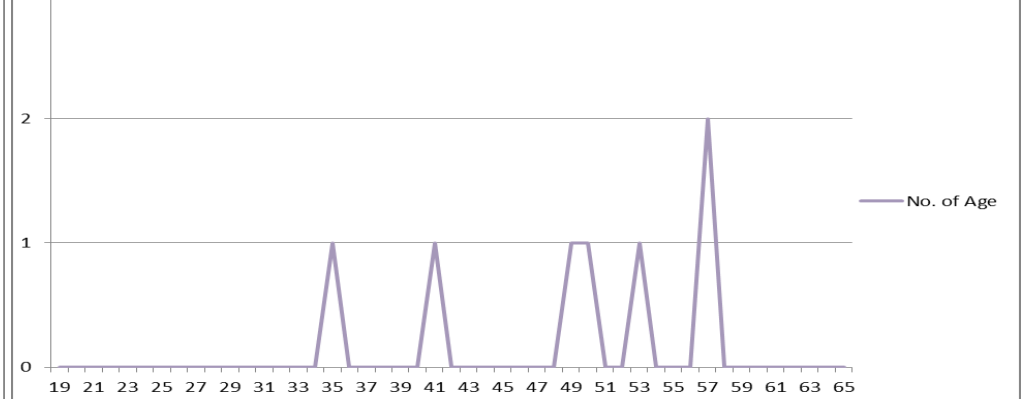
**Lighting Services
Employees per age**



**Lighting Services - Office Staff
No. Per Age**



**Lighting Services - Workforce
No. of Age**



Priorities / Actions / Outcomes Table:

Appendix 4

Priority 1 – Implement a medium to long term planned maintenance programme for effectively managing the infrastructure not covered by the renewal project.			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
To evaluate and implement a strategy to manage the Street Lighting infrastructure.	MK/DS	Annually	Currently collating information to produce a Life Cycle Plan on completion of the Street Lighting investment programme
Priority 2 – Formulate and implement a revised strategy for maintenance of the new infrastructure.			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
Continue to deliver the service by retaining and training staff on the new technology installed under the Street Lighting Renewal Programme.	MK/DS	Quarterly	Record available on Public Lighting data base,
Priority 3 – continue to deliver a balanced financial outcome for the service area.			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
Continue to monitor and maintain existing employed resources and contractors where appropriate	MK/DS	Quarterly	Delivery of a balanced financial outcome for the service delivery area, by efficient management of resources both manpower and material. Monthly monitoring of output by cost and productivity.
Priority 4 – Be proactive in maximising the attendance at work.			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
Work to reduce sickness absences / proactive management continued to be applied.	MK/DS/SUP	Monthly	Records of return to work interviews and associated actions. Records of disciplinary action

			where necessary and Performance data is all held by managers.
Priority 5 – Ensure completion of EDR’s, and the development of staff/operatives.			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
Complete Performance Appraisals/Development Reviews in timescale.	MK/DS/SUP	Annually (All Line managers and Supervisors to complete by end September)	Records of appraisals and associated actions held by managers
Priority 6 – To continually manage and monitor the Public Lighting infrastructure energy budget.			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continually monitoring the street lighting energy returns. • Pursue any opportunity for grant funding of LED’s • Pilot solar energy installations 	MK/DS	Quarterly	Energy data held on public lighting data base. Grant Bids. Details of pilot.
Priority 7 – To progress Phase Three of the Lighting Renewal Project and continue to deliver capital improvements in the traffic signal infrastructure within the set budget.			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
Continue to monitor set budgets and project progress. Cap renewal work within budget level	MK/DS	Monthly	Site installation of new infrastructure and removal of redundant equipment.
Priority 8 – Pursue grant opportunities for LED lighting.			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
Opportunities to be administered.	MK/DS	Quarterly	Applications to grant if applicable to access funds.

Priority Measures Table:

Priority Measures (2016-2017)	2014-2015 Performance (if available)	2015-2016 Performance (if available)	2016-2017 Performance Outlook
PM1 –% Lighting Renewal expenditure within profiled spend.	-	95%	Maintain
PM2 – Minor and major accident statistics.	1 No.	0 No.	Maintain.
PM3 – Mail responded to within 8 working days.	71%	50%	Improve.
PM4 – Average cost of maintaining street lamps (excluding energy but including borrowing cost for Renewal Project).	£52.22	£53.15	Increase with cost of borrowing repayment for renewal work
PM5 – The average number of calendar days to repair all Street Lamp failures during the year.	1.63	1.56	Maintain.
PM6 – No of streetlight out reports received via contact centre.	840	664	Improve
PM7 – No KW/Hrs of energy used for public lighting.	8088 Kwh	7184 Kwh	Reduce

Mandatory Corporate Measures

Mandatory Measures (2016-2017)	2014-2015 Performance (if available)	2015-2016 Performance (if available)	2016-2017 Performance Outlook
CM01 Number of transactional services: a) Fully web enabled b) Partially Web enabled	1	1	Maintain on-line fault reporting
CM02 % of revenue expenditure within budget	98.31%	97.69%	Improve. Aim to achieve 100%
CM03 % (amount) of FFP savings at risk	0%	0%	Maintain.
CM04 Average FTE (full time equivalent) days lost due to sickness	3.3	4.8	Maintain at well below council average as present.
CM05 % (no.) of staff performance appraisals to be completed during 2016-2017	100%	100%	Improve: 100% using the new corporate process.
CM06 No. of employees who left due to unplanned departures	0	0	Monitor.

CM07 Total number of complaints: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal • External 	N/A	0	Monitor.
CM08 Total number of compliments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal • External 	N/A	2	Monitor.
CM09 % (no.) of services measuring customer satisfaction	No data available	No data available	Improve.
CM10 % (no.) of service report cards to be produced by 31.03.17	N/A	100%	Maintain.

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Environment and Highways Cabinet Board

1st September 2016

Report of the Head of Streetcare

M. Roberts

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected: All

Operational Business Plan for Building Services

Purpose of Report

- 1 To seek Member approval for the Operational Business Plan for Building Services

Executive Summary

- 2 Operational Business Plans contribute to service improvement by setting out service specific issues and priorities for the next 12 months, along with how they will be addressed.

Background

- 3 Every Division/Business Unit within the Authority is required to complete an OBP for each financial year outlining, amongst other issues, the following:-
 - Performance against last year's Action Plan and Targets
 - The actions and targets for the 12 months from April 2016 to March 2017

Financial Impact

- 4 There are no financial impacts associated with this report

Equality Impact Assessment

- 5 No specific Equalities Impact Screening or Assessment has been undertaken in respect of this Business Plan as any related savings required under the forward Financial Plan or service changes needed to deliver the action plan have or will be subject to specific decision reports as required which will address equalities and other issues.

Workforce Impact

- 6 There are no workforce impacts associated with this report

Legal Impact

- 7 There are no legal impacts associated with this report

Risk Management

- 8 In line with Corporate requirements, risks to the service are identified and addressed where relevant in the Action Plan

Consultation

- 9 Employees within the individual services and external customers where relevant have been consulted in the development of the Action Plan

Recommendation

- 10 It is recommended that the Cabinet Board endorses the Building Services Operational Business Plan for 2016/17

Reason for Proposed Decision

- 11 To implement the Council's Performance Management Framework

Implementation of Decision

- 12 The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

Appendices

- 13 Building Services Operational Business Plan for 2016/17

List of Background Papers

- 14 None

Officer Contact

- 15 Mike Key, Lighting and Building Services Manager, Tel: 01639 686442 or e-mail: m.key@npt.gov.uk

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Environment Directorate

Business Plan 2016 / 2017

For

Building Services

Prepared by the

**Lighting & Building Services Manager
and**

Head of Service, Streetcare Division

Sponsor

Councillor Edward V. Latham

Cabinet Member for Environment

Section 1 - Introduction

The former Building Services was disaggregated in August 2010 in preparation for the Housing Stock Transfer that subsequently took place in the spring of 2011. In parallel the section that carried out Building Maintenance of the Council's portfolio of Public Buildings joined the Streetcare Division of the Environment Directorate.

Building Services does not have a revenue budget of its own and therefore operates as a Business Unit, being dependent upon charging clients for work carried out. It is therefore crucial that the service takes account of the mix and timing of work in its resource planning.

Preparatory work is undertaken during March/April each year to establish what capital schemes along with maintenance works are likely to be available. As much of the work in schools is required during the school holidays a large proportion has to be sub-contracted out.

Details of the staffing structure are shown in Appendix 1

The purpose of Building Services as identified by its customers through a System Review is: To perform a comprehensive building service to ensure properties remain fit for purpose.

Our vision for the service is that, ultimately, it will be admired by citizens. As part of achieving this goal we have adopted the values of: mutual trust and respect; leading by example; no blame; team and collaborative working; empowered staff, fairness, acting with integrity, openness, and doing 'what matters' for our clients.

The service is responsible for the following:

The activities of Building Services encompass all aspects of building maintenance and improvement work, it provides an in-house solution for building work that is responsive to the needs of the Council and is accountable. The scope of work undertaken is as follows:

- General Building Maintenance including, Carpentry, Bricklaying, Plastering, Glazing and Painting;
- Mechanical Services e.g. Heating Systems Commercial, Plumbing, Gas Services;
- Electrical Services including Installation testing and inspection, Fire alarms, emergency lighting and Portable appliance testing; and,
- Emergency Services for all trades 24 hours/day/365/year;

Services are provided to a wide range of customers:

- Secondary Schools (Capital Maintenance Works, Responsive Repairs, Programmed Work);
- Primary Schools (Capital Maintenance Works, Responsive Repairs, Programmed Work);
- The Authority – for all Civic Owned Buildings;
- Outside bodies e.g. Colleges, Community Councils, and Gwalia Housing (Responsive Repairs and Programmed Works).

As part of ensuring that good quality and value for money services are provided to our customers the following accreditations are held:-

- Gas Safe Registered
- NICEIC Registered
- OHSAS 18001
- Investors in People

The anticipated operating budget for 2016/17 is as follows:

Building maintenance revenue (Internal & Primary Schools)	£2,602,700
Building maintenance revenue (Rechargeable & Comp Schools)	£597,239
Capital Works	<u>£1,250,000</u>
	£4,449,940

Section 2 - Priorities

Progress with achieving the priorities in 2015/16

Progress with achieving the priorities set last year was as follows:

- Delivered a balanced financial outcome for the service area. This was achieved by increasing turnover where suitable works could be identified utilising existing employed resources and sub-contractors where appropriate.
- ‘Clearview’ system of recharging work: The simplification of the recharge system to customers for labour and materials has reduced the number of queries received in comparison to the old style Schedule of Rates. Where there have been queries, particularly on emergency response work, the arrival

and departure times of the operatives along with the site representative's signature has been facilitated by the hand held electronic devices now utilised by all emergency response operatives.

- Work to reduce sickness absence levels: Proactive management has continued to be applied. (see *Mandatory Corporate Measure CM05*).
- Annual employee training and development programme completed.
- Completed 4,353 Emergency/Urgent jobs, with 4 Hour response compliance increasing to 91%, and 24 Hour response compliance increasing to 77%
- Completed 2,449 Non-urgent/Service jobs.
- Comprehensive measurement of Customer Satisfaction was not undertaken as planned in 2015/16 and is a priority for the current year.

Priorities to be delivered in 2016-2017

The most important things for the Service to achieve are to:

1. Complete schemes to agreed cost, quality and time;
2. Expand skills and capability with respect to home adaptations;
3. Achieve a balanced financial outcome for the service area;
4. Minimise waste, recycle as far as is cost effective, and make the most of sustainable materials where possible;
5. Maintain and further develop if necessary the 'Clear View' recharging system of work.
6. Optimise attendance at work, acknowledging that genuine sickness can affect anyone at any time;
7. Complete Performance Appraisals for all employees in line with corporate guidelines;
8. Expanded use of electronic hand held devices in the Day to Day maintenance section to assist with improving service performance;
9. Meeting emergency response times as far as possible;
10. Ensure all transactions with our clients and supplies can as far as possible be completed on-line.
11. Measure customer satisfaction in line with Corporate guidelines

Why are these priorities?

Through focusing on these priorities we aim to play a key role in ensuring Neath Port Talbot is a place where people want to live, work and visit. Specifically, they flow from the following:

- Corporate improvement priority 2, Better Schools/Better Prospects and are designed to ensure the service can play its part in the Strategic School Improvement Plan and thereby contribute to raising education standards and attainment;
- Corporate improvement priority 3, Improving Outcomes/Improving Lives, to ensure the service can plan its part in maximising the number of adults with or without support that can live independently in their own home;
- Corporate improvement priority 4, Prosperity for All, so the service is well placed to play a role in physical regeneration;
- Corporate improvement priority 5, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, so the service can make its contribution to delivering statutory waste reduction and recycling targets;
- Corporate improvement priority 6, Digital by Choice, to improve service access and efficiency

The set priorities are also needed to:

- Fulfil the requirements of the Council's adopted Forward Financial Plan, specifically, the service generating a surplus of £100,000 per annum towards balancing the budget for the Environment Directorate.
- Take forward the outcome of the corporate reviews of Performance Management and Sickness Management
- Ensure business continuity and resilience
- Continue maximising efficiency and value for money.
- Help deliver 'what matters' to our customers, as identified by survey results
- Ensure long term sustainability of the service.
- To meet legislative requirements such as the Well-Being of Future Generations Act

What is our approach to achieving these priorities?

Our approach to delivering these priorities is to undertake our work via a mixed economy of in-house and external service delivery as provides best value to the Council and our customers.

Actions and Measures

See Appendices

Section 3 – Risk Management

To assess what risks the service faces and identify how any risks will be managed an annual risk assessment is undertaken. The risk assessment for Building Services is given in Appendix 2 below.

Section 4 - Workforce Planning

Graphs showing some details of the employee profile are shown in Appendix 3.

Shorter term observations

Building Services can manage with the anticipated revenue/capital workloads within its capacity, and where workload exceeds our capacity, particularly during school and summer holiday period, sub-contractors are utilised.

The service is currently at a minimum staffing level and succession planning is a priority, with an apprentice and graduate training programme needed to supplement trades and technical experts that have been lost to retirement.

Continued development of the workforce is required to ensure that the service is not compromised which includes any technology or legislation changes. The workforce is actively encouraged to work flexibly and Managers will continue to monitor staff morale through team briefings and site visits.

Workforce turnover is minimal.

Longer term observations

There will be a need to continue to ensure expert leadership and technical skills are in place to ensure the council's building management and maintenance requirements are met going forward in the face of continuous industry changes and changing service demands. Whilst the extent may vary, this will be true whatever service delivery model is in place.

The current training matrix needs to be maintained and complemented with an apprentice and graduate training programme to supplement trades and technical experts that have been, and will be, lost to retirement. These additional programmes would need to be resourced and funded as part of the succession planning.

The extent and exact nature of the apprentice/graduate programmes can be tailored to any decision regarding future service delivery model but in the absence of any programme, or positive decision concerning the future service delivery model, then in any case there will be a service delivery model change 'by default' within the next ten years or so. There are 54 employees in Building Services and it can be seen from the graphs that around half of all personnel are over 50, with around one-third approximately in the age range 50 – 55. There are currently no office based staff under the age of 35 and only 5 under 50 years old. In the event of a failure to complete a training programme within ten years, not only will there be a sudden dramatic fall in staff with retirement there will be no expert and experience staff to train others.

Actions identified from above are included in the Priorities / Actions / Outcomes Table in Appendix 4

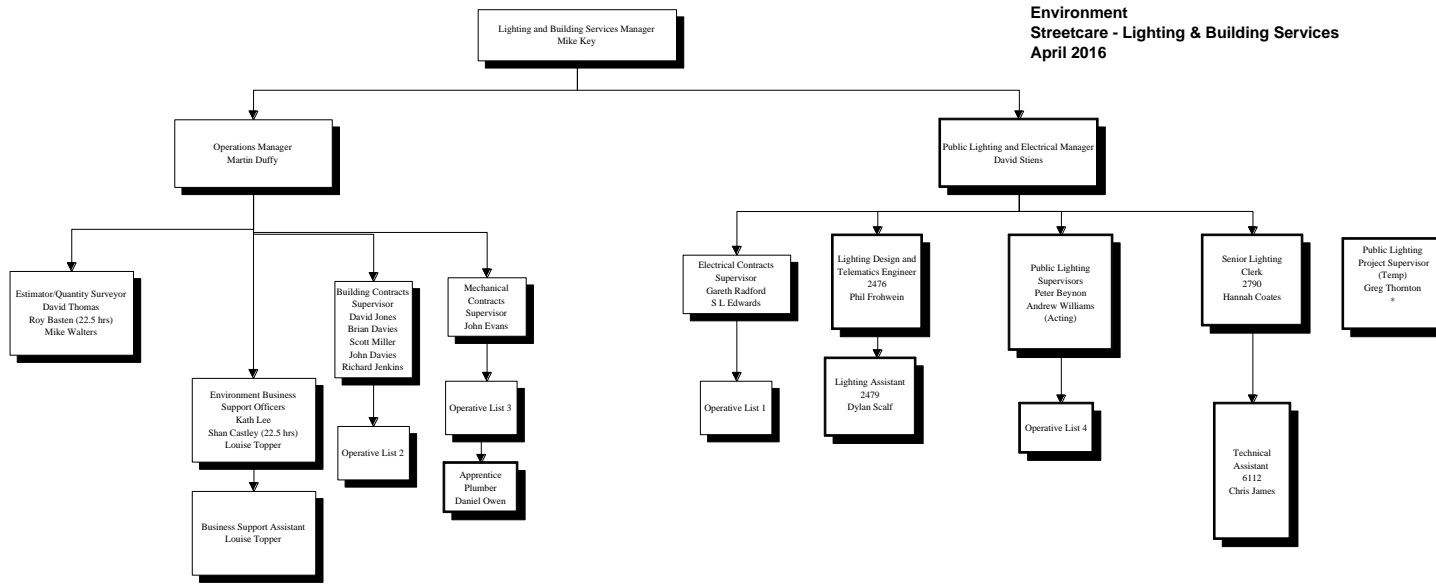
Section5 – Property consequences of the adopted priorities

Building services currently operate from an old converted bus garage at Tregelles Court in Neath Abbey. Whilst welfare facilities for operational staff are minimal all service needs are generally satisfied and there will be no accommodation impacts in generally delivering the identified priorities. However, strategically there is a need to consider consolidating building services with other environment services at The Quays in Briton Ferry. This would allow all staff involved in property maintenance to be co-located and allow the Environment Directorate to vacate the main building at Tregellis Court and shed associated costs. The facility at Briton Ferry is more modern, has better facilities, and provides good access to the County Borough generally.

Property Table:

<u>Property Name</u>	<u>Required Change</u>	<u>Why</u>	<u>Impact</u>
Tregelles Court, Neath	To vacate the premises and relocate to The Quays, Briton Ferry if the service can be accommodated	Costs will be saved, facilities for staff improved, and efficiency improved	To be assessed with Facilities Management at The Quays

Actions identified from above are included in the Priorities / Actions / Outcomes Table in Appendix 4



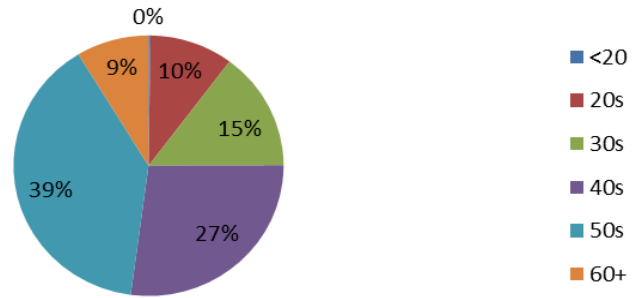
* on secondment to Lighting Project

Risk Management Table:

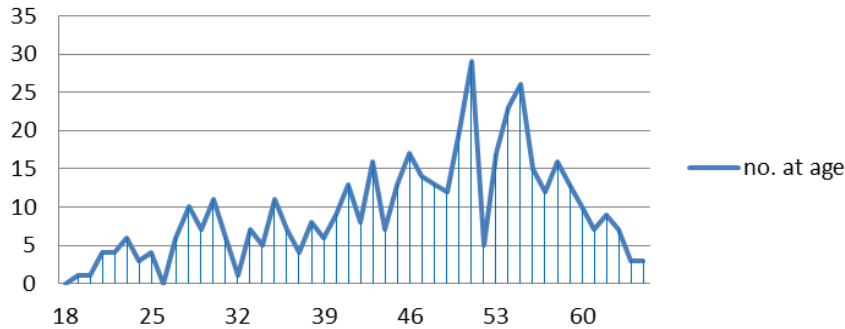
Appendix 2

Ref	Risk Description	Likelihood Score	Impact Score	Total Score	Proximity	Mitigating Action	Target Date	Risk Owner
R1	Failure to meet anticipated income levels.	2	1	2L	1	Budget monitoring, lobbying regarding timing of proposed work to maximise turnover.	Monthly	MK, Managers & Supervisors
R2	Reducing workload capacity with ageing workforce profile and gradual loss of skilled personnel.	4	2	8M	1	Flexible use of employees and employment of contractors as appropriate.	Ongoing	MK
R3	Service disruption due to implementation of service changes, in particular with developing hand held systems for servicing duties.	2	2	4L	1	Close supervision and management of the introduction of the process.	Ongoing	MK and Managers
R4	Loss of servicing and testing work.	3	2	6L	1	Discussions with Property and Regeneration colleagues.	Ongoing	Electrical Manager
R5	Loss of moral leading to increased staff turnover	4	2	8M	1	Ensure skills shortage is addressed by targeted spend of training budgeted.	Ongoing	MK
R6	Failure to take a positive decision concerning service delivery model going forward	4	3	12H	1	Monitor the current service delivery model and be proactive in the decision making process.	Ongoing	Head of Service/MK
R7	Union request to revisit business case for use of council vehicles for home to work travel with a view to ceasing use. Removal of use would not only reduce efficiency in many cases but could lead to staff turnover and skills loss	4	4	16H	1	Continue with the monthly attendance time audit process which will provide reassurance of onsite working.	Monthly	MK

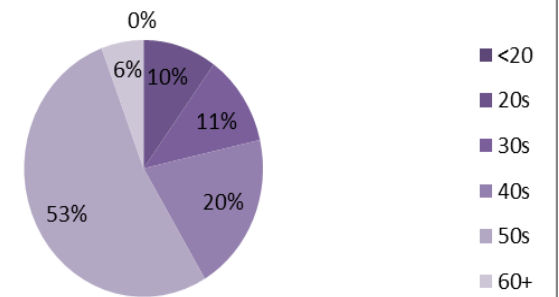
**Percentage of Staff per Age Group
Streetcare Overall**



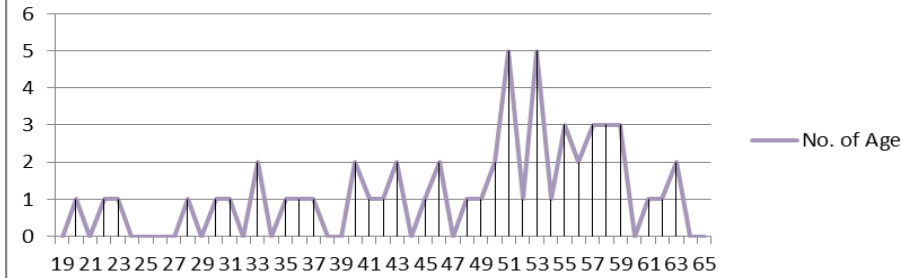
**Streetcare
no. at age**



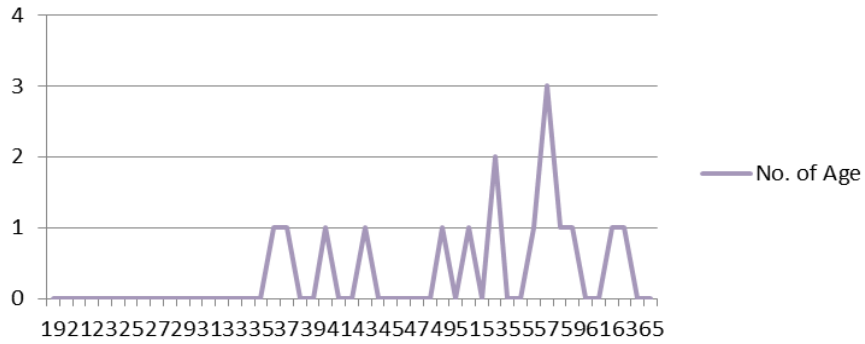
**Percentage of staff per age group
Lighting and Building Services**



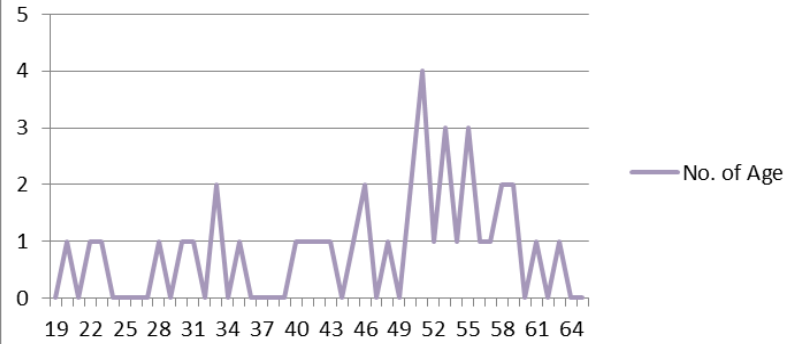
Building Services Employees per Age



Building Services - Office Staff No. of Age



Building Services - Workforce No. of Age



Priority 1 – Complete schemes to agreed cost, quality and time.			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
Continue to deliver the service by retaining and training the staff.	MK/MD	Monthly	Delivery of schemes on time and within budget at end of year.
Provide effective supervision and information systems.	MK/MD/SUP/EST	Weekly	Monthly/quarterly progress meetings.
Priority 2 –Expand skills and capability with respect to home adoptions.			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
Establish training requirements/opportunities through appraisals and monthly team briefings, with a view to obtaining and attracting other works.	MK/MD/SUP	Monthly	Discussions with other departments and outside bodies.
Priority 3 –Achieve a balanced financial outcome for the service area.			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
Increasing turnover where suitable works could be identified utilising existing employed resources and sub-contractors where appropriate.	MK/MD	Monthly	The delivery of a balanced financial outcome for the service area, by monthly budget monitoring.
Priority 4 –Minimise waste, recycle as far as is cost effective, and make the most of sustainable materials where possible.			
Action	Responsible	Timescale	Evidence

	Officer		
Review working practices and procedures to reduce waste.	MK/MD	Quarterly	Monitoring of service waste to ensure maximising of recycling opportunities.
Priority 5 –Maintain and further develop if necessary the ‘Clear View’ recharging system of work.			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
Monitor and review the Clearview system of work with key customers.	MK/MD	Quarterly	Notes of liaison meetings with key customers held by manager.
Priority 6 –Optimise attendance at work, acknowledging that genuine sickness can affect anyone at any time.			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
Work to reduce sickness absence levels - Proactive management continued to be applied.	MK/MD	Monthly	Records of return to work interviews and actions, Notes of staff meetings/briefings Corporate sickness measures
Priority 7 –Complete Performance Appraisals for all employees in line with corporate guidelines.			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
Complete Employee Appraisals/Development Reviews within timescale.	MK/MD/SUP	Annually	Review records of records and action held by manager.

Priority 8 – Expanded use of electronic hand held devices in the Day to Day maintenance section to assist with improving service performance.			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
Expand handheld device operation to all aspects of the servicing teams.	MK/MD/SUP	Annually	Roll out of new devices currently implemented and continually monitored by supervisors to identify any on-going issues.
Priority 9 – Meeting emergency response times as far as possible.			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
Maintain and improve, where cost effective, emergency response procedures and capability levels.	MK/MD	Quarterly	Urgent, 4 hours and 24 hour response time statistics held by manager.
Priority 10 – Ensure all transactions with our clients and supplies can as far as possible be completed on-line.			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
Review transactions and identify any significant business where no on-line capability exists	MK/MD/SUP	Quarterly	Record of service review
Develop a plan with IT to develop systems to plug any gaps			Record of prioritisation for any identified gaps by IT/Digital Service Board
Effectively manage on-line transactions			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Records of electronic

			orders from clients <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Records of electronic recharging to clients • Monthly financial monitoring via Barclays Spend Management
Priority 11 – Measure Customer Satisfaction.			
Action	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Evidence
Develop satisfaction questionnaire to issue to clients on completion of jobs or as part of general liaison.	MD/SUP	Weekly	Records of relevant questionnaires and analysis by manager.

Priority Measures Table:

Priority Measures (2016-2017)	2014-2015 Performance (if available)	2015-2016 Performance (if available)	2016-2017 Performance Outlook
PM1 – Minor and Major accident statistics.	6 No.	5 No.	Improve.
PM2 – 4 hour Emergency attended or completed within 4hours.	1399 jobs 87% (95% within 2 days)	1561 jobs 91% (96% within 2 days)	Continue Improvement
PM3 – 24 hour Emergency attended or completed within 24hours.	1758 jobs 75%	2058 jobs 77%	Continue Improvement
PM4 – 7 day Urgent completed within timescale.	607 jobs 54%	734 jobs 69%	Continue Improvement

Mandatory Corporate Measures Table

Mandatory Measures (2016-2017)	2014-2015 Performance (if available)	2015-2016 Performance (if available)	2016-2017 Performance Outlook
CM01 Number of transactional services: a) Fully web enabled b) Partially Web enabled	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	Establish baseline.
CM02 % of revenue expenditure within budget	100%	100%	Maintain.
CM03 % (amount) of FFP savings at risk	0%	0%	Maintain.
CM04 Average FTE (full time equivalent) days lost due to sickness	3.5	1.9	Monitor: Sickness levels are very low and some variations may be expected.
CM05 % (no.) of staff performance appraisals to be completed during 2016-2017	100%	100%	Maintain.
CM06 No. of employees who left due to unplanned departures	0	1	Monitor
CM07 Total number of complaints: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal • External 	N/A	0	Monitor
CM08 Total number of compliments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal • External 	1	4	Monitor

Mandatory Measures (2016-2017)	2014-2015 Performance (if available)	2015-2016 Performance (if available)	2016-2017 Performance Outlook
CM09 % (no.) of services measuring customer satisfaction	No data available	No data available	Improve.
CM10 % (no.) of service report cards to be produced by 31.03.17	100%	100%	Maintain.

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Environment and Highways Cabinet Board

1st September 2016

Report of the Head of Streetcare

M. Roberts

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected: *All Wards*

Street Lighting, Rowantree Avenue

Purpose of Report

- 1 To determine future intentions in respect of maintaining street lighting in Rowantree Avenue, Baglan.

Background and Executive Summary

- 2 Rowantree Avenue has been constructed in a number of phases and started in 1999 with the developer not wishing to offer the site up for future adoption by the Highway Authority under a Section 38 Agreement. As such the lighting which was installed as part of the development has remained the responsibility of the developer who has not maintained the infrastructure. Residents over the years have complained to the Council regarding inoperative lights and about their concerns over night time safety. As the lighting is in place and can be brought into service at moderate cost, officers propose on the grounds of public safety that the Council use its available powers under the Public Health Act to take responsibility for the lighting and to maintain it going forward. The location of the lighting concerned is shown on the attached plan

Financial Impact

- 3 Findings from a recent visual survey indicate that lighting repair costs would be in the region of £700.00. Following this the lighting would be maintained as part of the Council's public lighting service.

Equality Impact Assessment

- 4 A Screening Assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010. After completing the assessment it has been determined that this proposal does not require an Equalities Impact Assessment

Workforce Impact

- 5 There are no workforce impacts associated with this report

Legal Impact

- 6 The power to light a private street is a discretionary power which falls under section 161 of the Public Health Act 1875. Legal Services would need to write to each affected property in order that an agreement is set up with individual land owners, after which the Council can take responsibility for the lighting and maintain it.

Risk Management

- 7 If the Council take responsibility for the lighting it will take on the future maintenance risk as with other street lighting.

Consultation

- 8 There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

Recommendation(s)

- 9 It is recommended that Members approve the use of the Council's discretionary powers under the Public Health Act with respect to the provision and maintenance of street lighting in Rowantree Avenue. This will address long standing community concerns

regarding night time safety and the street lights constructed by the Developer not being in-service.

Reason for Proposed Decision(s)

- 10 So that the lighting installed by the Developer is maintained to assist in public safety.

Implementation of Decision

- 11 The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

Appendices

- 12 Drawing number PL-1.

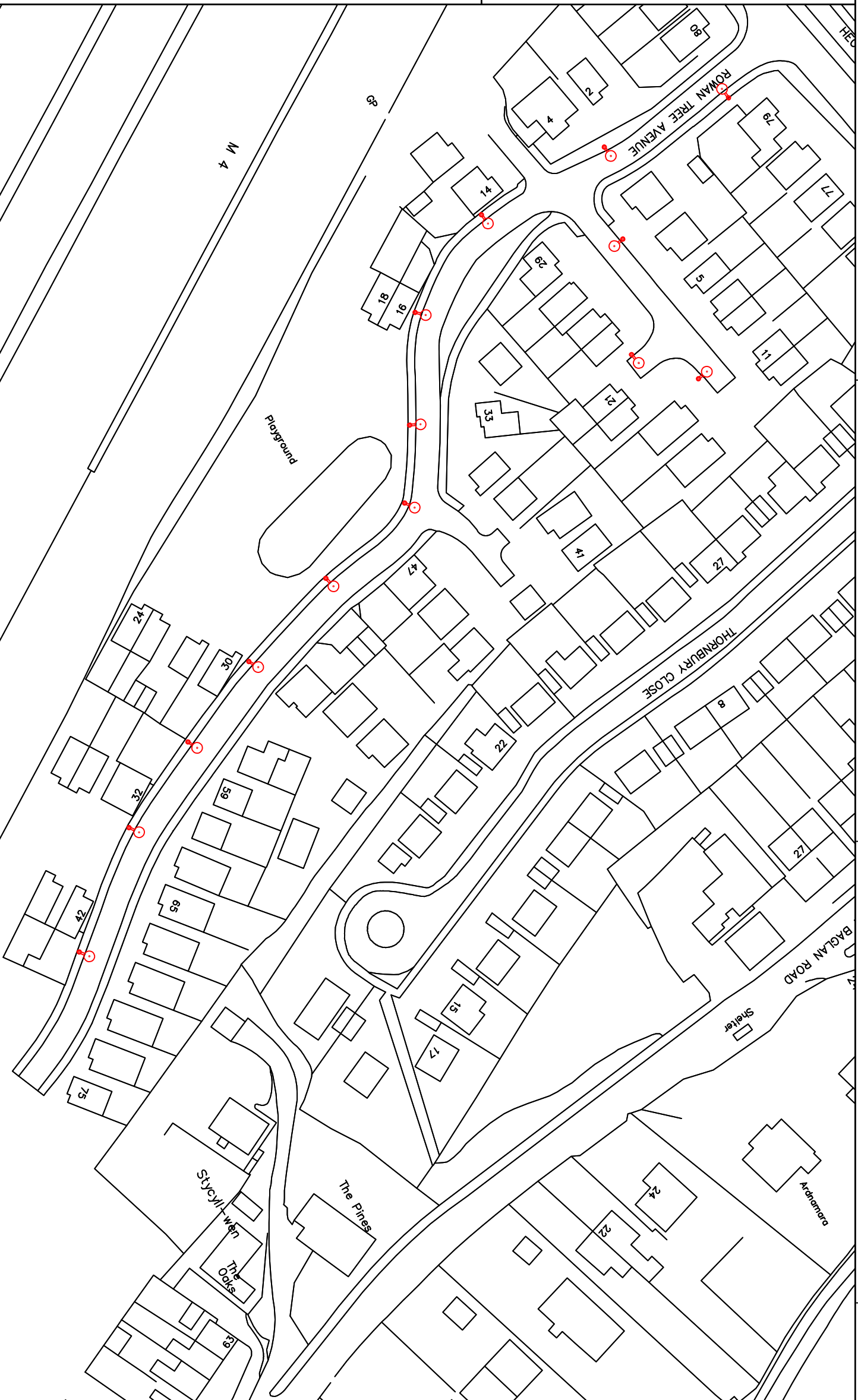
List of Background Papers

- 13 None

Officer Contact

- 14 Mr David Stiens, Public Lighting & Electrical Manager.
Tel: 01639 686228
Email: d.stiens@npt.gov.uk
- 15 Mr Mike Key, Lighting & Building Services Manager
Tel: 01639 686442
Email: m.key@npt.gov.uk


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NOTES

A3

1 THIS IS A C.A.D. DRAWING AND SHOULD NOT BE AMENDED BY HAND.
2 All dimensions in millimetres unless otherwise stated.

 INDICATES 6M STEEL COLUMN
CW 70 WATT SON LANTERN

Rev	Details	Dr	Ch	Ap	Date

Client



GARETH NUTT B.Sc.(Hons), M.Sc., DMS, FRICS
CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT
THE QUAYS, BRUNEL WAY
BAGLAN ENERGY PARK
NEATH SA11 2GG

Project: PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT SITE
ROWENTREE AVENUE
BAGLAN
PORT TALBOT

File No.	Financial Code No.
Drawn	Checked
Date	Date
Approved	Date
Scales	
1:1000	
Drawing No.	PL-1

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NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

ENVIROMENT AND HIGHWAYS CABINET BOARD

1st September 2016

REPORT OF HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES – DAVID MICHAEL

SECTION A – MATTER FOR DECISION

WARDS AFFECTED: PONTARDAWE

ALLEGED PUBLIC FOOTPATH FROM LLOYD STREET TO FOOTPATH NO.3 COMMUNITY OF PONTARDAWE.

Purpose of the report

To consider the evidence submitted which alleges a public path from points A-C-D-G and the discovery of further evidence which suggests the existence of a public footpath from points E-E1.

This requires consideration of the paths:-

- (i) A-C-D-G under a minimum of 20 years use
- (ii) A-C-D-G under common law
- (iii) B-C under a minimum of 20 years
- (iv) B-C under common law
- (v) C1-D-G under a minimum of 20 years use
- (vi) E-E2-E1 under a minimum of 20 years use
- (vii) E-E2-E1 under common law

Background

- 1.1 The application was made in 2001 to recognise the paths A-C-D and B-C shown on the plan (Appendix 1) as public footpaths.
- 1.2 The area was subject to a land reclamation scheme in 2003 which re-profiled the site due to the earlier closing of the Darren Colliery in 1966.

- 1.3 The route A-C-D was unaffected by this work as it lay just outside the site. The land containing the path B-C comprises a gravel/soil slope with small standard size trees but which could be walked if required.
- 1.4. The path E-E₁ was not the subject of this claim and Lloyd Street G-D is an unadopted road. However, any evidence that is brought to this Council's attention that shows a public way exists has to be considered.
- 1.5 The currently registered paths are shown as red lines.

Description of the Paths

- 2.1 The route A-C-D is an earth based path, passing mostly through woodland, on average being half a metre wide, and relatively level apart from either end where it slopes downhill from about point E to Lloyd Street at point D, and from point A1 downslope to Graig Road at point A.
- 2.2 E-E₁ is a well-defined path some 2 metres wide, its surface now comprising loose stone chippings and containing a metal footbridge at point E₂.

Requirement to consider all the evidence

- 2.3 The relevant provisions of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 which obliges the Council to determine the application are contained in Appendix 2 section 53 (3)(b)
- 2.4 The relevant provision which requires the Council to consider evidence discovered even though the evidence does not relate to a claim made by a member of the public is also found in Appendix 2 section 53 (3)(c). This relates to the path E-E₂-E₁ and the unadopted length of Lloyd Street from D-G.

Consultations

- 3.1 All the usual organisations were informed, including the local Member, the Community Council, this Council's Estates Section and the other known owner. This Council owns the land between points A-C₁, and the objector who has stated he intends to seek consent to build a house between points D – E and who owns the

lengths D-C1, and D-E1. Ownership of the length of path between points E2-E1 is unknown although it is possible it forms a remnant of the land formerly under the ownership of the then Coal Authority.

The Evidence

- 4.1 Two batches of supporting user evidence forms were submitted, one received from the applicant in 2001 and another from the local Member in 2015.
- 4.2 Of the earlier set, only three people continue to reside at the addresses given in 2001 and are still in support of this application. The later set of forms comprises 10 witnesses, one of whom is now deceased. After further clarification as to what paths have been used the total currently in support is 6, five of whom have been interviewed on the telephone and one in person.
- 4.3 One of the means by which a path can be registered as a public one, is to determine whether there has been a minimum 20 year period of uninterrupted use. This test derives from Section 31 of the Highways Act 1980 (Appendix 3), whereby there is a presumption in law that the landowner/s have acquiesced to the existence of the public path. The 20 year period is calculated by counting retrospectively from either the first occasion the public's alleged right was called into question or from the date of the application, whichever is the earlier.
- 4.4 Whilst barriers were placed across the path between points D and E in 2005 by the owner referred to above, the application was submitted in 2001. However, the applicant did not comply with the requirement to serve notice on all the known landowners until 2002. There is case law which established if this is not done the application is not properly made. Therefore based on the date of the application the relevant 20 year period would be from 1982 – 2002.

The Path A-C-D-G (under a minimum of 20 years)

- 5.1 There are 6 people who allege an average of 22 years use of this path, all of whom have said they have each walked the path through the whole of this relevant period.

- 5.2 Reasons given include 5 who said they used the path for recreational purposes and 3 to walk dogs.
- 5.3 The current objector purchased the land from the Trebanos Rugby Club in 2005 who themselves bought the land from the former Coal Authority in 1968.
- 5.4 The Trebanos Rugby Club had indicated they were prepared to dedicate the path, but by March 2005 ceased to correspond with the Council and so this option had to be abandoned.
- 5.5 The objector has provided a witness from the rugby club who has stated that the path as claimed was obstructed by a barbed wire fence from 1995 to 2005 when the land was sold to the current owner. This fence was positioned some 20 yards upslope from the beginning of the path at point D. If this is correct then the first occasion use was interrupted would have been in 1995. In order to consider whether there has been a presumed dedication to the public those in support of the application would have to establish that there had been 20 years uninterrupted use counting retrospectively from 1995. Of the six in support of this application there are four persons who themselves would each claim to have walked the path throughout this entire period and one who has said he commenced using the path in 1978. The sixth person started using the path in 1993.
- 5.6 Of the six people in support, five denied a fence ever existed across the path and another three residents also said no such fence was ever in place.

Common Land

- 6.1 Between points A and C1 the path passes over the registered common CL24, for which a revocable deed of access was granted to the public for air and exercise on the 27th March 1975. Consequently, the public have been given permission to walk over the whole area of common land and so have been using the path “by right” rather than “as of right” since 1975. There has been case law on these two definitions and whether such a deed is sufficient to call into question the existence of a public highway (Appendix 4). This case concluded the formal exercise of the deed and the depositing of that deed with the appropriate government department (as was the case here for this common CL 24, would

be a sufficient act to indicate the landowners intention was not to dedicate the path .

6.2 The relevant period so far established, 1982- 2002 shows the use of the path A-C1 could not be as “as of right”. Therefore to determine whether the whole length A-C-D-G is a public way, the relevant period will be 1955-1975. However none of the six people alleges use throughout this earlier period, the longest use is by two who commenced using the path in 1956 and 1972. All the remainder did not start using the path until or after 1975. Consequently this should be considered insufficient to show any presumed dedication under the 20 year rule as specified by the Highways Act 1980.

6.3 Recommendation

That no modification order be made for the whole of the path from A-C-D-G under the Highways Act 1980.

Reasons for the Decision

Insufficient user evidence to show a minimum period of twenty years uninterrupted use.

The path A-C-D-G under common law

7.1 The only other means by which such a dedication could be shown to have been made is under common law where a lesser or greater period than 20 years could be sufficient, but where mere acquiescence is insufficient. There would have to be evidence from the landowners conduct he or she had dedicated the path as a public right of way. Appendix 5 explains in more detail the principal to be applied in drawing such a conclusion.

7.2 The 1947 edition of the ordnance survey (revised in 1941-1942) shows a tramway from point D to point A2 which appears to coincide in part with the line of the path as claimed. The 1962 edition as surveyed in 1960 shows a tramway extending as far as point A1 from point D. Use as a tramway would be incompatible for use by pedestrians. For there to be a presumption that the landowner had dedicated the way to the public, the character and

nature of the route is relevant. There is case law which has established that such dedication can not occur if such public use would interfere with the purposes for which the land was held. Therefore it would not be possible to infer such a dedication until after the tramway had been dismantled and that would be the case even under a statutory claim.

7.3 The 1968 edition and surveyed in 1967, some 7 years later is only available for the southern section of path D – C1 where this is marked as a track, with the mineral railway absent. However there is only one person who can show use from when the line was dismantled and after the colliery buildings were demolished (those buildings being absent from this edition) before the rest of the path C1-C-A was made the subject of the deed of access. This is insufficient user evidence to warrant making a modification order after the mine operations ceased but prior to the Deed of Access being made in 1975.

7.4 **Recommendation**

That no modification order be made.

Reasons for the proposed decision

The length of path A-C-C1 cannot be shown to have public status under common law due to insufficient user evidence and any evidence the landowners at the time took measures to dedicate the route as a public one.

The Route B-C

8.1 This section of path passes in its entirety over the same common, and so the same principle applies as that which affects the length A-C-C1 in that there has been a pre-existing right of access for the public since the 1975 deed of access was made.

8.2 **Recommendation**

That no modification order be made for the length B-C

Reasons for the Proposed Decision

Those in support of the claim have been using the path by permission since 1975 and none can show a minimum period of 20 years prior to 1975.

The Route C1-D-G (under a minimum of 20 years use)

- 9.1 This length is unaffected by the deed of access of 1975. It provides access between a public highway at points G (Pheasant Road) and D (Footpath no.35) to a place of popular resort at point C1 being at the edge of the common referred to above.
- 9.2 Whilst the application identified a longer route, A-C-C₁-D-G, the Council is obliged to consider all evidence that may show a public path exists as highlighted in Appendix 3.
- 9.3 In addition there are examples of other public paths terminating at the boundary of common land where rights to air and exercise exist over that common. For example, Footpath No's 30, 53 and 97, in the Community of Cwmllynfell, and Footpath No. 173, in the Community of Pontardawe.
- 9.4 As this path is unaffected by the deed of access the relevant period will either be 1982-2002 or 1975 – 1995 depending on whether the statement that a fence was erected across the path in 1995 can be validated. None of the 8 people concede such a fence existed but even if one did then there are 4 who claim 20 years uninterrupted use prior to 1995 and another from 1978-1995. If no such fence can be established, then all 6 people can show 20 years throughout the later relevant period. The reasons for using the path remain the same as before, recreational and walking the dog.
- 9.5 The Community Council have stated they have arranged to have overgrowing vegetation cut back since 1999.

9.6 Recommendation

That a modification order be made to show the path C1-D-G as a public footpath only and if no objections are made to confirm the same as an unopposed order.

Reasons for the Proposed Decision

The tests as set out in Appendix 2 are twofold. Whether it can be concluded on the balance of probabilities a public path exists and or whether it is reasonable to allege such a public path exists. In the case of the latter test, the landowner would have to provide credible evidence that the path was not subject to a dedication to prevent this Council from making a modification order. The existence of a fence in 1995 is disputed and therefore it can not be concluded at this stage one was positioned to prevent passage, nor that if one did obstruct the path, that in itself would have negated the presumption that the path had been dedicated by 1995.

The Path E-E2-E1 (a minimum of 20 years use)

- 10.1 No application has been made to recognise this path as a public right of way. However those people supporting the application also volunteered evidence of their use of this shorter section of path. According to those seven persons interviewed they, as did the landowner, assumed this path is a public footpath.
- 10.2 As well as the six people who gave evidence in support of the application route (A-C-C₁-D-G) a seventh person also interviewed provided evidence of their long term use of this path E-E2-E1. Of the seven people concerned the reasons for their use varied. One indicated they used the path to access the post office and shops in Trebanos, another to attend the Trebanos Rugby Club (formerly located on Lloyd Street). Four said they would walk their dogs this way, one to visit friends and three said it formed part of a recreational walk.
- 10.3 As no application was made, then the only means by which the relevant period could be calculated is if the alleged public path has been called into question. Whilst barriers were installed near Point D, these did not affect the length E-E₂-E₁. For example, one person stated she would continue walking from Lloyd Street at point D via Footpath No. 2 to point E before joining this unregistered path.
- 10.4 Given the possible public status of the path has never been called into question, no minimum 20 year period can be calculated, then

the statutory period under Section 31 of the Highways Act 1980 cannot apply.

10.5 Recommendation

That no modification order be made for that length of path E-E2-E1

Reasons for the Decision

The path has never been called into question

The path E-E2-E1 (under commonlaw)

- 11.1 The other test would be to consider if the path has been dedicated under common law (Appendix 5). As indicated above, no minimum 20 year period need be established but a greater or lesser period could be sufficient if it can be established the owner took positive measures to enable the public to enjoy access. Consequently, mere acquiescence to such use would not be sufficient.
- 11.2 Those seven who were interviewed allege an average of 39 years up until 2015. However, the path was according to those interviewed a dram road which served the Darren Colliery until the mine closed in 1966. That is it was often used by the employees of those working in the mine.
- 11.3 The path is shown as a tramway on the 1947 edition of the ordnance survey and surveyed in 1941- 1942 but shown as a disused tramway on the 1962 edition surveyed in 1960.
- 11.4 However to access this section would have required the public to pass through the operational area of the mine situated at point D., Therefore the relevant period could not commence until the mine buildings had been removed by 1967.
- 11.5 Therefore the use of the path E-E2-E1 could only be subject to such a dedication from either 1967 or when the land was sold in 1968. There is still a period of 47 years from 1968, throughout which use of this path could give rise to a dedication. Only one person has claimed to have walked this path prior to 1968 and so the average length of use claimed is 37 years until 2015. Consequently, there is sufficient evidence of use.

11.6 The Community Council stated they have cut overgrowing vegetation along this path from 1999-2015. Consequently, the maintenance of a path by a public body is good evidence that the landowner has not only accepted the path was in use by the public but was content to have that path kept open by the Community Council on behalf of the public.

11.7 The path contains a metal footbridge at point E₂ which according to one person replaced an earlier bridge. The present one according to another was installed at the time the land reclamation work was undertaken on the Darren Colliery site in 2003. Again evidence that the landowner was prepared to allow such a structure to enable the public to continue to pass and re pass

11.8 The above suggests that the landowner had indirectly facilitated its use by allowing such work to be undertaken on the land

11.9 **Recommendation**

That a modification order be made to show the path E1-E2-E as a public footpath and if no objections are made to confirm the same as unopposed.

Reasons for the Proposed Decision

The path has never been called into question and as no application was made, there has been no date when the path has been called into question. As a result no minimum period of 20 years can be considered counting retrospectively from any one identifiable date.

Since the land was sold and the mine ceased to operate there has nonetheless been sufficient use of the way for a significantly long period which has remained uninterrupted.

The work undertaken by the Community Council, the replacement footbridge as well as the more recent re surfacing work implies the then landowners had accepted the path was being maintained for the benefit of the public. The consequential acceptance of that dedication by the long continued use by the public, provides the third element in showing the dedication was accepted by the public under common law.

Consultation

This item has been subject to external consultation

Recommendation

That the recommendations contained in paragraphs 6.3, 7.4, 8.2,9.6,10.5 and 11.9 above be approved.

Reasons for the Proposed Decision

As contained within the circulated report

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Plan

Appendix 2 – Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981

Appendix3 – Highways Act, 1980

Appendix4

Appendix 5 – Dedication Under Common Law

List of Background Papers

Case File Reference M08/9

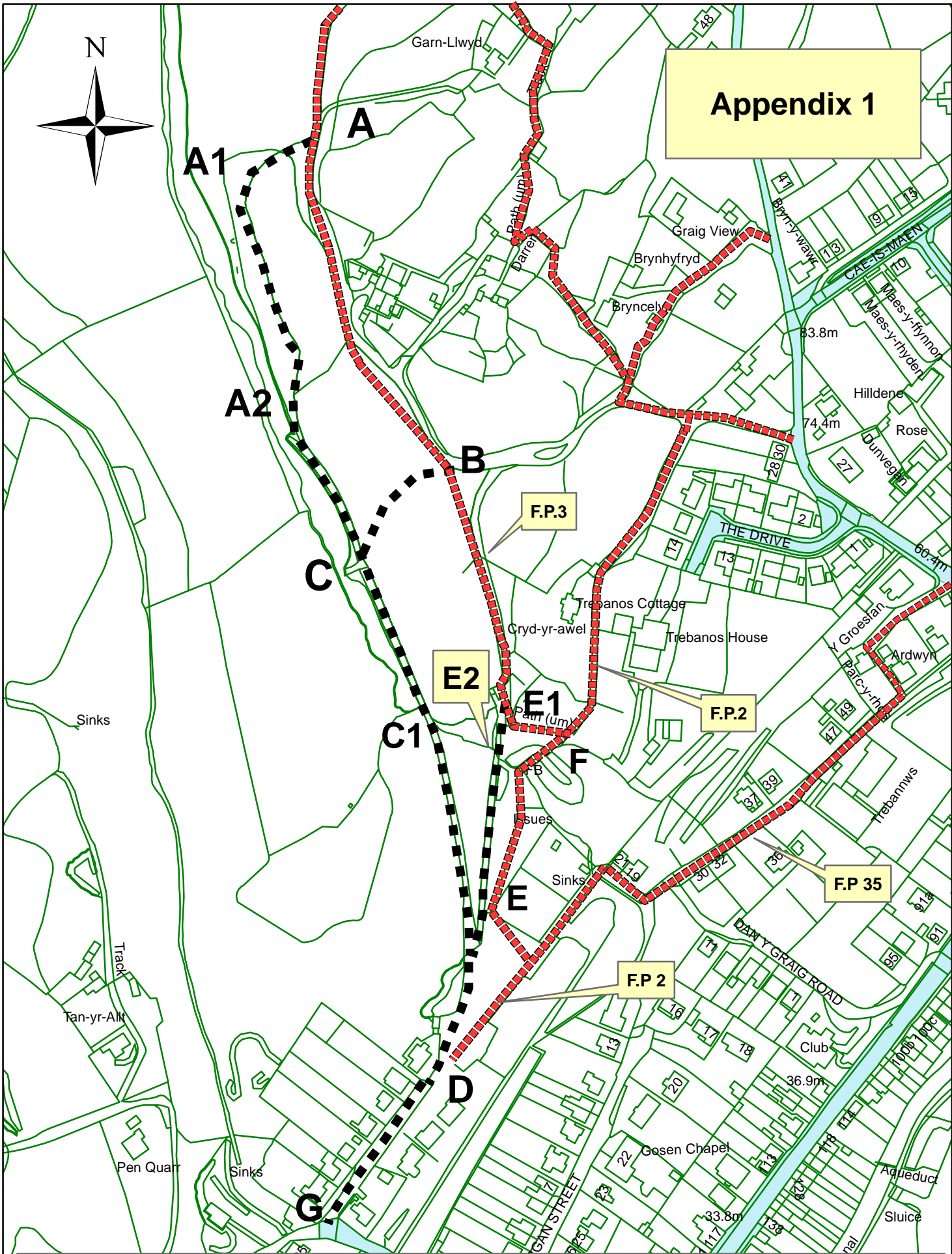
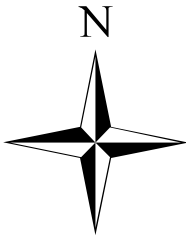
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Appendix 1



Alleged Public Path - - - - -

Registered Public Paths - - - - -

Grid Ref SN 710028

Scale 1 2500

Crown Copyright and Database Right 2015.
Ordnance Survey 100023392

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APPENDIX 2

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT, 1981

Section 53 Duty to keep the Definitive Map and Statement under continuous review.

(2) As regards every definitive map and statement, the surveying authority shall:

(a) as soon as reasonably practical after the commencement date, by order make such modifications to the map and statement as appear to them to be requisite in consequence of the occurrence, before that date, of any of the events specified in sub-section 3; and

(b) as from that date, keep the map and statement under continuous review and as soon as reasonably practicable after the occurrence on or after that date, of any of those events, by order make such modifications to the map and statement as appear to them to be requisite in consequence of the occurrence of that event.

(3) The events referred to in sub section (2) are as follows:-

(b) the expiration, in relation to any way in the area to which the map relates of any period such that the enjoyment by the public of the way during that period raises a presumption that

the way has been dedicated as a public path or restricted byway;

(c) the discovery by the Authority of evidence which (when considered with all other relevant evidence available to them) shows:

(i) that a right of way which is not shown on the map and statement subsists or is reasonably alleged to subsist over land in the area to which the map relates, being a right of way such that the land over which the right subsists is a public path, a restricted byway or, subject to section 54A a byway open to all traffic;

(ii) that a highway shown in the map and statement as a highway of a particular description ought to be there shown as a highway of a different description.

(iii) that there is no public right of way over land shown in the map and statement as a highway of any description ,or any other particulars contained in the map and statement require modification.

APPENDIX 3

HIGHWAYS ACT, 1980

Section 31. Dedication of way as a highway presumed after public use for 20 years.

Where a public way over land, other than a way of such a character that use of it by the public could not give rise at common law to any presumption of dedication, has actually been enjoyed by the public as of right and without interruption of a full period of 20 years, the way is deemed to have been dedicated as a highway unless there is sufficient evidence that there was no intention during this period to dedicate it.

For Section 31(1) Highways Act, 1981 to operate and give rise to a presumption of dedication the following criteria must be satisfied:

- the physical nature of the path must be such as is capable of being a public right of way
- the use must be 'brought into question', i.e. challenged or disputed in some way
- use must have taken place without interruption over the period of twenty years before the date on which the right is brought into question
- use must be *as of right* i.e. without force, without stealth or without permission and in the belief that the route was public
- there must be insufficient evidence that the landowner did not intend to dedicate a right of type being claimed
- use must be by the public at large

APPENDIX 4

- 1.1 The case concerning *R v Secretary of State for the Environment, exp Billsan* 1999) dealt with an application which had been made to register a public bridleway across common land, which was the subject of a deed of access. It was held that the public's enjoyment of the tracks was by licence and not "as of right", even though the public genuinely believed that it was "as of right".

- 1.2 This distinction between "as of right" and "by right" was further clarified at the Supreme Court *R (on the application of Barkas) (appellant) v N. Yorkshire County Council and another (Respondents)* in 2014. Here permissive paths were granted by the Local Authority as it had appropriated land as an open space under the Housing Act 1985. It was held the public were using the land for recreational purposes within the meaning of the Commons Act 2006. So their use as "by right" and not "as of right". The public could not claim to have been exercising a right that would be associated with a village green.

- 1.3 A more general principal arises where a landowner of such land could not reasonably be expected to know whether the public are exercising a permissive right, or asserting one "as of right".

APPENDIX 5

DEDICATION UNDER COMMON LAW

No minimum period of use is required, but the claimants must show that it can be inferred by the landowner's conduct, that he or she had actually dedicated the route. User of right, is not of itself necessarily sufficient, nor mere acquiescence by the owner. Under statute, twenty years, if proved to have been uninterrupted will be sufficient to show presumed dedication.

Under common law it is still possible that use was due to the landowner's tolerance rather than because that landowner had intended to dedicate. Consequently there needs to be evidence that the landowner (or owners) for whatever period is being considered, not only acquiesced to that use but either directly or indirectly took measures to facilitate public use.

Obviously this means the landowners have to be identified and evidence that they wished to have the route dedicated to the public.

For the right of way to be established, it needs to be shown that it has been used openly as of right and for so long a time that it must have come to the knowledge of the owners that the public were so using it as of right.

As a matter of proof at common law, the greater the length of user that can be demonstrated the stronger the inference of dedication will usually be. Furthermore acceptance of that dedication by public use evidently a necessary requirement to establish such a dedication.

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NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Environment and Highways Cabinet Board

1st September 2016

Report of the Head of Planning

N. Pearce

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected: All

2016 Air Quality Progress Report

Purpose of Report

1. To inform members of the results of pollution monitoring carried out during the calendar year of 2015, and obtain approval to place a copy of the report on the Council's website and send copies to the Welsh Assembly Government.

Executive Summary

2. Two air quality reports are covered by this Board Report.
 - a) The 2016 Air Quality Progress Report for Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council.
 - b) The 2016 Detailed Assessment of Air Quality for Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council.

Summary of the 2016 Air Quality Progress Report

3. The Progress Report covering the period up to the end of 2015 has identified the need to proceed to a Detailed Assessment for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) at Victoria Gardens, Neath.
4. The long-term Air Quality Objective (AQO) for PM₁₀ was not breached in Port Talbot. However, the short-term average was breached at Port Talbot Fire Station, for the first time since 2007. However, compliance may be achieved once the effect of natural sources such as sea salt is taken into account. These calculations

had not been completed by Welsh Government at the time of writing. The Taibach/Margam Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) will continue to remain in force.

5. There were no exceedances of Air Quality Objectives for sulphur dioxide (SO₂), lead (Pb) or carbon monoxide (CO).
6. Fine particulates of less than 2.5 microns in size (PM_{2.5}) easily complied with the EU Target.
7. Ozone is not covered by Local Air Quality Management because trans-boundary pollution can have a significant effect upon local results. Neath Port Talbot, like other parts of the country, experiences significant numbers of exceedances of the UK air quality standard. The trend is one of gradual improvement over time.
8. Concentrations of polyaromatic hydrocarbons exceed the UK Air Quality Objective of 0.25 ng/m³, but are less than the EU Target value of 1 ng/m³. The trend line shows that concentrations are increasing over time. Natural Resources Wales, as regulator of the steelworks has produced a position statement on PAH, which is attached as a background paper.
9. Arsenic and cadmium easily comply with the EU Target, both in Port Talbot and Pontardawe.
10. Nickel concentrations comply with the EU Target at all locations in Neath, Port Talbot and Pontardawe, except Tawe Terrace. However due to work being carried out in relation to this exceedance, nickel levels decreased substantially at Tawe Terrace during 2015.
11. The highest rates of fallout of large particles (nuisance dust) were measured in Port Talbot at Port Talbot Fire Station and Prince Street. The highest ever fallout rates were recorded at Prince Street.

Summary of the 2016 Detailed Assessment of Air Quality

12. Measurements have shown that the only location having relevant exposure where the annual averaged AQO was breached was No. 1 Victoria Gardens (40.7 ug/m³). However, this exceedance is marginal and is considered to be subject to a significant degree of uncertainty.

13. The aim of the Detailed Assessment is to establish with reasonable certainty whether there is a likelihood that AQOs are not being achieved. It is considered that this result is not sufficient in this regard and that an AQMA will not be declared at this time.
14. The Council therefore intends to deploy diffusion tubes in triplicate at No. 1 Victoria Gardens, thereby reducing this uncertainty. A further Detailed Assessment of NO₂ shall then be carried out on 2016 data.

Background

15. These reports fulfil the requirements of the Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) 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 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.
16. Progress reports are produced by the Council in two out of every three years. The most recent was produced in 2014. Updating and Screening Assessments (USAs) are required in the remaining year. Progress reports should cover: new monitoring data; new local developments; the local air quality strategy; new planning applications; Planning policies; local transport plans and policies; implementation of LAQM action plans; other changes that might affect air quality.
17. The Council opts to include information on non-LAQM pollutants in addition to the more narrow LAQM range of pollutants required for inclusion in LAQM reports. LAQM USA reports are required to be provided to WAG as the devolved administration has responsibility for compliance with national air quality objectives.
18. The reports illustrate the results of pollution monitoring data collected during the calendar year 2015. The data includes results from continuous and non-continuous equipment, some of which is supplied to national pollution monitoring networks. Conclusions are drawn about air quality based upon this information.

Financial Impact

19. There are no implications for financial impact on this item.

Equality Impact Assessment

20. A Screening Assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010. After completing the assessment it has been determined that this proposal does not require an Equalities Impact Assessment

Workforce Impact

21. There are no workforce impact implications on this item.

Legal Impact

22. There are no legal impact implications on this item.

Risk Management

23. There are no implications for risk management on this item.

Any Other Impacts? –

24. There are no impacts for crime & disorder/counter terrorism/sustainable development.

Consultation

25. There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

Recommendation(s)

26. 1) The contents of the 2016 Air Quality Progress Report and Detailed Assessment of Air Quality should be noted.

- 2) The reports should be made available to the public and other stakeholders via the Council website and a copy sent to the Welsh Assembly Government for information.

Reason for Proposed Decision(s)

27. To provide information about air quality in accordance with legislative requirements.

Implementation of Decision

28. The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

Appendices

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Appendix 2 – Detailed assessment of Nitrogen Dioxide

List of Background Papers

30. Natural Resources Wales position statement on PAH and Best Available Techniques (BAT).

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Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

2016 Air Quality Progress Report

In fulfillment of Part IV of the Environment Act 1995
Local Air Quality Management

Date (July, 2016)

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Local Authority Officer	M. Hooper
Department	Environment
Address	Quays, Brunel Way, Neath SA11 2GG
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Report Reference number	E2/16/9/2016 PR
Date	July 2016

Executive Summary

The Progress Report covering the period up to the end of 2015 has identified the need to proceed to a Detailed Assessment for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) at Victoria Gardens, Neath.

The long-term Air Quality Objective for PM₁₀ was not breached in Port Talbot. However, the short-term average was breached at Port Talbot Fire Station, for the first time since 2007. However, compliance may be achieved once the effect of natural sources such as sea salt are taken into account. These calculations had not been completed by Welsh government at the time of writing. The Taibach/Margam AQMA will continue to remain in force.

There were no exceedances of Air Quality Objectives for sulphur dioxide (SO₂), lead (Pb) or carbon monoxide (CO).

Fine particulates of less than 2.5 microns in size (PM_{2.5}) easily complied with the EU Target which is to be complied with by 2015.

Ozone is not covered by Local Air Quality Management because trans-boundary pollution can have a significant effect upon local results. Neath Port Talbot, like other parts of the country, experiences significant numbers of exceedances of the UK air quality standard. The trend is one of gradual improvement over time.

Concentrations of polyaromatic hydrocarbons exceed the UK Air Quality Objective of 0.25 ng/m³, but are less than the EU Target value of 1 ng/m³. The trend line shows that concentrations are increasing over time.

Arsenic and cadmium easily comply with the EU Target, both in Port Talbot and Pontardawe.

Nickel concentrations comply with the EU Target at all locations in Neath, Port Talbot and Pontardawe, except Tawe Terrace. Nickel levels decreased substantially at Tawe Terrace during 2015.

The highest rates of fallout of large particles (nuisance dust) were measured in Port Talbot at Port Talbot Fire Station and Prince Street. The highest ever fallout rates were recorded at Prince Street.

The next actions to be taken will be to:

- Submit a LAQM Progress report.
- Submit a LAQM Detailed Assessment of NO₂ at the junction of Victoria Gardens and Cimla Road in Neath. This shall be carried out in respect of the long-term Air Quality Objective.

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1 Introduction

1.1 Description of Local Authority Area

The County Borough of Neath Port Talbot covers an area of 44,126 hectares. Rising from sea level in the west to 600 metres at Craig Y Llyn, above Glynneath, Neath Port Talbot is predominantly an upland area dissected by the valleys of the Afan, Neath, Dulais and Tawe rivers which all flow to the sea in Swansea Bay. These valleys are separated from each other by ridges of high forest or moorland. A narrow coastal strip extends around Swansea Bay where the main centres of population are found. The surrounding valleys are rural in aspect with scattered communities. The County Borough has a population of 139,800 (2011 Census) and contains 63,978 dwellings (2011 Census). While over recent decades the overall population trend has been of gradual decline, population figures since the 2001 Census indicate population increases which have been predominantly fuelled by internal migration from other areas of the UK and neighbouring local authorities. The main demographic challenges to the County Borough are an aging population where it is projected that the population aged over 65 years old will increase by 35% by 2023, long term ill health, low levels of economic activity and access to private transport.

The County Borough is served by the M4 motorway with the A465 “Heads of the Valleys” road providing links to the M50 and the Midlands. The Intercity Rail service includes mainline stations in Neath and Port Talbot. The area has a strong manufacturing base with more than twice the UK average employed in the manufacturing sector.

The steel industry remains by far the largest industrial employer in the County Borough with around 3,000 employed directly at the Port Talbot works although contraction in the labour force has affected employment, contractors and suppliers.

Coal mining is still important in the valley communities where small mines, opencast sites and coal processing/washeries provide valuable local jobs.

1.2 Purpose of Progress Report

This report fulfils the requirements of the Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) 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.

For Local Authorities in Wales, Progress Reports are required in the intervening years between the three-yearly Updating and Screening Assessment reports. Their purpose is to maintain continuity in the LAQM process.

They are not intended to be as detailed as Updating and Screening Assessment Reports, or to require as much effort. However, if the Progress Report identifies the risk of exceedence of an Air Quality Objective, the Local Authority (LA) should undertake a Detailed Assessment immediately, and not wait until the next round of Review and Assessment.

1.3 Air Quality Objectives

The air quality objectives applicable to LAQM in **Wales** are set out in the Air Quality (Wales) Regulations 2000, No. 1940 (Wales 138), Air Quality (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2002, No 3182 (Wales 298), and are shown in Table 1.1. This table shows the objectives in units of microgrammes per cubic metre $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (milligrammes per cubic metre, mg/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 Wales

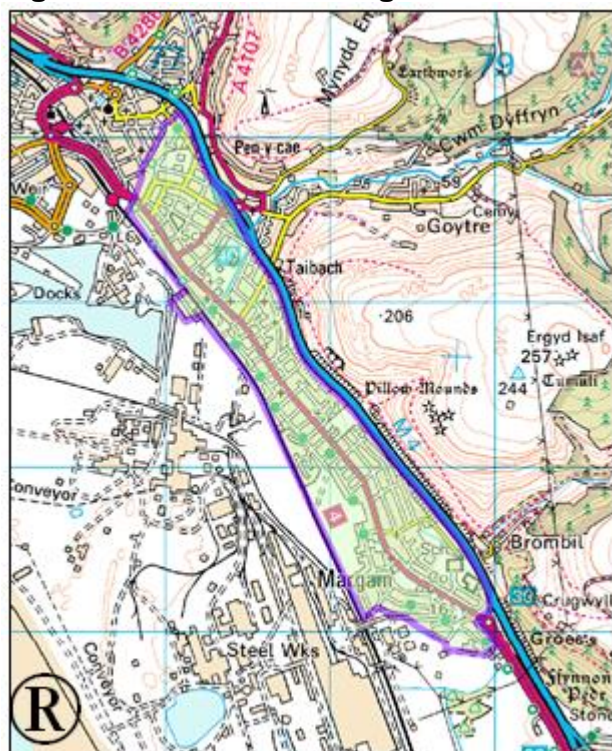
Pollutant	Air Quality Objective		Date to be achieved by
	Concentration	Measured as	
Benzene	16.25 µg/m ³	Running annual mean	31.12.2003
	5.00 µg/m ³	Annual mean	31.12.2011
1,3-butadiene	2.25 µg/m ³	Running annual mean	31.12.2003
Carbon monoxide	10 mg/m ³	Running 8-hour mean	31.12.2003
Lead	0.50 µg/m ³	Annual mean	31.12.2004
	0.25 µg/m ³	Annual mean	31.12.2008
Nitrogen dioxide	200 µg/m ³ not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	1-hour mean	31.12.2005
	40 µg/m ³	Annual mean	31.12.2005
Particulate matter (PM ₁₀) (gravimetric)	50 µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	24-hour mean	31.12.2004
	40 µg/m ³	Annual mean	31.12.2004
Sulphur dioxide	350 µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 24 times a year	1-hour mean	31.12.2004
	125 µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 3 times a year	24-hour mean	31.12.2004
	266 µg/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

The 2000 review and assessment of air quality concluded that it would be necessary to declare an Air Quality Management Area for PM₁₀ in Port Talbot. This was due the predicted failure to achieve the Government's Air Quality Objective for PM₁₀ by the deadline of 31st December 2004 without intervention.

As a consequence the Taibach Margam AQMA was declared by the Council on 11th May 2000 and was in force effective from 1st July 2000. The AQMA is shown shaded in Figure 1.1 below.

Figure 1.1 Taibach Margam AQMA



The 2003 Updating and Screening Assessment showed that there was no need to proceed to a detailed assessment in respect of all but two pollutants, nitrogen dioxide and PM₁₀. Nitrogen dioxide measurements at Victoria Gardens, Neath had shown some increases that merited further investigation. PM₁₀ measurements at Port Talbot had continued to require further measurement, especially as improvements to a blast furnace might have been expected to abate emissions somewhat.

The subsequent 2004 Detailed Assessment of nitrogen dioxide and PM₁₀ showed that it would not be necessary to declare an AQMA in the vicinity of Victoria Gardens. PM₁₀ concentrations were found to increase following re-commissioning of blast furnace number 5 at the steelworks. However, the numbers of exceedances were not as numerous as those recorded prior to the re-build of the furnace and the incorporation of cast house fume arrestment.

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The 2006 USA showed that it would be necessary to proceed to a Detailed Assessment in respect of nitrogen dioxide. Several busy roads were identified for which accurate speed information was not available. Therefore it would necessary to deploy diffusion tubes in order to assess nitrogen dioxide levels at these locations. Measurements of PM₁₀ would continue as before.

In 2007 the Detailed Assessment of nitrogen dioxide showed that none of the 19 roadside sites identified in the 2006 USA breached the annual average Air Quality Objective. However, two sites were close to the Objective and one site, Water Street, Port Talbot was at risk of exceeding. Diffusion tube monitoring continued at these locations.

The 2008 air quality report revealed compliance with PM₁₀ Air Quality Objectives, both at Port Talbot Fire Station and the new site at Dyffryn School, Port Talbot. There were no breaches of Air Quality Objectives for the other LAQM pollutants, although one site at Victoria Gardens, Neath came close to doing so.

An Updating and Screening Assessment was reported in May 2009, which identified the need to proceed to a Detailed Assessment of nitrogen dioxide in respect of Water Street, Port Talbot. Further sites were also identified for deployment of nitrogen dioxide diffusion tubes. The daily averaged Air Quality Objective for PM₁₀ was not exceeded in Port Talbot.

A Detailed Assessment of nitrogen dioxide was reported in 2010. This showed that Air Quality Objectives were not breached at Water Street, but recommended that a further Detailed Assessment should be conducted at this location.

An Air Quality Progress Report was produced in 2010, which identified the need to proceed to a Detailed Assessment of nitrogen dioxide in respect of sites at: Swansea Road, Pontardawe; Victoria Gardens, Neath and Water Street, Port Talbot.

A Detailed Assessment of nitrogen dioxide was reported in 2011. This showed that following improved traffic management and reducing volumes of traffic meant that there were no further problems at Water Street, but confirmed raised levels at Swansea Road, Pontardawe and Victoria Gardens, Neath. The Council committed to deploy continuous NO₂ analysers at these locations.

An Updating and Screening Assessment was reported in August 2012. This identified the need to proceed to a Detailed Assessment of nitrogen dioxide at Swansea Road, Pontardawe and Victoria Gardens, Neath. The report also identified the need to proceed to a Detailed Assessment for PM₁₀ at respect of Prince Street, Margam.

An Air Quality Progress Report was produced in 2013, which identified a breach of the short term air quality objective for PM₁₀ at Prince Street in Port Talbot using equipment owned by Natural Resources Wales (NRW). A new monitor was to be installed in 2014 to replace the NRW device, which was relocated. Consequently, the report identified the need to proceed to a Detailed Assessment for PM₁₀ at respect of Prince Street, Margam.

A Detailed Assessment of nitrogen dioxide was reported in 2013. This showed that neither air quality objective were breached at Victoria Gardens in Neath. However, a

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property at 1 Victoria Gardens (39.8 µg/m³) was close to exceeding the short term Air Quality Objective (AQO).

An Updating and Screening Assessment was reported in 2015. This identified the need to proceed to a Detailed Assessment of nitrogen dioxide at Swansea Road, Pontardawe and Victoria Gardens, Neath.

A Detailed Assessment of PM₁₀ was reported in 2015. This examined data from 8 sites in Port Talbot, but none were found to breach air quality objectives. Results at Prince Street were more in line with those at Port Talbot Fire Station.

Table 1.2 Summary of previous air quality reports

Report	Date produced	Outcomes
Annual air quality report	1998	Summary of routine measurements.
Annual air quality report	1999	Summary of routine measurements.
Annual air quality report	2000	Summary of routine measurements.
2000 Review and assessment of air quality	February 2000	AQMA for PM ₁₀ required for Port Talbot.
Annual air quality report	2001	Summary of routine measurements.
Annual air quality report	2002	Summary of routine measurements.
Updating and Screening Assessment of Air Quality	July 2003	Detailed assessment required for NO ₂ and PM ₁₀ .
Annual air quality report	2003	Summary of routine measurements.
Annual air quality report	2004	Summary of routine measurements.
Detailed Assessment of air quality	November 2004	No AQMA required in respect of NO ₂ at Victoria Gardens. PM ₁₀ problems at Port Talbot improved, but not enough to warrant revocation of AQMA.
Annual air quality report	2005	Summary of routine measurements.
Updating and Screening Assessment	April 2006	Detailed Assessment required in respect of NO ₂ at several busy roads.
Annual air quality report	2006	Summary of routine measurements.
Detailed Assessment	April 2007	No AQMAs required for NO ₂ , but monitoring to continue at sites "at risk" of exceedance.
Annual air quality report	2007	Summary of routine measurements.

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Annual air quality report	2008	Summary of routine measurements.
Updating and Screening Assessment	May 2009	Detailed Assessment required in respect of NO ₂ at Water Street, Port Talbot.
Detailed Assessment of air quality	2010	No AQMA required but another Detailed Assessment recommended for Water Street.
Progress report	2010	Detailed Assessment recommended for 2 sites in Pontardawe and Neath.
Detailed Assessment of air quality	2011	Water Street issue now resolved, but continuous analysers to be deployed at 2 sites in Pontardawe and Neath.
Updating and screening assessment	2012	Detailed Assessment for NO ₂ recommended for 2 sites in Pontardawe & Neath. Detailed Assessment for PM ₁₀ recommended for Prince Street in Port Talbot.
Progress report	Aug 2014	Detailed Assessment of PM ₁₀ at Prince Street in Port Talbot is recommended. New PM ₁₀ monitor required at this site.
Detailed Assessment of air quality	Aug 2014	No breach of short term AQO for NO ₂ at Victoria Gardens, but one property is very close to exceeding.
Updating and Screening Assessment	Nov 2015	Detailed assessment recommended for Victoria Gardens site in Neath.
Detailed Assessment of air quality	Nov 2015	Detailed Assessment of PM ₁₀ at 8 sites in Port Talbot. No breaches of air quality objectives.

2 New Monitoring Data

2.1 Summary of Monitoring Undertaken

2.1.1 Automatic Monitoring Sites

Measurements of carbon monoxide (CO), fine particulates (PM₁₀), sulphur dioxide (SO₂) and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) are made continuously at Port Talbot Fire Station as part of the Automatic Urban and Rural Network (AURN). The site location is shown in Figure 2.1. Measurements are made either every 15 minutes or every hour depending on the pollutant concerned. The National Environmental Technology Centre (NETCEN) and their contractors (Bureau Veritas) collect the data from the Fire Station site and this is then subjected to a rigorous quality assurance procedure, prior to dissemination via the Internet. The site is initially contacted via modem and the data collected at regular intervals. Data is automatically scaled in accordance with the latest calibrations (where appropriate) and subjected to an initial inspection prior to dissemination within one hour of receipt. Subsequently, data remains in this format until a final ratification is carried out, by NETCEN, normally in three-month blocks. Some care should therefore be exercised when relying upon statistics not yet subject to final ratification. All data for 2015 has now been fully ratified and can therefore be reported with confidence.

Nitrogen dioxide is continuously measured at the junction of Victoria Gardens and Cimla Road in Neath and near to Pontardawe Post Office. The analysers are MCERTS certified and are subject to QA/QC audits and data ratification by Ricardo-AEA under a contract that also ensures that data is disseminated via the Welsh Air Quality Forum website. The instruments are covered by service contracts.

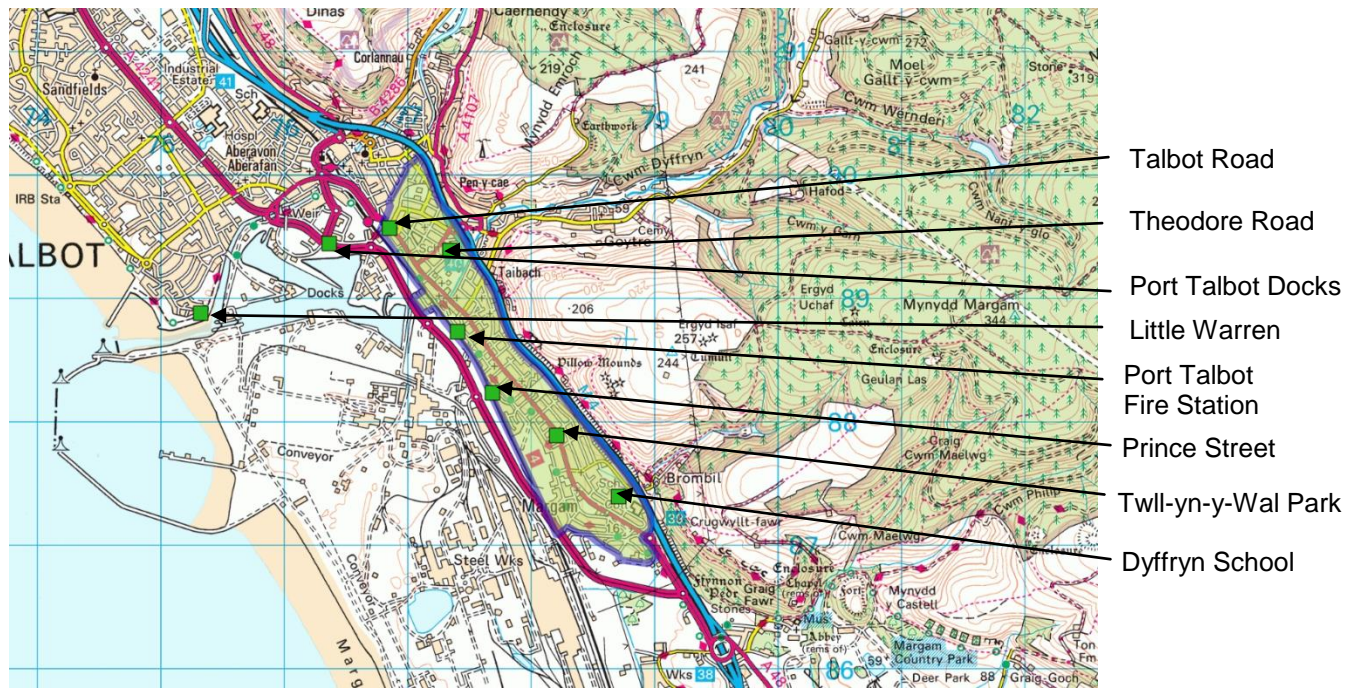
There are a total of eight PM₁₀ analysers deployed in or near to the AQMA by the Council. All are Rupprecht & Patashnick TEOM FDMS units with type CB driers. Analysers owned by Neath Port Talbot Council are all covered by service contracts and QA/QC contracts with Ricardo-AEA. Calibrations of gas analysers are carried out on an approximately fortnightly basis by the Council and Ricardo-AEA carry out bi-annual site audits at all locations.

Data polled by Ricardo-AEA can be found on the Welsh Air Quality Forum website.

<http://www.welshairquality.co.uk/>

Figures 2.1 to 2.4 show the locations of the monitors.

Figure 2.1 Map of Automatic PM₁₀ Monitoring Sites



Note: the blue line denotes the border of the AQMA.

Figure 2.2 Map of Automatic NO₂ Monitoring Sites

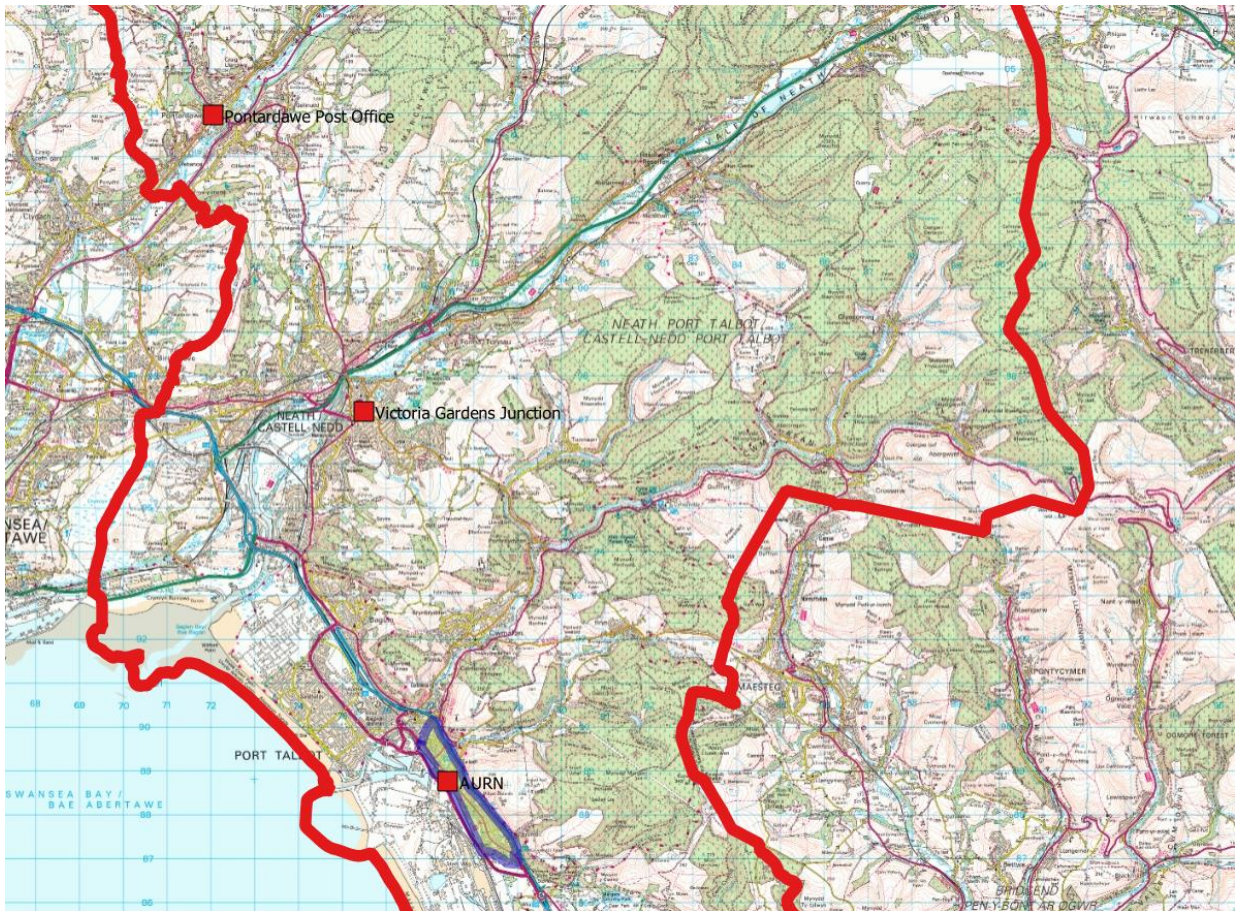


Figure 2.3 NO₂ analyser at Cimla Road/Victoria Gardens in Neath



Figure 2.4 NO₂ analyser at Pontardawe Post Office



Table 2.1 – Details of Automatic Monitoring Sites

Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Reference	Y OS Grid Reference	Inlet Height (m)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Monitoring Technique	Relevant Exposure? (Y/N with distance (m) from monitoring site to relevant exposure)	Distance to Kerb of Nearest Road (m) (N/A if not applicable)	Does this Location Represent Worst-Case Exposure?
PT2	Port Talbot Fire Station	Industrial	277388	188733	2.5	PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} , SO ₂ , CO, O ₃ , NO ₂	Y	FDMS, UV fluorescence, IR absorption, UV absorption, chemiluminescence	Y (16)	8	Y
PS1	Dyffryn School	Industrial	278700	187387	1.8	PM ₁₀	Y	FDMS	Y (88)	75	N
TH1	Twll-yn-y Wal Park	Industrial	278196	187891	1.8	PM ₁₀	Y	FDMS	Y (14)	2	N
TH1	Theodore Road	Industrial	277328	189385	1.8	PM ₁₀	Y	FDMS	Y (5)	6	N
TR1	Talbot Road	Roadside	276833	189567	1.8	PM ₁₀	Y	FDMS	N	2	N
LW1	Port Talbot Little Warren	Industrial	275313	188879	2.5	PM ₁₀	N	FDMS	N	160	N
DK1	Port Talbot Docks	Industrial	276346	189446	2.5	PM ₁₀	Y	FDMS	N	2	N
PS2	Prince St.	Industrial	277689	188235	1.8	PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5}	Y	FDMS	Y (40)	47	Y
VG2	Victoria Gardens	Roadside	275471	197183	1.2	NO ₂	N	Chemiluminescence	Y (21)	1	Y
PD1	Pontardawe Post Office	Roadside	272031	203950	1.2	NO ₂	N	Chemiluminescence	Y (3)	2.5	Y

2.1.2 Non-Automatic Monitoring Sites

Lead is measured at Milland Road Car Park in Neath, Port Talbot Fire Station, Pontardawe Leisure Centre, Tawe Terrace and Brecon Road in Pontardawe. Pumps sample the ambient air and filters are exposed for a fixed period of time. The filters are despatched to the laboratory together with information about the exposure time, flow rate etc. This information, combined with an analysis of the filters allows a concentration to be calculated for lead over the exposure period for the filters.

Measurements at Port Talbot Fire Station, Tawe Terrace & Brecon Road are carried out as part of the UK Metals Network and are subject to the quality assurance procedures of this network. The Council employs the National Physical Laboratory (NPL) to analyse and report results for filters exposed at Pontardawe Leisure Centre. The sampler is subject to a service contract to ensure it is correctly maintained.

PM₁₀ is also measured at Port Talbot Fire Station using a Partisol, which is quality assured by Bureau Veritas.

Nitrogen dioxide is also measured at a variety of locations using passive diffusion tubes (Figs. 2.5 – 2.9). The tubes are exposed for one month and are provided and analysed by ESG Didcot. The tubes are prepared using acetone:triethanolamine (50:50) and are subject to intercomparison quality assurance tests as part of the Workplace Analysis Scheme for Proficiency (WASP).

Figure 2.5 –NO₂ diffusion tube Sites

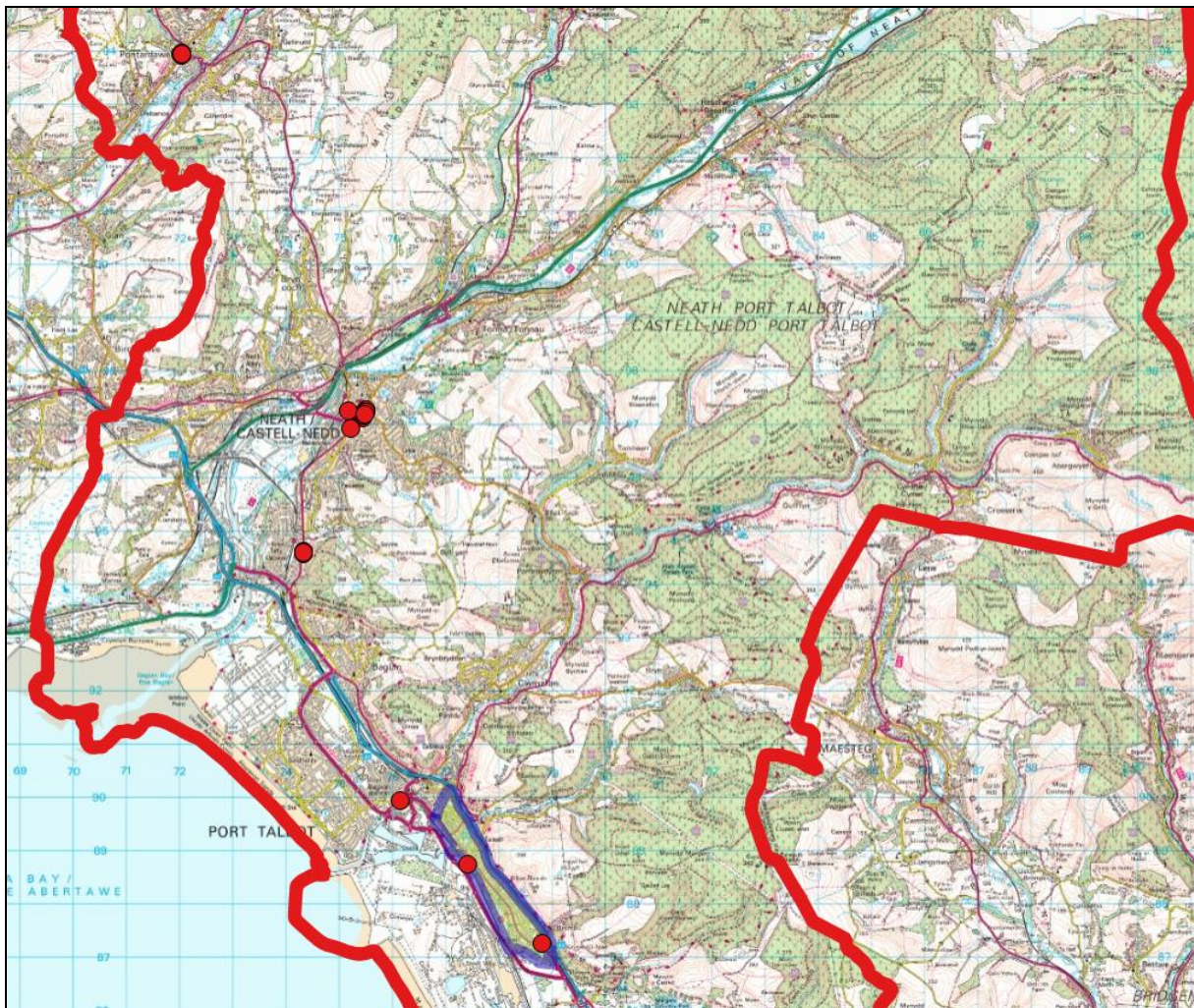
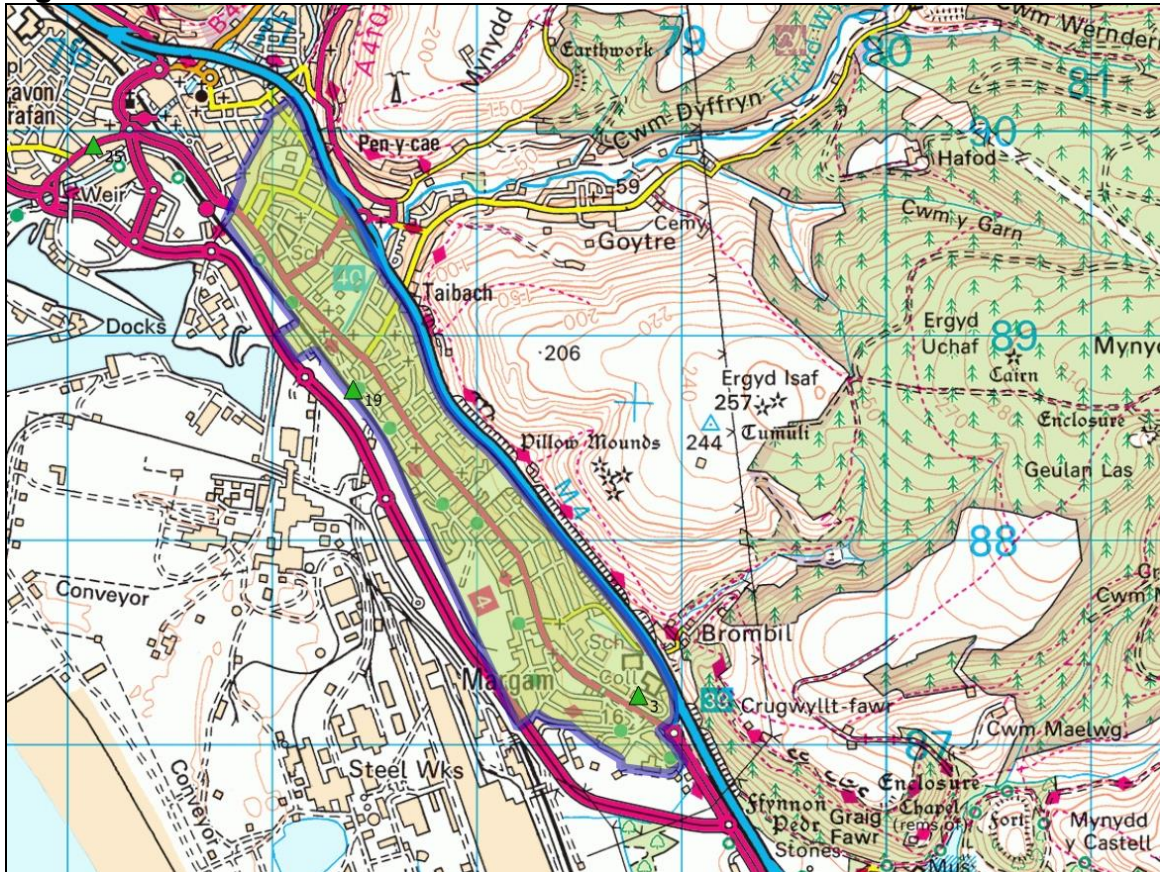


Figure 2.6 - Location of NO₂ diffusion tubes near Port Talbot



The Port Talbot AQMA is shaded green.

Figure 2.7 Location of NO₂ diffusion tubes in Briton Ferry

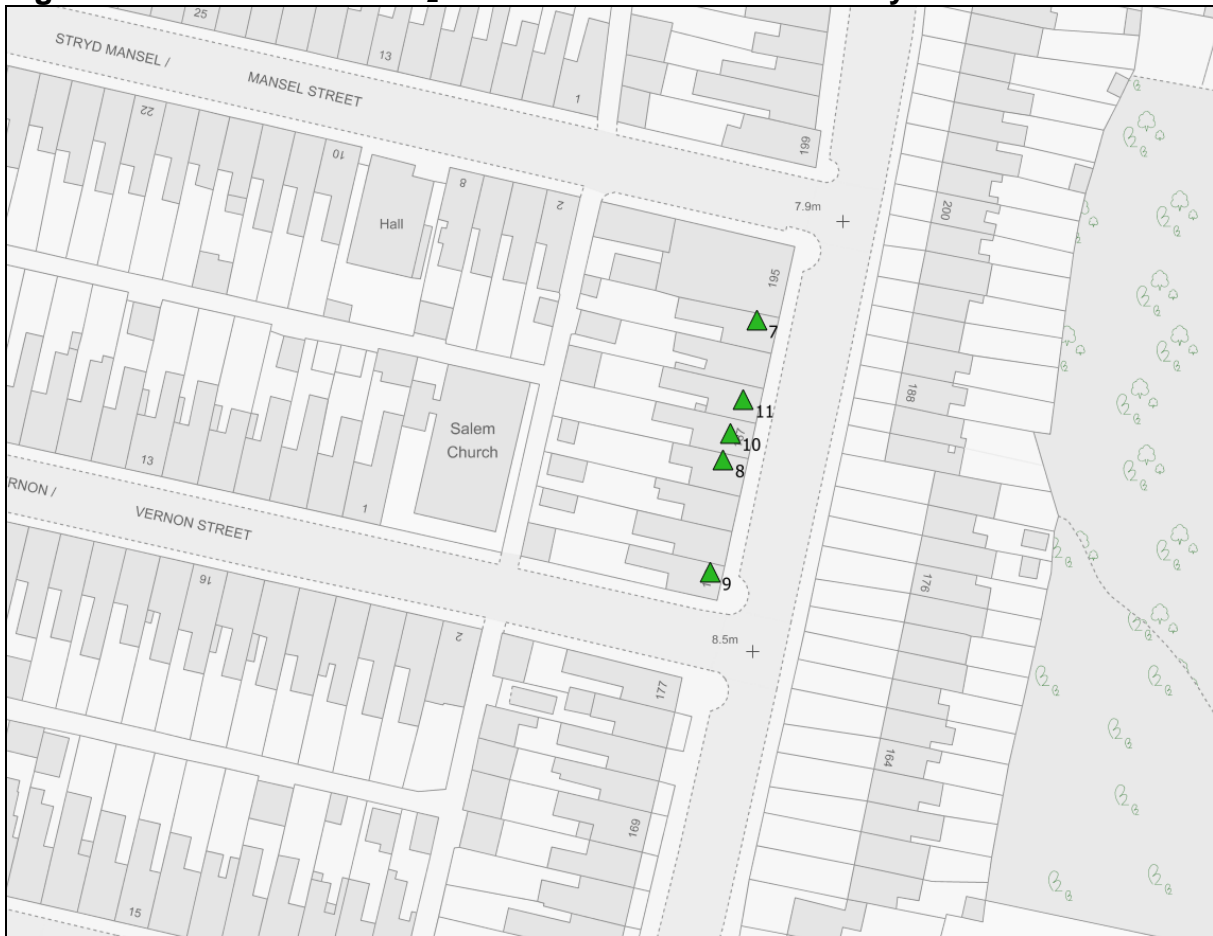


Figure 2.8 -Location of NO₂ diffusion tubes in Neath

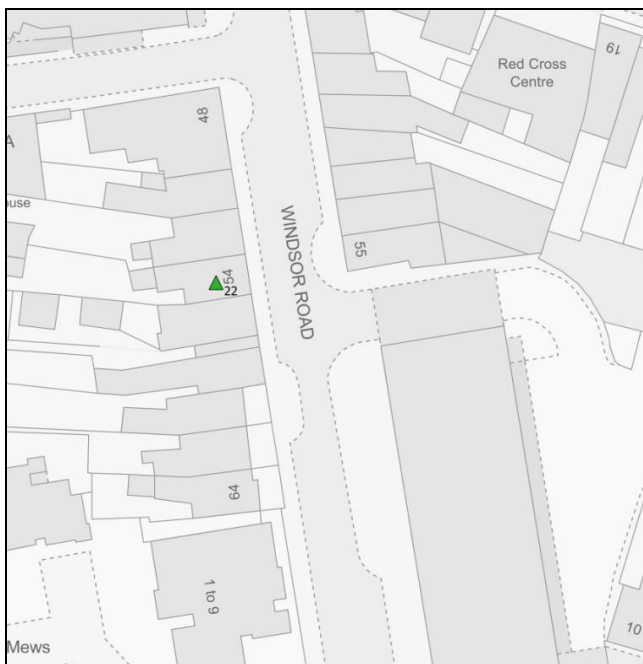


Figure 2.9 - Location of NO₂ diffusion tubes in Pontardawe

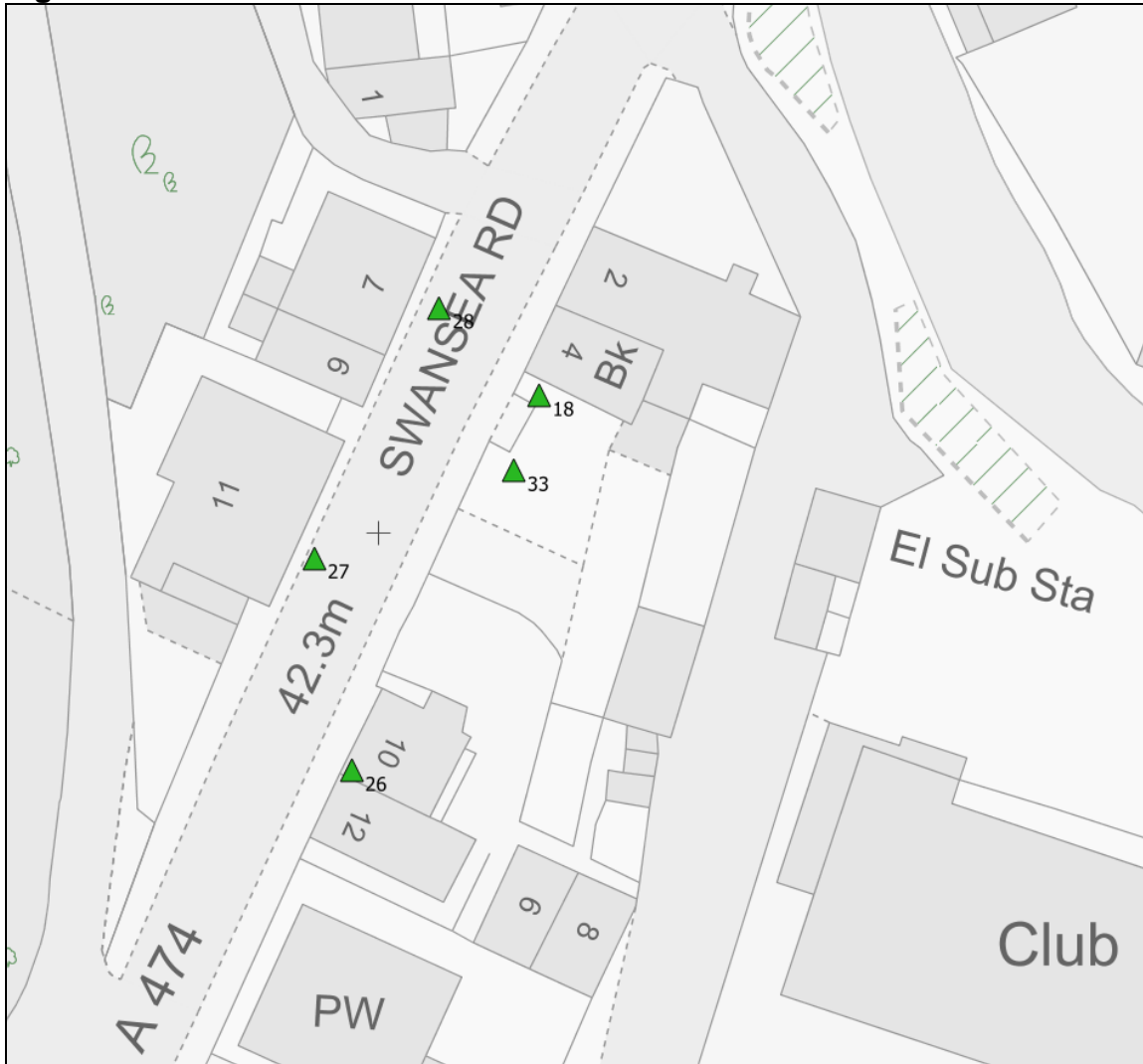


Table 2.2 – Details of Non- Automatic Monitoring Sites

Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Reference	Y OS Grid Reference	Site Height (m)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Is Monitoring Co-located with a Continuous Analyser (Y/N)	Relevant Exposure? (Y/N with distance (m) from monitoring site to relevant exposure)	Distance to Kerb of Nearest Road (m) (N/A if not applicable)	Does this Location Represent Worst-Case Exposure?
3	11 College Green, Margam, Port Talbot	Urban background	278794	187237	1.5	NO ₂	Y	N	Y (2m)	1m	N
Page 159	8 Victoria Gardens, Neath	Roadside	275494	197272	1.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y (2m)	4.5 m	N
	5 28 Eastland Road, Neath	Roadside	275420	197161	1.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	4 m	N
7	Moby's, Neath Road, Briton Ferry	Roadside	274312	194601	2.0	NO ₂	N	N	Y (2m)	1.5 m	Y

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Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Reference	Y OS Grid Reference	Site Height (m)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Is Monitoring Co-located with a Continuous Analyser (Y/N)	Relevant Exposure? (Y/N with distance (m) from monitoring site to relevant exposure)	Distance to Kerb of Nearest Road (m) (N/A if not applicable)	Does this Location Represent Worst-Case Exposure?
8	185 Neath Road, Briton Ferry	Roadside	274307	194580	2.0	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	1.5 m	Y
Page 160	179 Neath Road, Briton Ferry	Roadside	274305	194563	2.0	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	1.5 m	Y
10	187 Neath Road, Briton Ferry	Roadside	274308	194584	2.0	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	1.5 m	Y
11	189 Neath Road, Briton Ferry	Roadside	274310	194589	2.0	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	1.5 m	Y
12	34 Eastland Road, Neath	Roadside	275427	197139	1.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	4 m	N

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Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Reference	Y OS Grid Reference	Site Height (m)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Is Monitoring Co-located with a Continuous Analyser (Y/N)	Relevant Exposure? (Y/N with distance (m) from monitoring site to relevant exposure)	Distance to Kerb of Nearest Road (m) (N/A if not applicable)	Does this Location Represent Worst-Case Exposure?
13	40 Eastland Road, Neath	Roadside	275415	197110	1.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	4 m	N
14	32 Eastland Road, Neath	Roadside	275431	197149	1.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	4 m	N
15	30 Eastland Road, Neath	Roadside	275434	197157	1.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	4 m	N
16	5 Victoria Gardens, Neath	Roadside	275464	197230	1.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	3.5 m	Y
17	1 Greenway Road, Neath	Roadside	275455	197211	2.0	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	1 m	Y

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Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Reference	Y OS Grid Reference	Site Height (m)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Is Monitoring Co-located with a Continuous Analyser (Y/N)	Relevant Exposure? (Y/N with distance (m) from monitoring site to relevant exposure)	Distance to Kerb of Nearest Road (m) (N/A if not applicable)	Does this Location Represent Worst-Case Exposure?
18	Pontardawe Post Office	Roadside	272034	203954	2.0	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	1m	Y
6 Page 862	Port Talbot Fire Station	Industrial	277399	188734	2.5	NO ₂	Y	Y	Y (16m)	8 m	N
	3 Victoria Gardens, Neath	Roadside	275463	197223	1.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	3.5 m	Y
21	50 Greenway Road, Neath	Roadside	275452	197195	2.0	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	1 m	Y
22	54 Windsor Road, Neath	Roadside	275146	197248	2.0	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	1.5 m	Y

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Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Reference	Y OS Grid Reference	Site Height (m)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Is Monitoring Co-located with a Continuous Analyser (Y/N)	Relevant Exposure? (Y/N with distance (m) from monitoring site to relevant exposure)	Distance to Kerb of Nearest Road (m) (N/A if not applicable)	Does this Location Represent Worst-Case Exposure?
23	4 Victoria Gardens, Neath	Roadside	275482	197227	1.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	3.5 m	Y
24	Stockham's Corner Flats	Roadside	275200	196905	2.0	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	3 m	Y
25	Old Fire Station, Water Street, Port Talbot	Roadside	276131	189926	2.0	NO ₂	N	N	Y (3m)	1 m	Y
26	10 Swansea Road, Pontardawe	Roadside	272019	203924	2.0	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	1 m	Y

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Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Reference	Y OS Grid Reference	Site Height (m)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Is Monitoring Co-located with a Continuous Analyser (Y/N)	Relevant Exposure? (Y/N with distance (m) from monitoring site to relevant exposure)	Distance to Kerb of Nearest Road (m) (N/A if not applicable)	Does this Location Represent Worst-Case Exposure?
27	11a Swansea Road, Pontardawe	Roadside	272016	203941	2.0	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	1 m	Y
28	8 Swansea Road, Pontardawe	Roadside	272026	203961	2.0	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	1 m	Y
33	Bus Stop near Pontardawe Post Office	Roadside	272032	203948	1.4	NO ₂	N	Y	Y (3m)	2.5 m	N
34	Lights at Cimla Junction	Roadside	275472	197185	1.4	NO ₂	N	Y	Y (20m)	1.5 m	N

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2.2 Comparison of Monitoring Results with Air Quality Objectives

2.2.1 Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂)

Automatic Monitoring Data

Table 2.3 summarises the results from automatic monitors compared to the annual mean objective. No site exceeded the annual air quality objective of 40 µg/m³, but Victoria Gardens equalled it (40 µg/m³). However, this site is not representative of relevant exposure and it was not possible to locate the monitor at properties where concentrations are highest. Therefore, diffusion tubes were co-located at the three continuous analysers in order to provide a local bias adjustment factor for diffusion tubes in the County Borough.

It was also not possible to place the monitor at the frontage of Pontardawe Post Office due to the shortage of space and health & safety concerns. Diffusion tubes were co-located with the monitor.

Table 2.3 – Results of Automatic Monitoring for NO₂: Comparison with Annual Mean Objective

Site ID	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period % ^a	Valid Data Capture 2015 % ^b	Annual Mean Concentration (µg/m ³)				
					2011* ^c	2012* ^c	2013* ^c	2014* ^c	2015 ^c
PT2	Industrial	Y	94	94	18	18	17	17	17
VG2	Roadside	N	99	99	-	51	42	42	40
PD1	Roadside	N	99	99	-	28	23	22	21

In bold, exceedance of the NO₂ annual mean AQS objective of 40µg/m³

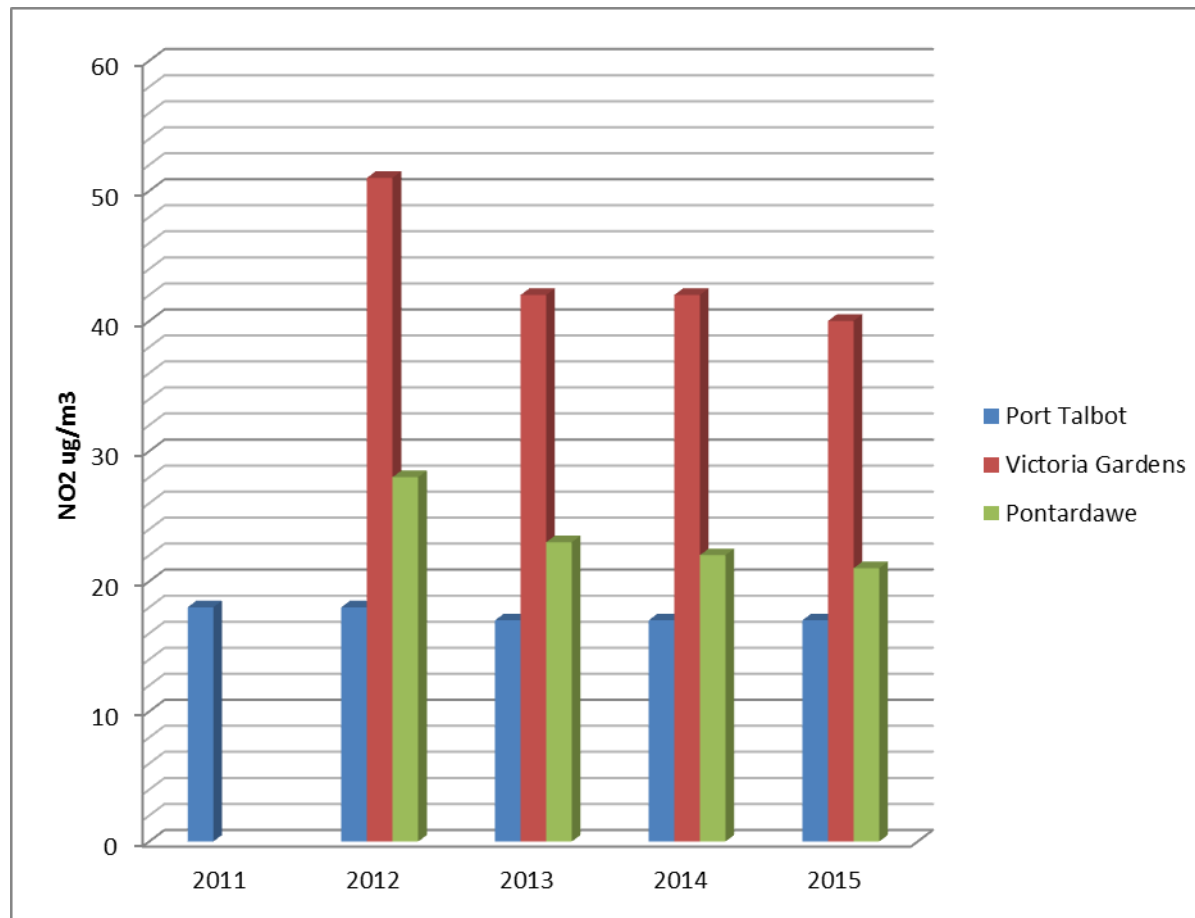
^a i.e. data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year

^b 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%)

^c Means should be “annualised” as in Boxes 7.9 and 7.10 of LAQM.TG16, if valid data capture is less than 75%

* Annual mean concentrations for previous years are optional

Figure 2.10 – Trends in Annual Mean NO₂ Concentrations Measured at Automatic Monitoring Sites



Nitrogen dioxide levels have not changed significantly at Margam Fire Station over the last five years. There has never been a problem with compliance with the air quality objectives at this location. NO₂ levels at the two newer sites have decreased since the first complete year of monitoring in 2013.

Table 2.4 shows that none of the continuous sites breached the 1 hour air quality objective.

Table 2.4 – Results of Automatic Monitoring for NO₂: Comparison with 1-hour Mean Objective

Site ID	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period % ^a	Valid Data Capture 2015 % ^b	Number of Hourly Means > 200µg/m ³				
					2011* ^c	2012* ^c	2013* ^c	2014* ^c	2015 ^c
PT2	Industrial	Y	94	94	0	0	0	0	0
VG2	Roadside	N	99	99	-	0 (142)	0	0	0
PD1	Roadside	N	99	99	-	0 (55)	0	0	0

In bold, exceedance of the NO₂ hourly mean AQS objective (200µg/m³ – not to be exceeded more than 18 times per year)

^a i.e. data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year

^b 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%)

^c If the data capture for full calendar year is less than 90%, include the 99.8th percentile of hourly means in brackets

* Number of exceedances for previous years is optional

Diffusion Tube Monitoring Data

Results are shown in table 2.5 below. A local bias adjustment factor of 0.80 was derived from diffusion tubes co-located with the three continuous analysers at Port Talbot Fire Station, Victoria Gardens and Pontardawe Post Office.

Table 2.5 – Results of NO₂ Diffusion Tubes 2015

Site ID	Location	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Triplicate or Co-located Tube	Full Calendar Year Data Capture 2015 (Number of Months or %) ^a	2015 Annual Mean Concentration (µg/m ³) - Bias Adjustment factor = 0.80 ^b
3	11 College Green, Margam, Port Talbot	Urban background	Y	N	12	14.5
4	8 Victoria Gardens, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	25.7
5	28 Eastland Road, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	29.6
7	Moby's, Neath Road, Briton Ferry	Roadside	N	Triplicate	12	27.9
8	185 Neath Road, Briton Ferry	Roadside	N	N	12	28.1

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Site ID	Location	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Triplicate or Co-located Tube	Full Calendar Year Data Capture 2015 (Number of Months or %) ^a	2015 Annual Mean Concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) - Bias Adjustment factor = 0.80 ^b
9	179 Neath Road, Briton Ferry	Roadside	N	N	12	28.6
10	187 Neath Road, Briton Ferry	Roadside	N	N	12	28.0
11	189 Neath Road, Briton Ferry	Roadside	N	N	12	28.1
12	34 Eastland Road, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	28.9
13	40 Eastland Road, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	26.2
14	32 Eastland Road, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	30.1

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Site ID	Location	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Triplicate or Co-located Tube	Full Calendar Year Data Capture 2015 (Number of Months or %) ^a	2015 Annual Mean Concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) - Bias Adjustment factor = 0.80 ^b
15	30 Eastland Road, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	29.8
16	5 Victoria Gardens, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	32.8
17	1 Greenway Road, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	33.9
18	Pontardawe Post Office	Roadside	N	Triplicate	12	36.8
19	Port Talbot Fire Station	Industrial	Y	Triplicate and Co-located	12	16.6
20	3 Victoria Gardens, Neath	Roadside	N	Triplicate	12	34.1

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Site ID	Location	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Triplicate or Co-located Tube	Full Calendar Year Data Capture 2015 (Number of Months or %) ^a	2015 Annual Mean Concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) - Bias Adjustment factor = 0.80 ^b
21	50 Greenway Road, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	39.5
22	54 Windsor Road, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	25.1
23	4 Victoria Gardens, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	27.4
24	Stockham's Corner Flats	Roadside	N	triplicate	12	29.2
25	Old Fire Station, Water Street, Port Talbot	Roadside	N	N	12	24.2

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Site ID	Location	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Triplicate or Co-located Tube	Full Calendar Year Data Capture 2015 (Number of Months or %) ^a	2015 Annual Mean Concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) - Bias Adjustment factor = 0.80 ^b
26	10 Swansea Road, Pontardawe	Roadside	N	N	12	32.7
27	11a Swansea Road, Pontardawe	Roadside	N	N	12	39.1
28	8 Swansea Road, Pontardawe	Roadside	N	N	12	27.6
33	Bus Stop near Pontardawe Post Office	Roadside	N	Triplicate and Co-located	12	18.1
34	Lights at Cimla Junction	Roadside	N	Triplicate and Co-located	12	46.6

In bold, exceedance of the NO₂ annual mean AQS objective of 40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

Underlined, annual mean > 60µg/m³, indicating a potential exceedance of the NO₂ hourly mean AQS objective

^a Means should be “annualised” as in Boxes 7.9 and 7.10 of LAQM.TG16, if full calendar year data capture is less than 75%

^b If an exceedance is measured at a monitoring site not representative of public exposure, NO₂ concentration at the nearest relevant exposure should be estimated based on the “[NO₂ fall-off with distance](http://laqm.defra.gov.uk/tools-monitoring-data/no2-falloff.html)” calculator (<http://laqm.defra.gov.uk/tools-monitoring-data/no2-falloff.html>), and results should be discussed in a specific section. The procedure is also explained in paragraphs 7.77 to 7.79 of LAQM.TG16.

Table 2.6 – Results of NO₂ Diffusion Tubes (2011 to 2015)

Site ID	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Annual Mean Concentration (µg/m ³) - Adjusted for Bias ^a				
			2011 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.83)	2012 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.79)	2013 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.75)	2014 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.78)	2015 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.80)
3	Urban background	Y	17.0	16.9	15.7	14.9	14.5
4	Roadside	N	32	28.0	28.9	27.6	25.7
5	Roadside	N	34	31.9	30.0	28.5	29.6
7	Roadside	N	36	30.9	29.1	29.9	27.9
8	Roadside	N	34	30.2	30.1	29.1	28.1
9	Roadside	N	34	30.5	29.4	28.7	28.6
10	Roadside	N	34	31.3	29.1	29.0	28.0
11	Roadside	N	33	31.3	28.7	28.4	28.1
12	Roadside	N	35	31.8	31.0	29.2	28.9
13	Roadside	N	30	29.3	29.7	25.7	26.2
14	Roadside	N	34	32.2	31.3	30.0	30.1
15	Roadside	N	36	32.7	30.6	29.8	29.8
16	Roadside	N	41	35.2	33.7	34.1	32.8
17	Roadside	N	35	31.0	32.9	35.2	33.9
18	Roadside	N	46	37.8	37.3	36.6	36.8
19	Industrial	Y	20.3	18.3	18.6	16.9	16.6
20	Roadside	N	42	36.0	34.4	34.0	34.1

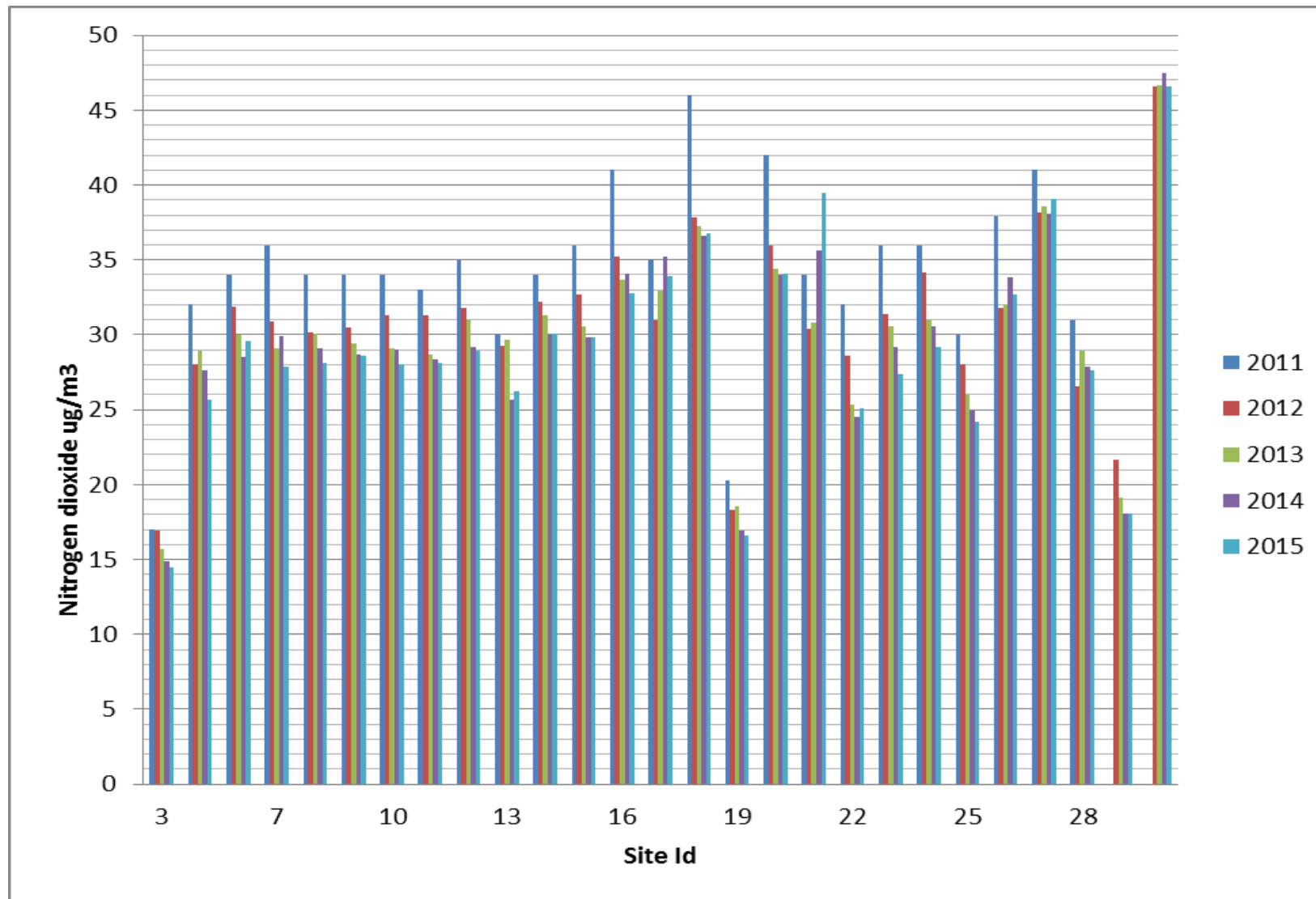
Site ID	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Annual Mean Concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) - Adjusted for Bias ^a				
			2011 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.83)	2012 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.79)	2013 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.75)	2014 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.78)	2015 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.80)
21	Roadside	N	34	30.4	30.8	35.6	39.5
22	Roadside	N	32	28.6	25.3	24.5	25.1
23	Roadside	N	36	31.4	30.6	29.2	27.4
24	Roadside	N	36	34.2	31.0	30.6	29.2
25	Roadside	N	30	28.0	26.0	24.9	24.2
26	Roadside	N	37.9	31.8	32.0	33.8	32.7
27	Roadside	N	41	38.2	38.6	38.1	39.1
28	Roadside	N	31	26.6	28.9	27.9	27.6
33	Roadside	N	-	21.7	19.1	18.1	18.1
34	Roadside	N	-	46.6	46.7	47.5	46.6

In bold, exceedance of the NO₂ annual mean AQS objective of 40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

Underlined, annual mean > 60 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, indicating a potential exceedance of the NO₂ hourly mean AQS objective

^a Means should be “annualised” as in Boxes 7.9 and 7.10 of LAQM.TG16, if full calendar year data capture is less than 75%

Figure 2.11 – Trends in Annual Mean Nitrogen Dioxide Concentrations Measured at Diffusion Tube Monitoring Sites



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The sites that have failed to meet the annual averaged air quality objective during the last five years have been some of those located at Victoria Gardens or Pontardawe Post Office.

Monitoring at 1 Victoria Gardens had to cease on account of health & safety concerns since the pavement was very low and narrow and it was considered to be dangerous to use the ladder to exchange the tubes. The property next door at 3, Victoria Gardens continues to be measured and is used to estimate NO₂ levels at No.1 Victoria Gardens. Therefore it is necessary to estimate the pollution level at this property using the “NO₂ with distance from roads calculator” spreadsheet.


No. 3 is set back approximately 3.5 metres from the kerb, whereas the frontage at No. 1 faces directly onto the pavement.

The background maps spreadsheet for NO₂ for Neath Port Talbot for the year of 2015 was downloaded from <http://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/data/laqm-background-maps?year=2011> . The nearest location to the junction at Victoria Gardens and Cimla Road was defined by the coordinates 275500, 197500. The background NO₂ concentration at this location is 14.6 µg/m³.

The data entered into the spreadsheet is shown below:

Figure 2.12 Screenshot of NO₂ with distance calculator spreadsheet

This calculator allows you to predict the annual mean NO₂ concentration for a location ("receptor") that is close to a monitoring site, but nearer or further the kerb than the monitor. The next sheet shows your results on a graph.



Enter data into the yellow cells

Step 1	How far from the KERB was your measurement made (in metres)?	(Note 1)	3.5	metres
Step 2	How far from the KERB is your receptor (in metres)?	(Note 1)	1	metres
Step 3	What is the local annual mean background NO ₂ concentration (in µg/m ³)?	(Note 2)	14.6	µg/m ³
Step 4	What is your measured annual mean NO ₂ concentration (in µg/m ³)?	(Note 2)	34.1	µg/m ³
Result	The predicted annual mean NO ₂ concentration (in µg/m ³) at your receptor	(Note 3)	40.7	µg/m ³

Note 1: In some cases the term "kerb" may be taken to be the edge of the trafficked road - see the FAQ at <http://laqm2.defra.gov.uk/FAQs/Monitoring/Location/index.htm> for further details. Distances should be measured horizontally from the kerb and assumes that the monitor and receptor have similar elevations. Each distance should be greater than 0.1m and less than 50m (In practice, using a value of 0.1m when the monitor is closer to the kerb than this is likely to be reasonable). The receptor is the location for which you wish to make your prediction. The monitor can either be closer to the kerb than the receptor, or further from the kerb than the receptor. The closer the monitor and the receptor are to each other, the more reliable the prediction will be. When your receptor is further from the kerb than your monitor, it is recommended that the receptor and monitor should be within 20m of each other. When your receptor is closer to the kerb than your monitor, it is recommended that the receptor and monitor should be within 10m of each other.

Note 2: The measurement and the background must be for the same year. The background concentration could come from the national maps published at www.airquality.co.uk, or alternatively from a nearby monitor in a background location.

Note 3: The calculator follows the procedure set out in Box 2.3 of LAQM TG(09). The results will have a greater uncertainty than the measured data. More confidence can be placed in results where the distance between the monitor and the receptor is small than where it is large.

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This shows that the annual averaged air quality objective at 1 Victoria Gardens was not in compliance with the air quality objective i.e. 40.7 µg/m³.

2.2.2 Particulate Matter (PM₁₀)

Table 2.7 – Results of Automatic Monitoring for PM₁₀: Comparison with Annual Mean Objective

Site ID	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period % ^a	Valid Data Capture 2015 % ^b	Confirm Gravimetric Equivalent (Y or N/A)	Annual Mean Concentration (µg/m ³)				
						2011* ^c	2012* ^c	2013* ^c	2014* ^c	2015 ^c
PT2	Industrial	Y	92	92	Y	29	23	19	24	27
DS1	Industrial	Y	97	97	Y	17	16	18	21	20
TW1	Industrial	Y	98	98	Y	30	23	20	27	26
TH1	Industrial	Y	97	97	Y	23	19	17	22	23
TR1	Roadside	Y	90	90	Y	25	22	21	22	22
LW1	Industrial	N	95	95	Y	-	19	19	25	24
DK1	Industrial	N	96	96	Y	23	18	17	20	20
PS2 ^d	Industrial	Y	n/a	n/a	Y	33	22	31	26	n/a

In bold, exceedance of the PM₁₀ annual mean AQS objective of 40µg/m³

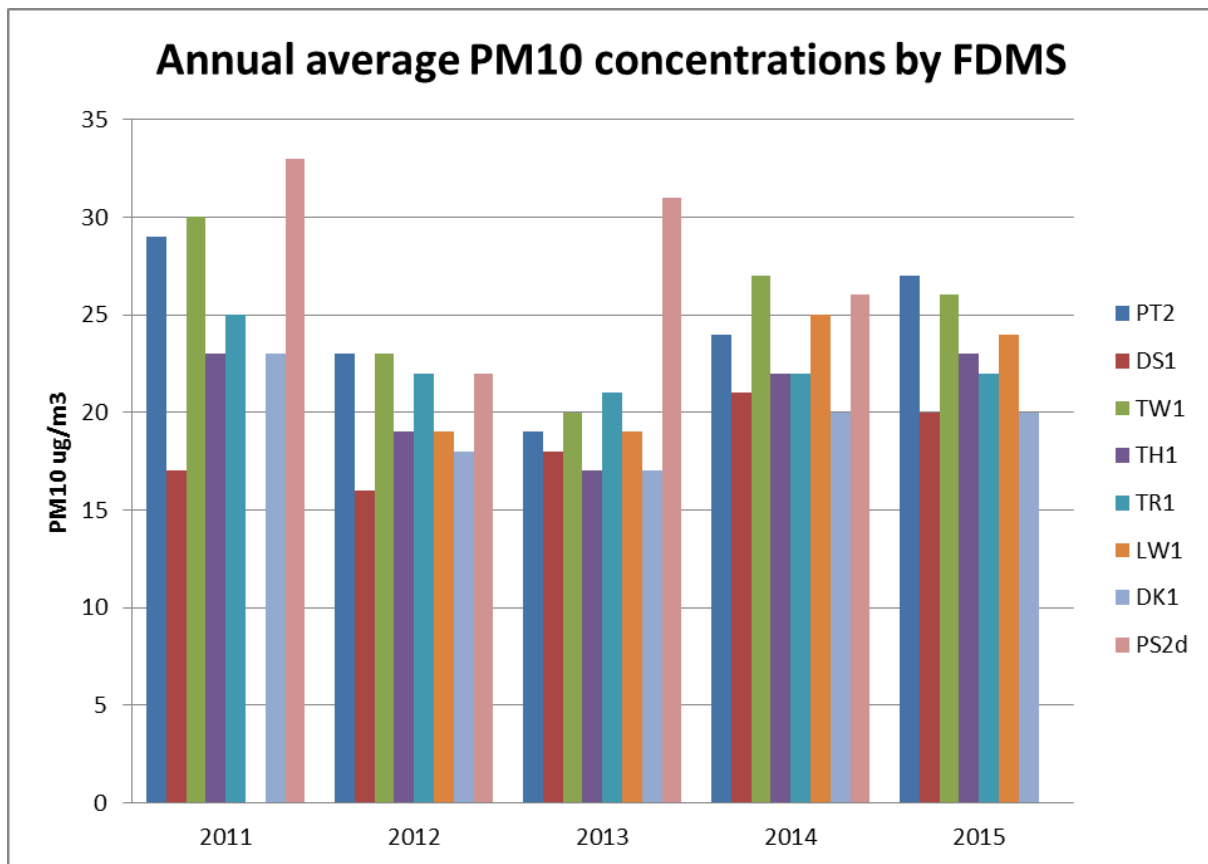
^a i.e. data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year

^b 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%)

^c Means should be “annualised” as in Boxes 7.9 and 7.10 of LAQM.TG16, if valid data capture is less than 75%

* Annual mean concentrations for previous years are optional

Figure 2.13 – Trends in Annual Mean PM₁₀ Concentrations



The Prince Street site experienced the highest concentrations in 2 years out of 5. This is no worse than Port Talbot Fire Station or Twll yn y Wal sites. Although the Twll yn y Wal site is clearly impacted significantly in terms of the annual average, the impact on the short term average is significantly less as shown in the next figure.

Table 2.8 – Results of Automatic Monitoring for PM₁₀: Comparison with 24-hour Mean Objective

Site ID	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period % ^a	Valid Data Capture 2015 % ^b	Confirm Gravimetric Equivalent (Y or N/A)	Number of Daily Means > 50µg/m ³				
						2011* ^c	2012* ^c	2013* ^c	2014* ^c	2015 ^c
PT2	Industrial	Y	92	92	Y	29	11	34	16	28
DS1	Industrial	Y	97	97	Y	2 (28)	3	2	5	5
TW1	Industrial	Y	98	98	Y	21	8	9	6	10
TH1	Industrial	Y	97	97	Y	12	3	4	3	4
TR1	Roadside	Y	90	90	Y	14	8	15	6	4
LW1	Industrial	N	95	95	Y	-	2	21	22	15
DK1	Industrial	N	96	96	Y	11	5	10	4	6
PS2 ^d	Industrial	Y	n/a	n/a	Y	50	11	46	17	n/a

In bold, exceedance of the PM₁₀ daily mean AQS objective (50µg/m³ – not to be exceeded more than 35 times per year)

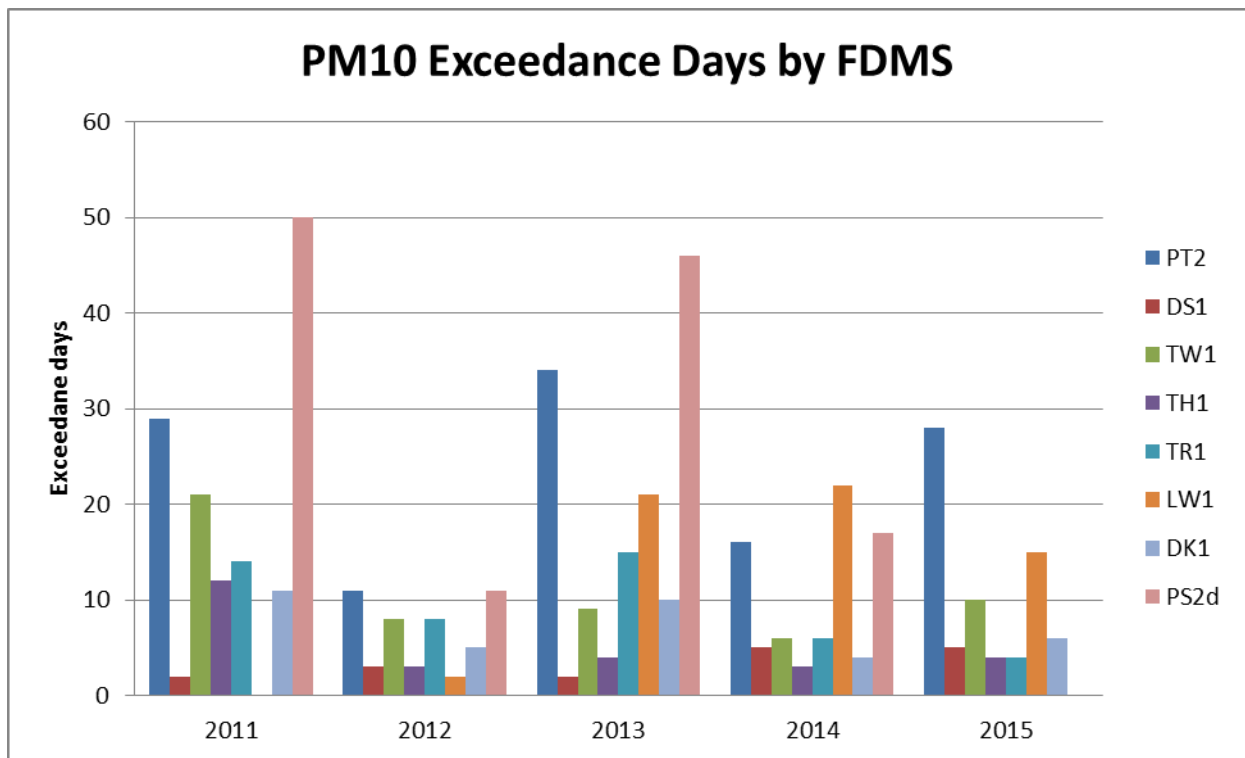
^a i.e. data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year

^b 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%)

^c if data capture for full calendar year is less than 90%, include the 90.4th percentile of 24-hour means in brackets

* Number of exceedances for previous years is optional

Figure 2.14 – Trends in PM₁₀ exceedance days



The graph shows that Prince Street experiences the highest number of exceedance days in 2 years out of 4 and is roughly the same as the Fire Station on the other two years. No such comparison was possible in 2015 due to unacceptably low data capture rates for Prince Street.

Table 2.9 - Results of Non-Automatic Monitoring for PM₁₀: Comparison with Annual Mean Objective

Site ID	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period % ^a	Valid Data Capture 2015 % ^b	Confirm Gravimetric Equivalent (Y or N/A)	Annual Mean Concentration (µg/m ³)
						2015 ^c
PT2P ^d	Industrial	Y	99	99	Y	38

In bold, exceedance of the PM₁₀ annual mean AQS objective of 40µg/m³

^a i.e. data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year

^b 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%)

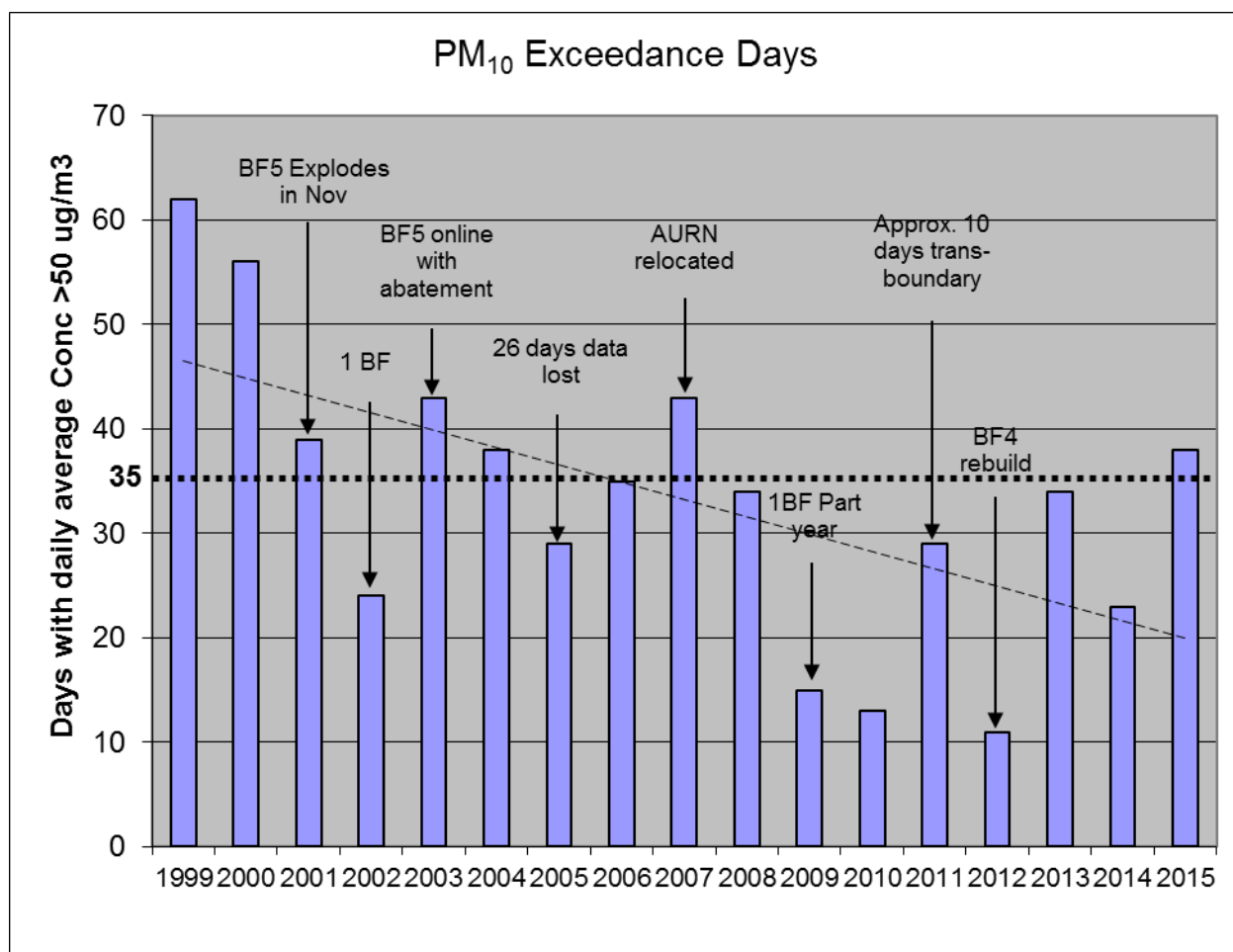
^c Means should be “annualised” as in Box 3.2 of TG(09) (<http://laqm.defra.gov.uk/technical-guidance/index.html?d=page=38>), if valid data capture is less than 75%

* Annual mean concentrations for previous years are optional

^d Measurements carried out with a Partisol.

All sites have always easily complied with the annual mean air quality objective.

Figure 2.15 Trends in PM₁₀ exceedances of the daily averaged Air Quality Objective at Port Talbot AURN



There has been a trend towards decreasing numbers of PM₁₀ exceedances since 1999. Blast furnace No. 5 exploded in November 2001, so there were two months during that year when only one blast furnace was operating. One blast furnace was operational during the whole of 2002. There was an increase in exceedances during 2003 with the re-commencement of two blast furnace operation.

In 2006 26 days of data were lost due to faulty monitoring equipment. The AURN monitoring station was relocated from Groeswen Hospital to Port Talbot Fire Station in 2007, which was also the last year in which the Air Quality Objective was exceeded at an AURN site. There was 1 blast furnace operation for part of the year during 2009.

2010 was a very good year for PM₁₀ compliance and it was also a year in which there was only one trans-boundary PM₁₀ exceedance. By contrast, there were approximately 10 trans-boundary PM₁₀ exceedance days during 2011.

Another good year in 2012 was followed by a relatively poor one in 2013. Whilst the FDMS at the Fire Station recorded only 17 PM₁₀ exceedance days, the co-located Partisol recorded some 34 over the same period. Both data sets were considered to be correct so the higher of the two was utilised as the official figure.

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The situation was much improved in 2014 where there were 16 exceedance days at the Fire Station using the FDMS equipment. But, the PM₁₀ Partisol at Port Talbot Fire Station recorded 23 exceedances during the same period. As the data from both pieces of equipment are considered to be valid, the Council has chosen to accept the higher of the two results.

2015 was a poor year for PM₁₀ with 28 exceedance days at the Fire Station with the FDMS equipment. Although the data capture was 92%, several additional exceedance days are likely to have arisen on days when the equipment was not functioning correctly. This is evidenced by the results from the co-located PM₁₀ Partisol, which recorded a total of 38 exceedance days during that year. Consequently this figure was adopted as the official figure for exceedances for 2015. However, the government should also take into account the effect of natural sources or particulates e.g. sea salt. Consequently, it is possible that the short-term air quality objective for particulates may be achieved once this is taken into account. These calculations had not been completed by Welsh government at the time of writing.

2.2.3 Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂)

There were two exceedances of the 15 minute average of 266 µg/m³ (up to 35 are allowed annually) during 2015 as measured at Port Talbot Fire Station, where the annual data capture rate was 97%. Neither were there any exceedances of the 350 µg/m³ (maximum 155 µg/m³) 1-hour mean or the 125 µg/m³ daily mean (maximum 44 µg/m³). The monitoring station site is representative of relevant public exposure as previously described.

Measurements are carried out using a Thermo 43i UV Fluorescent analyser under the QA/QC arrangements of the AURN.

Table 2.10 – Results of Automatic Monitoring for SO₂: Comparison with Objectives

Site ID	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period % ^a	Valid Data Capture 2015 % ^b	Number of: ^c		
					15-minute Means > 266µg/m ³	1-hour Means > 350µg/m ³	24-hour Means > 125µg/m ³
PT2	Urban industrial	Y	97	97	2	0	0

In bold, exceedance of the relevant AQS objective (15-min mean = 35 allowed/year; 1-hour mean = 24 allowed/year; 24-hour mean = 3 allowed/year)

^a i.e. data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year

^b 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%)

^c if data capture for full calendar year is less than 90%, include the relevant percentile in bracket (in µg/m³): 15-min mean = 99.9th ; 1-hour mean = 99.7th ; 24-hour mean = 99.2th percentile

2.2.4 Benzene

Benzene is no longer monitored. It was previously continuously monitored at Baglan Primary School, using a Perkin Elmer Ozone Precursor system. Monitoring was discontinued in December 2005 as the concentration of pollutants of concern had reduced to background levels. The same applies in respect of 1,3-butadiene, which was monitored using the same equipment. There are no new significant local sources of these pollutants which merit more measurements.

2.3 Other Pollutants Monitored

2.3.1.1 Lead

Lead is monitored at Pontardawe Leisure Centre as part of a study of 13 metals that has continued since 1972. A Thermo Partisol[®] 2025 gravimetric sampling system is used to collect daily samples using Pall Gelman GN4-Metricel filters. These are exposed on a weekly basis and subsequently analysed using inductively coupled mass spectrometry (ICP-MS). The results for 2015 show that the annual average concentration of lead was 6.3 ng/m³. This is well within the Air Quality Objective of 0.25 µg/m³ (250 ng/m³) to be achieved by 31st December 2008. The analysis and reporting is currently contracted the National Physical Laboratory.

There are a further three metals national network monitoring stations at Port Talbot Fire Station, Brecon Road and Tawe Terrace in Pontardawe. The concentrations of lead at these sites were 9.9, 6.4 and 6.0 ng/m³ respectively, all of which easily comply with the Air Quality Objective.

2.3.1.2 Carbon monoxide

There were no exceedances of the 8-hour average of 10 mg/m³ (maximum 2.9 mg/m³) during 2015. The monitoring station site is representative of relevant public exposure as previously described.

Measurements are carried out using a Thermo 48i analyser under the QA/QC arrangements of the Automatic Urban and Rural Network (AURN).

Table 2.11 - Results of Automatic Monitoring of carbon monoxide

Site ID	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Valid Data Capture for monitoring Period % ^a	Valid Data Capture 2014 % ^b	Number of Exceedances (percentile in bracket µg/m ³) ^c
					8 hour running mean > 10 mg/m ³
PT2	Urban industrial	Y	98.8	98.8	0

^a i.e. data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year.

^b 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%.)

^c if data capture is less than 90%, include the relevant percentile in brackets

2.3.1.3 PM_{2.5}

PM_{2.5} describes the fraction of airborne particulate matter that is less than 2.5 microns in size.

The EU Clean Air for Europe (I) programme has introduced a framework for managing PM_{2.5}. A target of 20 µg/m³ and a limit of 25 µg/m³ are to be met by 2015. Exposure reduction is to be used to bring about a 20% reduction in background PM_{2.5} levels by 2020 as based upon baseline (2010) values.

Data is drawn from the AURN monitoring station at Port Talbot Fire Station and Prince Street (since 18th March 2014).

The data capture at the Fire Station site was 92%, but problems with the instrument at Prince Street reduced data capture to 72%.

Consequently, the annual average concentration at Port Talbot Fire station (10 mg/m³) can be reported but the corresponding figure at Prince Street cannot.

The annual average PM_{2.5} concentration at Port Talbot was well below both the target and limit values to be achieved by 2015.

2.3.1.4 Ozone

Ozone is a highly reactive chemical which, when present in the lower atmosphere at high concentrations, can irritate the eyes and air passages, causing breathing difficulties. Ozone is a so-called secondary pollutant since it is produced indirectly by the reaction between hydrocarbons, NO₂ and sunlight. Ozone tends to be lower in urban areas because high levels of NO are produced by vehicles and this helps to break down ozone to oxygen and NO₂. The highest ozone therefore tends to occur in rural areas and during the summer months when the sun shines the longest. The ozone forming reactions are complex and have a time lag associated with them which can mean that ozone levels are greatest downwind of the location where the pollution is produced. It is recognised that low level ozone formation is an international problem and that exceedances of the National Air Quality Standard would still occur, even if all sources of hydrocarbons were eliminated in this country.

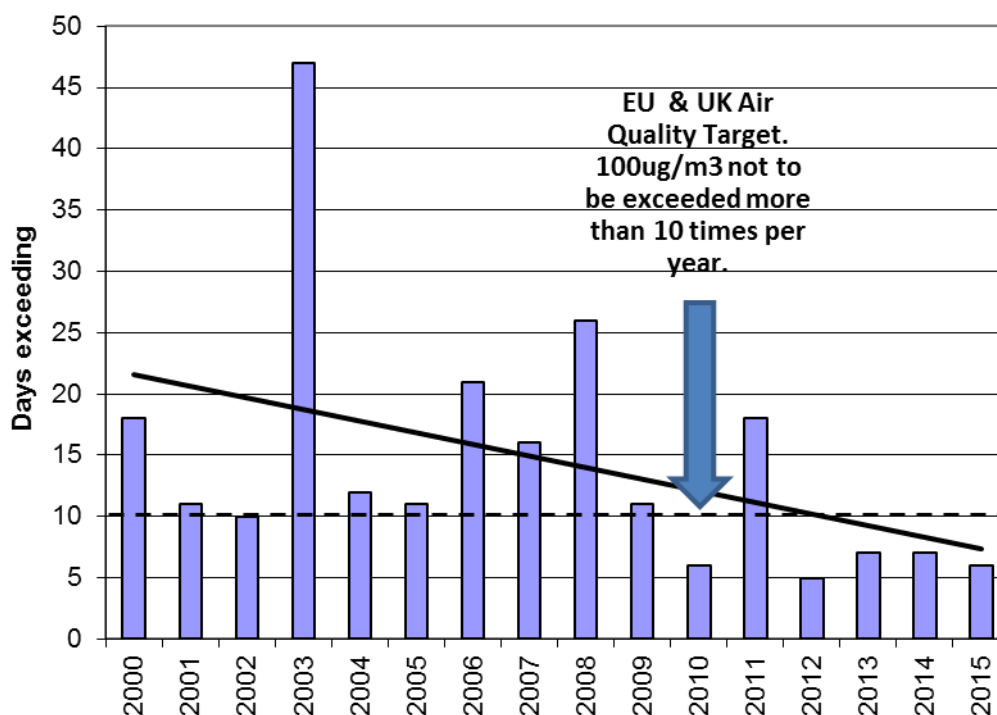
No statutory Air Quality Objective level for Ozone has been set, owing to the potential for trans-boundary sources. However, there is a recommended Air Quality objective for ozone of 100 µg/m³, measured as a rolling 8 hour average. This was breached on a total of 40 occasions on a total of 6 days at the Fire Station.

The long term trend for ozone exceedances shows a slight improvement over time as shown in Table 2.13 and Figure 2.15 below.

Table 2.12 - Annual ozone exceedances 2000 – 2015

Year	Exceedances of Air Quality Standard 8hr running mean > 100 µg/m ³	No. of Days of Exceedance
2000	133	18
2001	81	11
2002	66	10
2003	403	47
2004	83	12
2005	56	11
2006	189	21
2007	108	16
2008	257	26
2009	71	11
2010	30	6
2011	147	18
2012	57	5
2013	45	7
2014	40	7
2015	40	6

Figure 2.16 - Days of ozone exceedances of the UK recommended AQO since 2000



2.3.1.5 Polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAH)

Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) are a group of persistent organic compounds, some of which are toxic and/or possible or proven human carcinogens; they are produced through industrial and incomplete combustion of carbon containing fuels.

Air quality standards have been set by UK and EU and are based upon measurements of benzo[a]pyrene which is also known as B[a]P.

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The UK Air Quality Objective for PAHs is based on the recommendations of the Expert Panel on Air Quality Standards (EPAQS). It specifies an annual air quality standard of 0.25 ng/m³ benzo[a]pyrene to be achieved by 2010.

The EU Air Quality Daughter Directive (2005/107/EC) specifies a target value of 1 ng/m³ for the annual mean concentration of benzo[a]pyrene to be achieved by 2012.

Monitoring of benzo[a]pyrene first commenced at Groeswen Hospital in 1999 using an Anderson sampler. This equipment was replaced by a Digitel sampler in the last quarter of 2007. Monitoring now takes place at Port Talbot Fire Station following the redevelopment of Groeswen Hospital site.

Data is published on the UK-Air website and the latest data available is for the year of 2015.

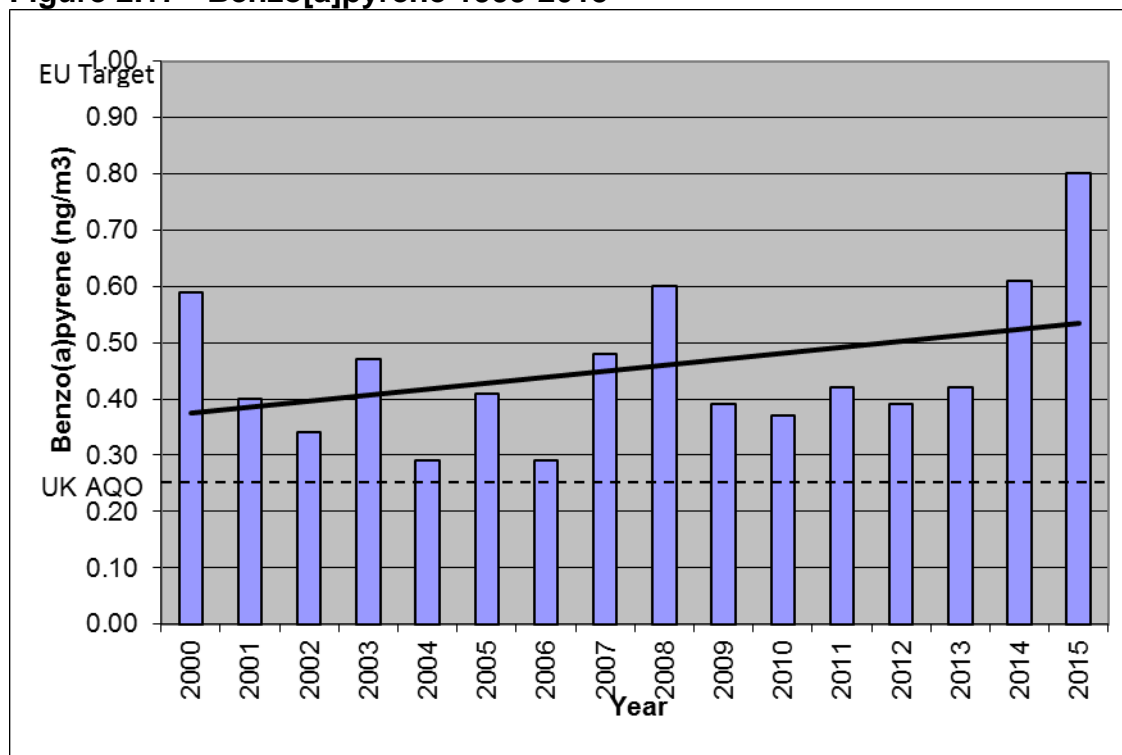
Table 2.13. - Benzo[a]pyrene annual averages 1999-2015

B[a]P ng/m³	Year
0.24	1999
0.59	2000
0.40	2001
0.34	2002
0.47	2003
0.29	2004
0.41	2005
0.29	2006
0.48	2007
0.60	2008
0.39	2009
0.37	2010
0.42	2011
0.39	2012
0.42	2013
0.61	2014
0.80	2015

The results are shown graphically in figure 2.16 below. The B[a]P concentration at Port Talbot frequently exceeds the Air Quality Objective of 0.25 ng/m³, but is less than the EU target value of 1 ng/m³. The trend line shows that B[a]P levels are increasing over time.

A report by Ricardo-AEA in 2004 identified four sites on the network where there were compliance problems with the UK Air Quality Objective. Sites in Northern Ireland and Scotland were probably related to use of solid fuel in domestic heating. Whereas Scunthorpe and Port Talbot were due to the steel works (probably coke production).

Figure 2.17 - Benzo[a]pyrene 1999-2015



2.3.1.6 Metals monitoring

Monitoring of the concentrations of 13 airborne metals has been carried out continuously in the Pontardawe area since 1972. Pumps continuously sample ambient air and particles are collected on filters that are analysed by Ricardo-AEA. Until 1997, this work was carried out at Trebanos Sewage Works. Following a programme of construction at the site, monitoring was re-located to Pontardawe Leisure Centre. The objectives are to establish whether local industry has any significant impact upon airborne metal concentrations in the area. The Pontardawe site is approximately 4km downwind of the Nickel works at Clydach, as compared to the Trebanos site, which was about 2km from the works. The Pontardawe site is also approximately 1km upwind of Wall Colmonoy, a manufacturer of metal alloys which is subject to an Environmental Permit issued by this Authority.

Monitoring was carried out in respect of the following metals:

- Lead (Pb)
- Nickel (Ni)
- Zinc (Zn)
- Arsenic (As)
- Cadmium (Cd)
- Chromium (Cr)
- Copper (Cu)
- Iron (Fe)
- Cobalt (Co)
- Selenium (Se)
- Antimony (Sb)
- Cerium (Ce)

- Scandium (Sc)

In December 2004 the European Union published a Directive relating to arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and PAH, (2004/107/EC). This “4th Daughter Directive” set target values for arsenic, cadmium, nickel and benzo[a]pyrene (a PAH) for the total content in the PM₁₀ fraction averaged over a calendar year. No limits or targets were set for mercury. The Directive target values for metals are shown below and were to be achieved by 31st December 2012:

Nickel	20 ng/m³
Arsenic	6 ng/m³
Cadmium	5 ng/m³

The Directive requires measurement of air concentrations to be made using valid PM₁₀ monitoring methods. The polypropylene ducts previously used to hold the filters did not conform exactly to a PM₁₀ inlet specification and monitoring using a compliant method commenced during 2006. This necessitated the purchase of a Partisol 2025 sampler manufactured by Rupprecht & Patashnick Inc. The new and existing samplers were run concurrently for a period in order to assess the comparability of the results. The existing sampler was discontinued at the end of 2006 following completion of the comparability test.

Results

2.3.1.6.1 Pontardawe Leisure Centre

The annual mean nickel concentration found in 2015 was 14.6 ng/m³, which is 73% of the Target Value to be met by the end of 2012.

The annual mean concentrations of arsenic and cadmium have been found to be 0.56 ng/m³ and 0.15 ng/m³ respectively. These concentrations represent approximately 9.3% and 3% of their proposed EU target values of 6 and 5 ng/m³ respectively.

Lead results have been discussed in section 2.2.5.1 above.

2.3.1.6.2 Port Talbot

Metals have also been measured as part of the UK Metals Network at Port Talbot Fire Station since February 2008. Some of the metals monitored in the network are different to those measured at Pontardawe Leisure Centre e.g. platinum (Pt), vanadium (V) and mercury (Hg). The annual average of monthly results are shown in Table 2.15, where they are also compared to the corresponding figures for Pontardawe.

The nickel concentration at Port Talbot in 2015 (5.0 ng/m³) was 25% the EU Target of 20 ng/m³. This figure is significantly increased over 2014 (1.8 ng/m³), mainly due to two high results during the year.

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The annual mean concentrations of arsenic and cadmium have been found to be 0.66 ng/m³ and 0.36 ng/m³ respectively. These concentrations represent approximately 11.0% and 7.2% of their EU target values of 6 and 5 ng/m³ respectively.

Lead results have been discussed in section 2.2.5.1 above.

The level of iron in the atmosphere at Pontardawe (206 ng/m³) is only 6.3% of the corresponding concentration at Port Talbot (3253 ng/m³). Whilst the concentration iron in Port Talbot does not represent a concern in respect of health, it represents approximately 11% of the PM₁₀ measured in Port Talbot and highlights the influence of the Port Talbot steelworks.

2.3.1.6.3 Pontardawe Tawe Terrace

A new monitoring station was set up in September 2009, which is approximately 270 metres from Wall Colmonoy's Part B permitted site in Pontardawe. This monitoring station was set up in order to further investigate the potential for nickel emissions from this site, which uses approximately 500 tonnes of the metal each year to manufacture a variety of hard-wearing products. The monitoring station uses a Partisol 2000 sampler with filters provided and analysed by the National Physical Laboratory (NPL) in accordance with BS EN 14902.

The average concentration of nickel in 2015 was 22.1 ng/m³ which is 110% of the Air Quality Objective. This is a significant improvement upon the figure recorded in 2014 (43.4 ng/m³).

The annual mean concentrations of arsenic and cadmium have been found to be 0.68 ng/m³ and 0.16 ng/m³ respectively. These concentrations represent approximately 11.3% and 3.2% of their EU target values of 6 and 5 ng/m³ respectively.

2.3.1.6.4 Brecon Road, Pontardawe

The monitoring station was set up in August 2011 and is approximately 500m north east of the Wall Colmonoy site. The monitoring station was set up to be as close as possible to the area predicted to have the highest modelled nickel downwind concentrations in a residential location. The monitoring station uses a Partisol 2000 sampler with filters provided and analysed by the National Physical Laboratory (NPL) in accordance with BS EN 14902.

The average concentration of nickel in 2015 was 9.23ng/m³ which is 46.2% of the Air Quality Objective. The following chart shows the nickel results from all sites in the Swansea Valley since monitoring first began in 1972. Some data is from monitoring sites operated by Swansea City Council.

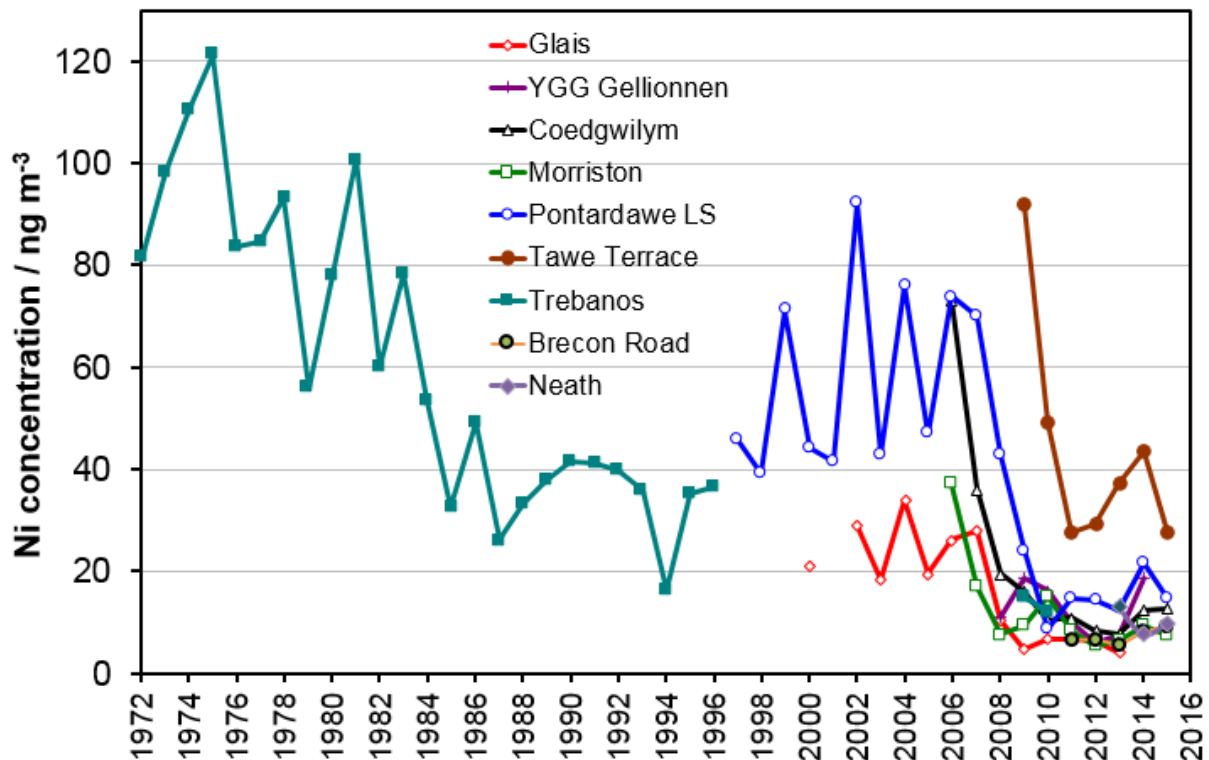
Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

The annual mean concentrations of arsenic and cadmium have been found to be 1.04 ng/m³ and 0.15 ng/m³ respectively. These concentrations represent approximately 17.3% and 3.0% of their EU target values of 6 and 5 ng/m³ respectively.

Table 2.14 - Annual average metal concentrations during 2015

Element	2015 annual mean concentration (ng/m ³)			
	Port Talbot	Pontardawe Brecon Road	Pontardawe Leisure Centre	Tawe Terrace
As	0.66	1.04	0.56	0.68
Cd	0.36	0.15	0.15	0.16
Ce		-	0.19	-
Co	0.29	0.24	0.64	1.43
Cr	24.2	19.9	4.41	8.87
Cu	7.31	5.00	3.73	5.06
Fe	3253	208	206	180
Hg*	-	-	-	-
Mn	38.1	3.57	-	4.06
Ni	5.00	9.23	14.6	22.1
Pb	9.92	6.43	6.31	5.97
Sb	-	-	1.00	-
Sc	-	-	0.12	-
Se	0.87	1.09	1.24	0.94
Zn	49.2	11.9	12.3	10.8
V	3.10	0.65	0.78	0.63

Figure 2.18 - Nickel levels in Swansea Valley 1972 – 2015

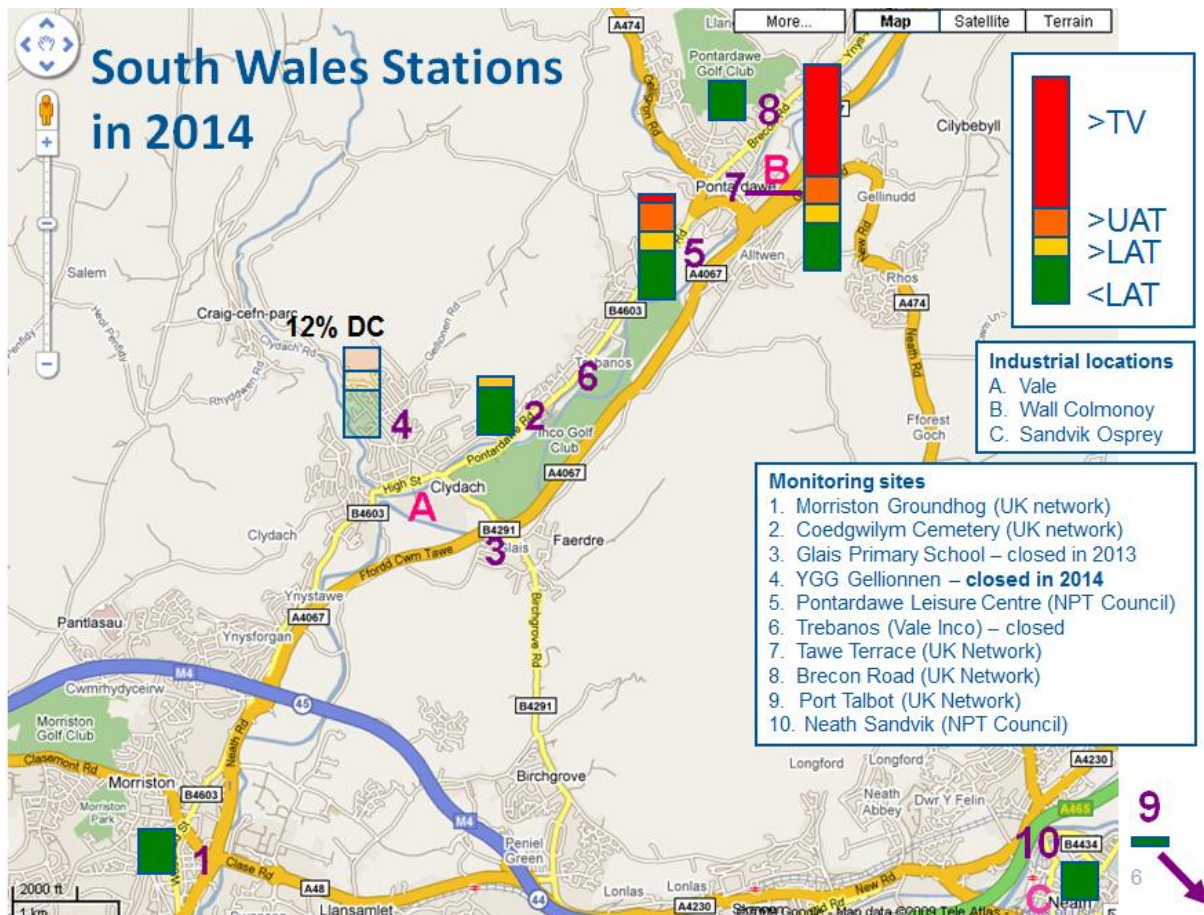


Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Note: Graph produced by Richard Brown of NPL.

Figure 2.19 shows the location of all of these monitoring sites and their compliance relative to the Target value (TV = 20 ng/m³). The Lower Assessment Threshold (LAT = 10 ng/m³) and the Upper Assessment Threshold (14 ng/m³) are included for completeness, but do not have any implications if they are exceeded.

Figure 2.19 Location of nickel monitoring stations in the Swansea Valley



Note: Graph produced by Richard Brown of NPL.

Tawe Terrace is the only site which currently exceeds the E.U. Target. Levels of nickel at Tawe Terrace (22.1 ng/m³) decreased substantially compared to the 2014 value (43.4 ng/m³). This is likely to have been due to the improvements that were made at the Wall Colmonoy plant during 2014 and since.

Levels of arsenic and cadmium easily comply with EU Target values at all sites.

Lead results have been discussed in section 2.2.5.1 above.

2.3.1.7 Grit and dust monitoring

Previous reports have described how deposit gauges have been used to collect atmospheric fallout from a number of locations. The analysis of the collected grit and dust also includes a sophisticated characterisation of the deposit, using Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) and Energy Dispersive X-ray Analysis (EDXA). During 2013, sampling of this kind took place at 12 sites in the County Borough.

The report includes results from the following locations:

- Prince Street, Margam, Port Talbot
- Port Talbot Fire Station
- Wembley Avenue, Onllwyn
- Eglwys Nunydd Reservoir, Margam, Port Talbot
- Little Warren, Port Talbot.
- Tairgwaith, Amman Valley
- Llygad yr Haul, Glynneath
- Gwaun Cae Gurwen, Amman Valley
- Cil Carne Farm, Bryn, Port Talbot
- Parish Road, Cwmgwrach
- Dyffryn School, Bertha Road, Port Talbot.
- Ochwr y Waun, Cwmllynfell

Pie charts and time series graphs are presented for each site for 2013 and the preceding year as a comparison. The pie charts show the average percentage composition of the samples collected during the year, with the average fallout rates of each component in mg/m²/day underneath. The time series show how the fallout rate has changed over the course of the year. The pie charts define the composition of the collected deposit into the following categories:

- Coal – unburned coal.
- Carbonised – partly burnt carbon based material that may be derived from combustion of coal, oil, wood etc.
- Sand – sand and silica based minerals.
- Dirt – aluminium, sodium, potassium, silicon, iron and calcium, usually combined with oxygen. e.g. silicates, clay, building materials and other mineral material typically found in soil and earth.
- Fly Ash – spherical mineral particles having arisen from combustion.
- Plant/Animal – miscellaneous fragments of insects, plant material etc.
- Calcium Rich – particles with an unusually high calcium content e.g. chalk, cement etc.
- Iron Rich – particles consisting of, or rich in iron.
- Others – anything not falling into the categories above.

Additional information is provided to indicate the annual average and maximum fallout levels, the data capture rate, and the number of days exceeding¹ (or within

¹ The average fallout rate is calculated by taking the total fallout during a sampling period of about 4 weeks and dividing that figure by the number of days. If the average for that sampling period is greater than 200 mg/m²/day then the result is reported as "number of days exceeding" equal to





10% of) the “nuisance limit” (200 mg/m²/day), which some recognise as relevant for this method of monitoring. However it should be noted that this “limit” is not a statutory limit and the public perception of what constitutes a nuisance might now suggest that a lower “limit” would be appropriate. The Minerals Technical Advice note from Welsh Government suggests a limit of 80 mg/m²/day for coal working. The advice note can be found at this location:

<http://wales.gov.uk/docs/cabinetstatements/2009/090120coaltanen.pdf>

A map showing the locations of each of the monitoring sites is also shown in Figure 2.20. Figures 2.21 to 2.44 comprise pairs of time series and pie charts for each site. The time series charts show how the fallout rate has varied over the period(s) concerned, whilst the pie charts show the average composition. The tables that accompany the charts highlight any differences that may have occurred over the period. Figure 2.45 shows the average fallout rate for each site during 2015 in a bar chart, and Table 2.16 holds the data for this chart. The sites are ranked in a table and graphically according to the average fallout rate. Figure 2.46 and Table 2.17 show how fallout rates have varied in the long term.

Fallout levels have been categorised as “low”, “moderate”, “high”, or “very high” in order to aid comprehension. These categories are defined by this Authority and are not official categories.

Table 2.15 - Fallout categories as defined by NPT

Fallout rate mg/m ² /day	Category
< 40	 Low
40 to 79	 Moderate
80 to 159	 High
> 159	 Very high

Each site description includes a coloured bar to show it’s categorisation as well as an indication of the percentage change in fallout rates over the last year alongside.

the number of days in the sampling period. The total number of days exceeding for the year is the sum of each of these periods where the average was greater than 200 mg/m²/day.

Results by site

2.3.1.7.1 Cil Carne Farm, Bryn, Port Talbot (Figs. 2.21 & 2.22) **Low** -38%

The “nuisance limit” was not exceeded in 2015 and no samples reached within 10% of 200 mg/m²/day. The maximum fallout rate was 40 mg/m²/day and the average 24 mg/m²/day, the corresponding values for 2014 were 79 and 39 mg/m²/day respectively. There was 38% decrease in fallout rates compared to the previous year.

2.3.1.7.2 Prince Street, Port Talbot (Figs. 2.23 & 2.24) **Very high** +1%

The “nuisance limit” (200 mg/m²/day) was exceeded on 147 days in 2015 and there were a further 46 days within 10% of the “nuisance limit”. During the previous year there were exceedances on 165 days. In 2015, the maximum fallout rate was 482 mg/m²/day and the average 226 mg/m²/day, the corresponding values for 2014 were 430 and 223 mg/m²/day respectively. The average fallout was effectively static with an increase of only 1%.

2.3.1.7.3 Port Talbot Fire Station (Figs. 2.25 & 2.26) **Very high** +4%

The “nuisance limit” was exceeded on 183 days during 2015 and there were 30 days within 10% of the “nuisance limit”. The corresponding figures for 2014 were 237 days exceeding the “nuisance limit” and 30 days within 10%. The maximum fallout rate was 459 mg/m²/day and the average 215 mg/m²/day, and the corresponding values for 2014 were 524 and 224 mg/m²/day respectively. There was a 4% decrease in fallout rates compared to the previous year.

2.3.1.7.4 Eglwys Nunydd Reservoir, Port Talbot (Figs. 2.27 & 2.28) **Moderate** -37%

The “nuisance limit” was not exceeded during 2015 and there were no days within 10% of the “nuisance limit”. This was also the case in 2014. The maximum fallout rate was 75 mg/m²/day and the average 40 mg/m²/day, and the corresponding values for 2014 were 134 and 63 mg/m²/day respectively. There was a 37% decrease in fallout rates compared to the previous year.

2.3.1.7.5 Gwaun Cae Gurwen (Figs. 2.29 & 2.30) **Low** -14%

The “nuisance limit” was not exceeded during 2014 and no samples reached within 10% of 200 mg/m²/day. The maximum fallout rate was 71 mg/m²/day and the average 24 mg/m²/day, and the corresponding values for 2013 were 144 and 28 mg/m²/day respectively. There was an 14% decrease in fallout rates compared to the previous year.

2.3.1.7.6 Tairgwaith (Figs. 2.31 & 2.32) **Low** -38%

The “nuisance limit” was not exceeded and no samples reached within 10% of 200 mg/m²/day. The maximum fallout rate was 27 mg/m²/day and the average 15 mg/m²/day, the corresponding values for 2014 were 71 and 24 mg/m²/day

respectively. There was a 38% decrease in fallout rates compared to the previous year.

2.3.1.7.7 Parish Road, Cwmgwrach (Figs. 2.33 & 2.34) Low -11%

The “nuisance limit” was not exceeded and no samples reached within 10% of 200 mg/m²/day. The maximum fallout rate was 98 mg/m²/day and the average 33 mg/m²/day, the corresponding values for 2014 were 94 and 37 mg/m²/day respectively. There was a 11% decrease in fallout rates compared to the previous year.

2.3.1.7.8 Llygad yr Haul, Glynneath (Figs. 2.35 & 2.36) Low -9%

The “nuisance limit” was not exceeded and no samples reached within 10% of 200 mg/m²/day. The maximum fallout rate was 76 mg/m²/day and the average 29 mg/m²/day, the corresponding values for 2014 were 93 and 32 mg/m²/day respectively. There was a 9% decrease in fallout rates compared to the previous year.

2.3.1.7.9 Wembley Avenue, Onllwyn (Figs. 2.37 & 2.38) Low -39%

The “nuisance limit” was not exceeded and no samples reached within 10% of 200 mg/m²/day. The maximum fallout rate was 43 mg/m²/day and the average 19 mg/m²/day, the corresponding values for 2014 were 66 and 31 mg/m²/day respectively. This represented an decrease of 39%, which was mainly due to less coal fallout.

2.3.1.7.10 Little Warren, Port Talbot (Figs. 2.39 & 2.40) High +42%

The “nuisance limit” was not exceeded in 2015 but there were 28 days which were within 10% of 200 mg/m²/day. The maximum fallout rate was 186 mg/m²/day and the average 92 mg/m²/day, the corresponding values for 2014 were 178 and 65 mg/m²/day respectively. There was a 42% increase in fallout rates compared to the previous year.

2.3.1.7.11 Dyffryn School, Port Talbot (Figs. 2.41 & 2.42) High +9%

The “nuisance limit” was exceeded on 54 days during 2015 and there were also 30 days within 10% of the “nuisance limit”. There were 54 days exceeding the nuisance limit during 2014. The maximum fallout rate was 248 mg/m²/day and the average 104 mg/m²/day, and the corresponding values for 2014 were 207 and 95 mg/m²/day respectively. There was a 9% decrease in fallout rates compared to the previous year.

2.3.1.7.12 Cwmllynfell (Figs. 2.43 & 2.44) Moderate -39%

The “nuisance limit” was exceeded on 28 days during 2015 but no samples were within 10% of the “nuisance limit”. The maximum fallout rate was 339 mg/m²/day and the average 77 mg/m²/day, and the corresponding values for 2014 were 259 and 126 mg/m²/day respectively. There was an 39% decrease in fallout rates compared to the previous year, which was mainly due to more dirt.

2.3.1.7.13 Summary

The sites at Prince Street and Port Talbot Fire Station remain as top ranked in terms of average fallout rate. 2015 was another poor year for both sites with fallout rates at or near record levels in both cases. Levels at Prince Street were also close to historic highs. The average fallout rates at both sites exceeded the “nuisance limit” of 200 mg/m²/day. Natural Resources Wales is the regulator for the steelworks and has been informed of these results.

Figure 2.20 Deposit gauge locations



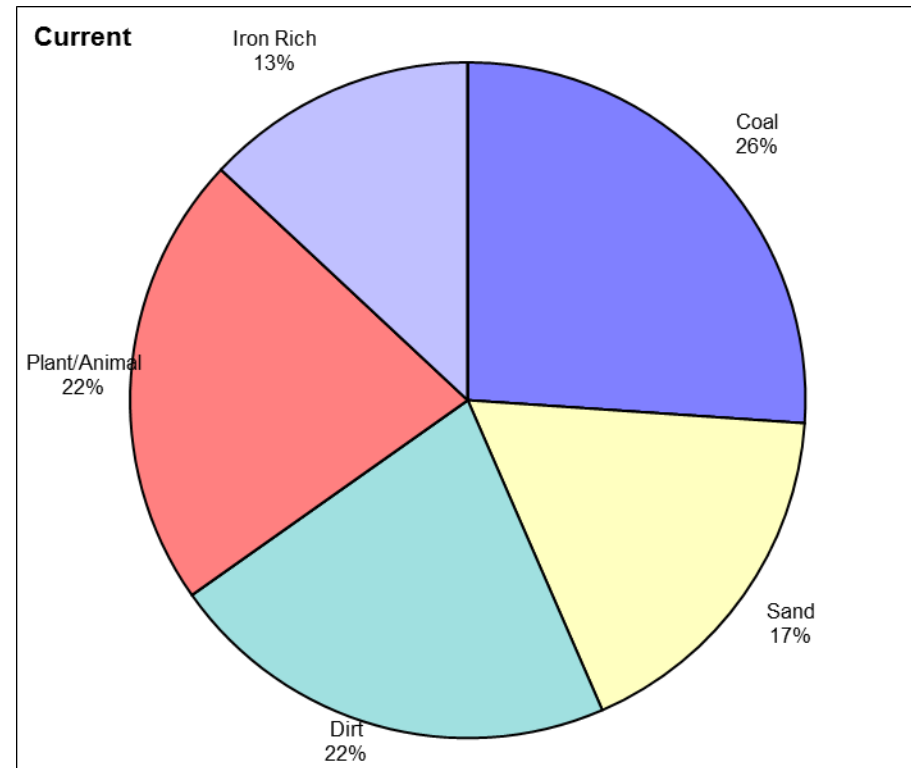
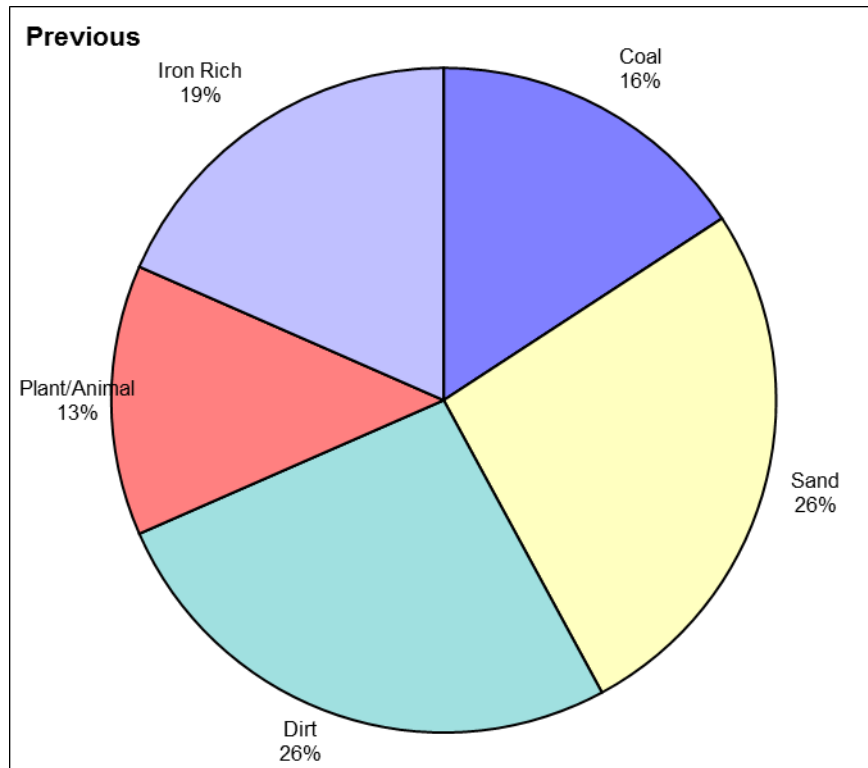
0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

Key

Id	Address
1	Cil Carne Farm, Bryn, Port Talbot
2	41, Parish Road, Cwmgwrach
3	Primary School, Gwaun Cae Gurwen
4	2, Llygad Yr Haul, Glynneath
5	Port Talbot Fire Station, Margam, Port Talbot
6	24, Prince Street, Margam, Port Talbot
7	Eglwys Nunydd Reservoir, Margam, Port Talbot
8	11, Wembley Avenue, Onllwyn
9	Cardonnel Road, Skewen
10	Workingmen's Club, Tairgwaith
11	Little Warren, Aberafan, Port Talbot
12	Dyffryn School, Margam, Port Talbot
13	Ochwr y Waun, Cwmllynfell

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report Cil Carne Farm, Port Talbot Comparison of Fallout Composition

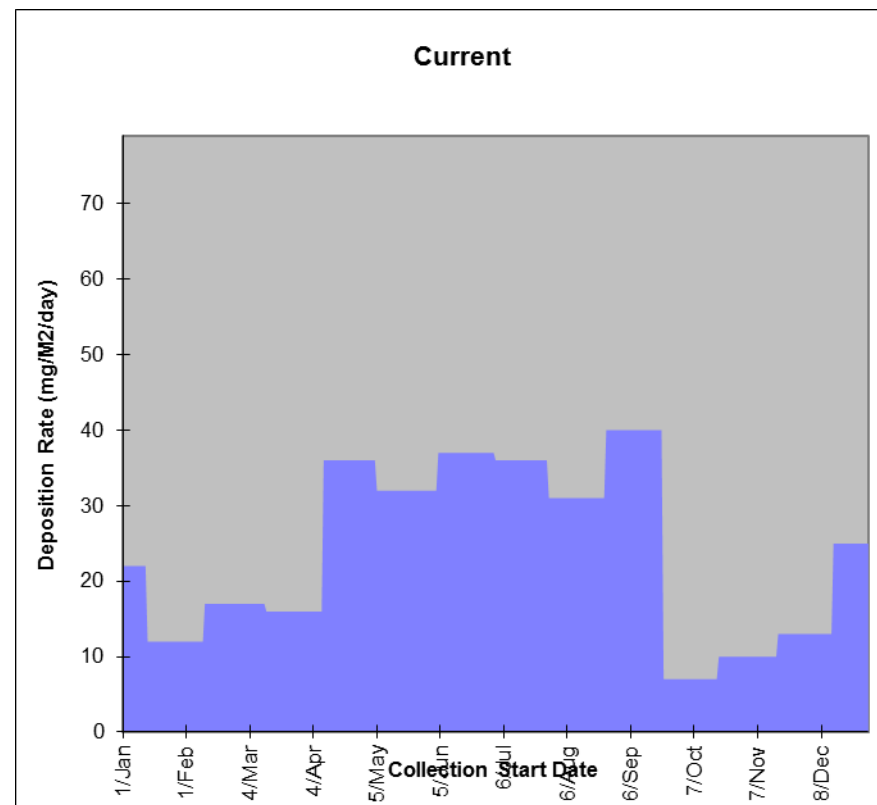
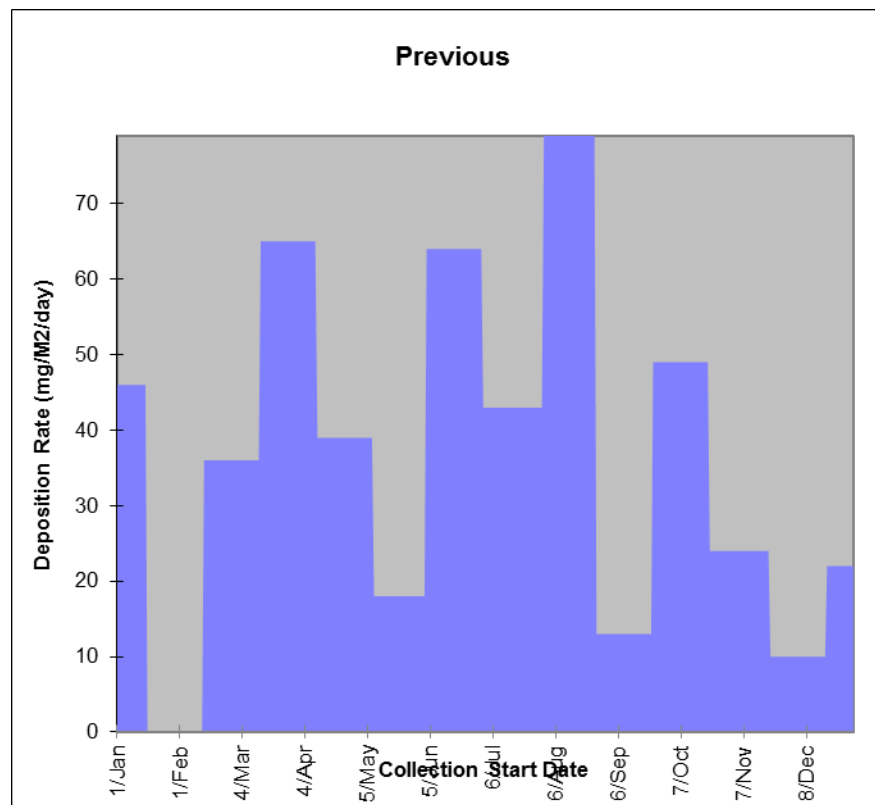
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 Previous Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15



Measurement Type	Period	Coal	Carbonised	Sand	Dirt	Fly Ash	Plant/Animal	Calcium Rich	Iron Rich	Others
Av. Deposition Rate (mg/m2/day)	Current	6	0	4	5	0	5	0	3	0
	Previous	6	0	10	10	0	5	0	7	0

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report Cil Carne Farm, Port Talbot Comparison of Fallout Rate with Time

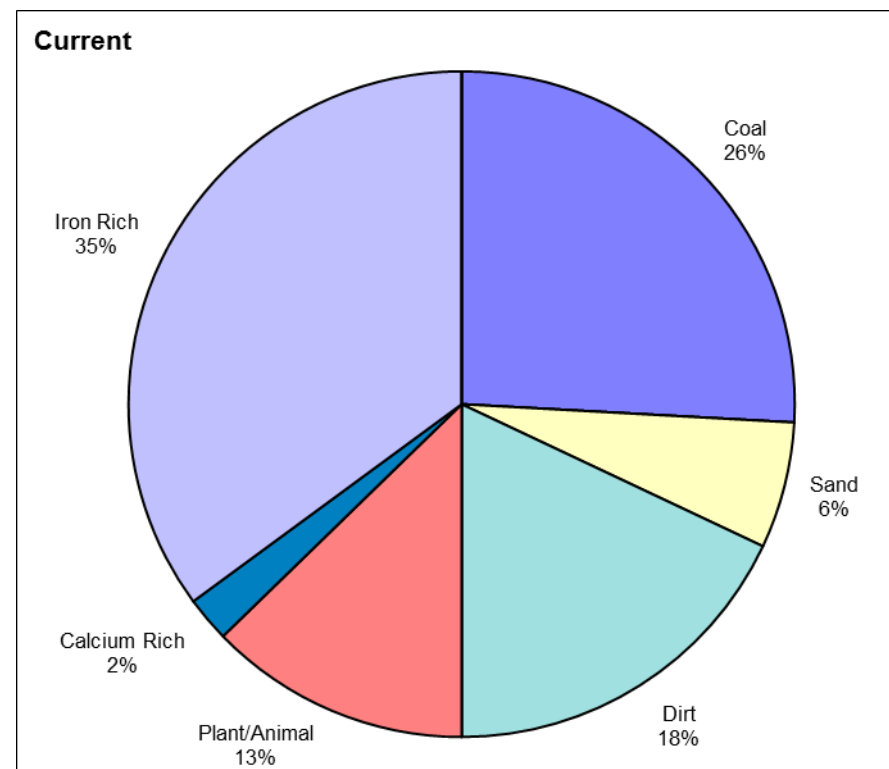
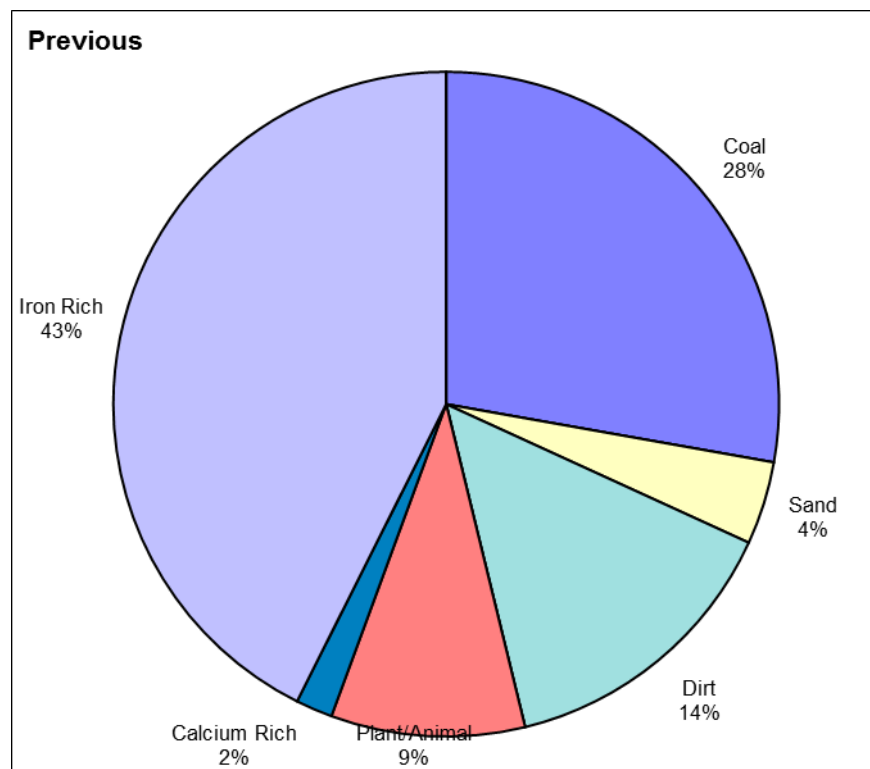
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 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14



Period	Fallout Level (mg/m2/day)		No. Samples	% Data Capture	200 mg/m2/day 'Nuisance Limit'	
	Average	Maximum			Days within 10% of	Days Exceeding
Current	39	40	13	100.0	0	0
Previous	34	79	12	92.1	0	0
Change	5	Decrease -38%				

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report 24, Prince Street, Port Talbot Comparison of Fallout Composition

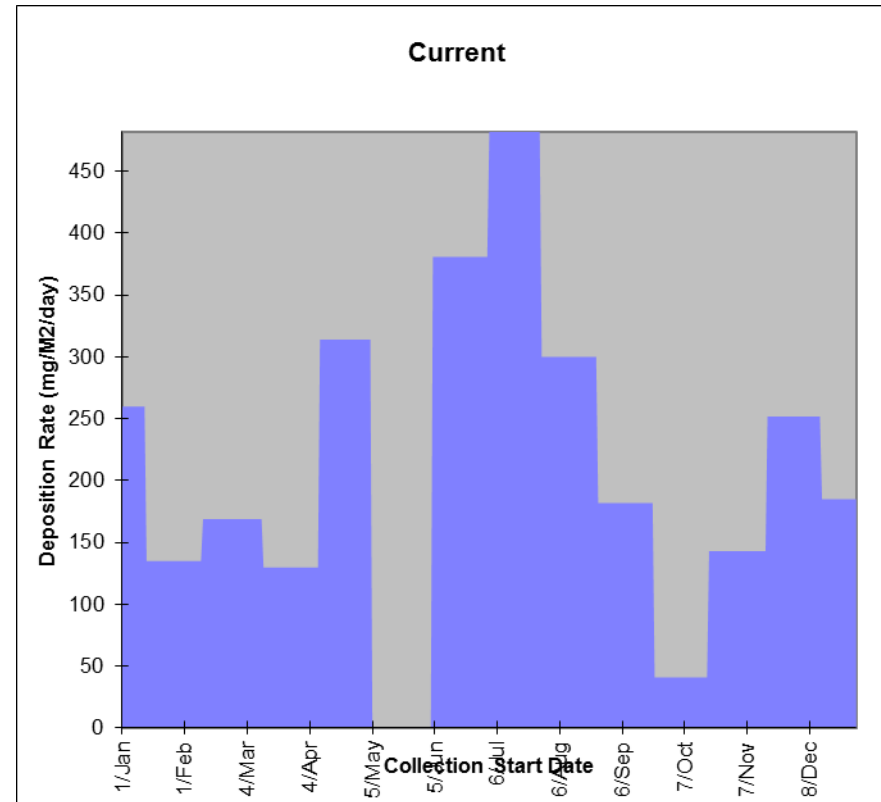
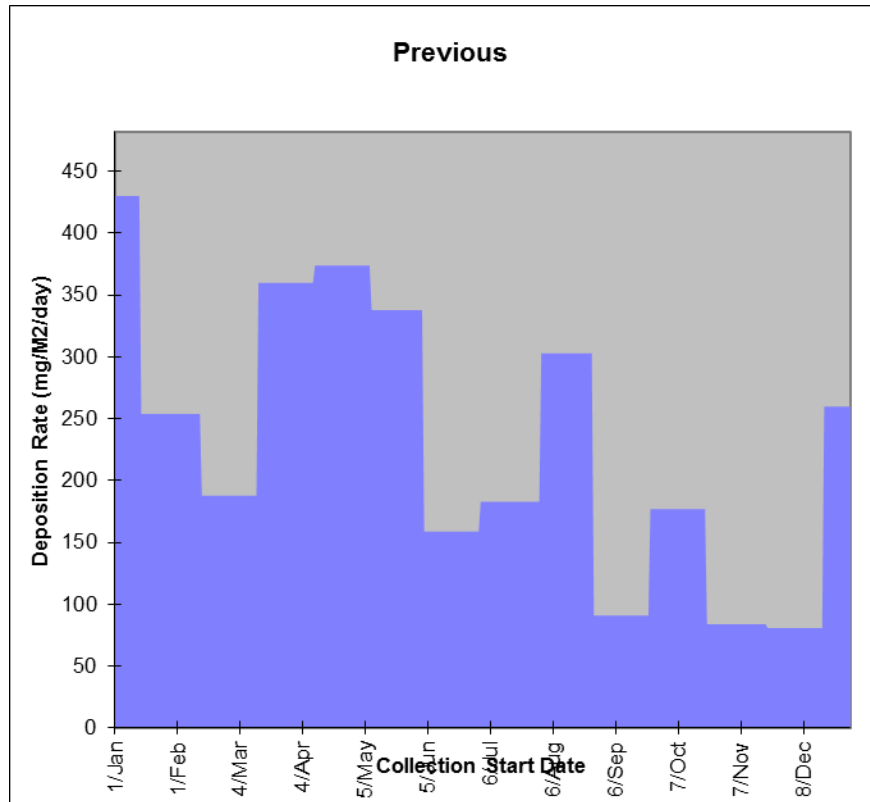
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 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14



Measurement Type	Period	Coal	Carbonised	Sand	Dirt	Fly Ash	Plant/Animal	Calcium Rich	Iron Rich	Others
Av. Deposition Rate (mg/m2/day)	Current	59	0	14	41	0	29	5	80	0
	Previous	62	0	9	32	0	21	4	95	0

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report 24, Prince Street, Port Talbot Comparison of Fallout Rate with Time

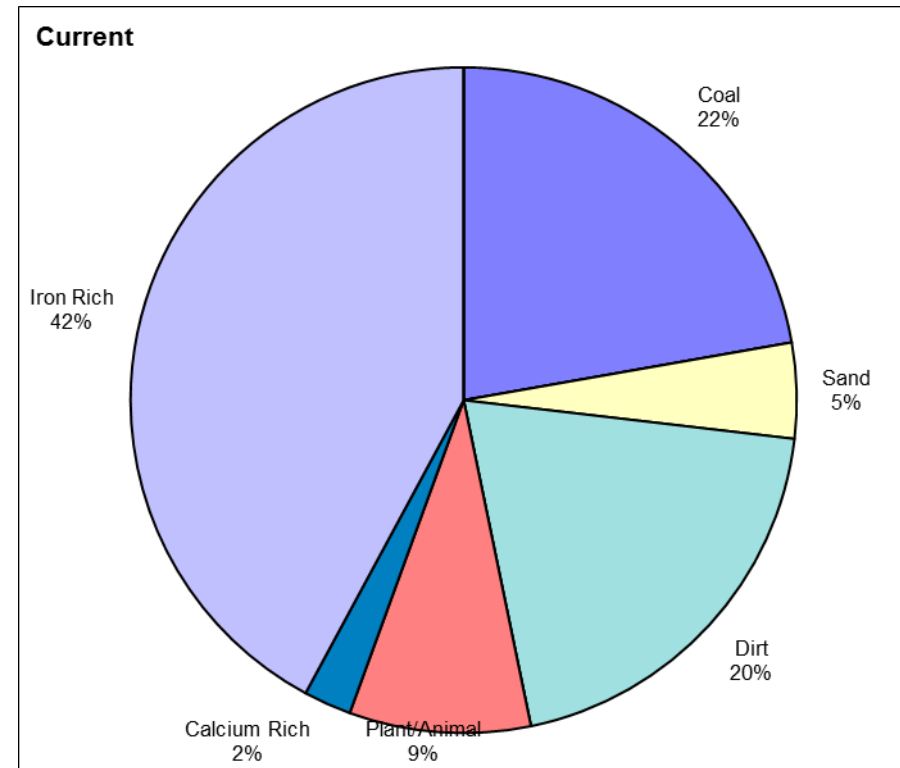
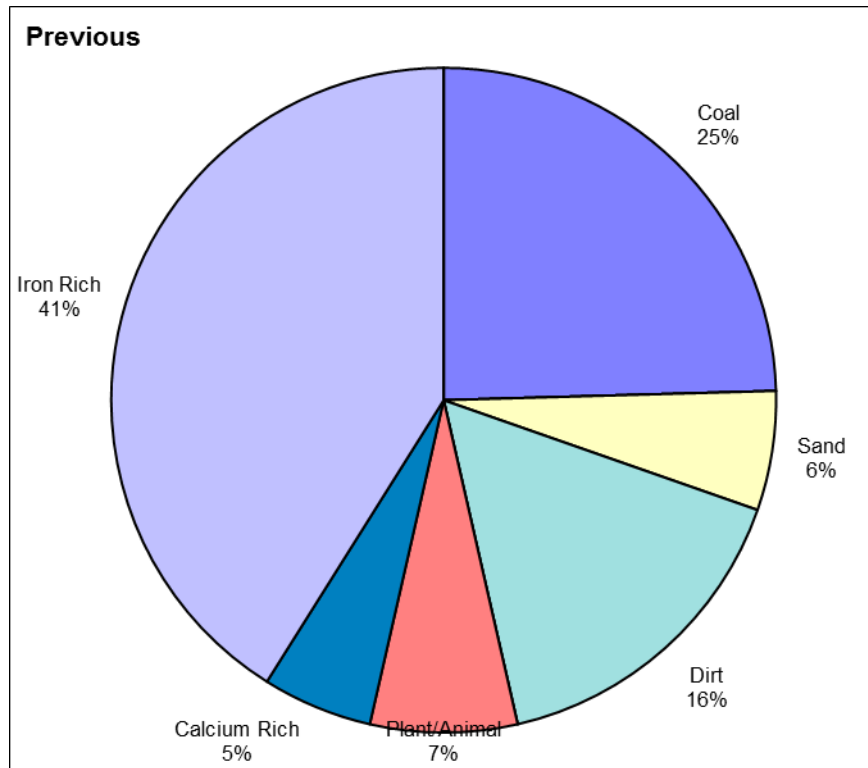
Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14



Period	Fallout Level (mg/m2/day)		No. Samples	% Data Capture	200 mg/m2/day 'Nuisance Limit'	
	Average	Maximum			Days within 10% of	Days Exceeding
Current	226	482	12	91.8	46	147
Previous	223	430	13	100.0	58	165
Change	3	Increase		1%		

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report Port Talbot Fire Station Comparison of Fallout Composition

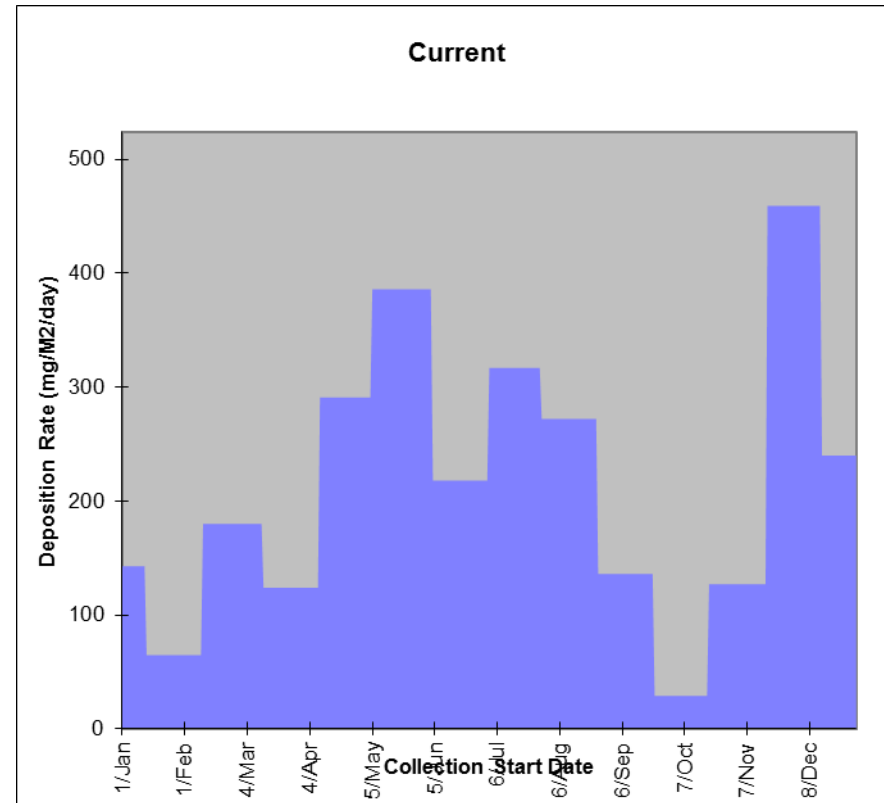
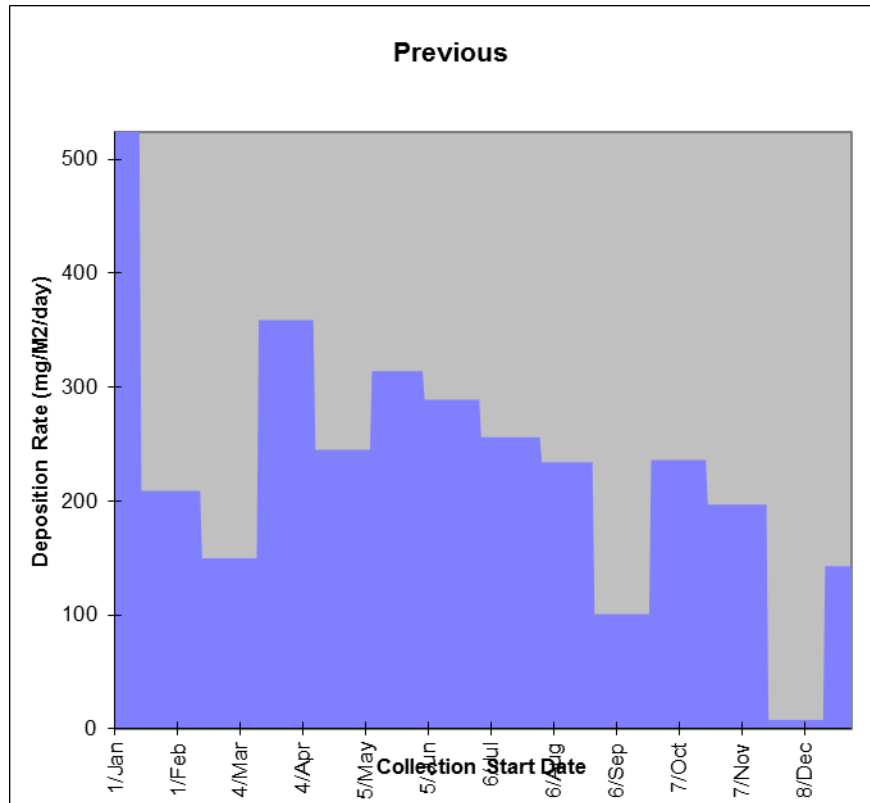
Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14



Measurement Type	Period	Coal	Carbonised	Sand	Dirt	Fly Ash	Plant/Animal	Calcium Rich	Iron Rich	Others
Av. Deposition Rate (mg/m2/day)	Current	48	0	10	43	0	19	5	91	0
	Previous	55	0	13	36	0	16	12	92	0

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report Port Talbot Fire Station Comparison of Fallout Rate with Time

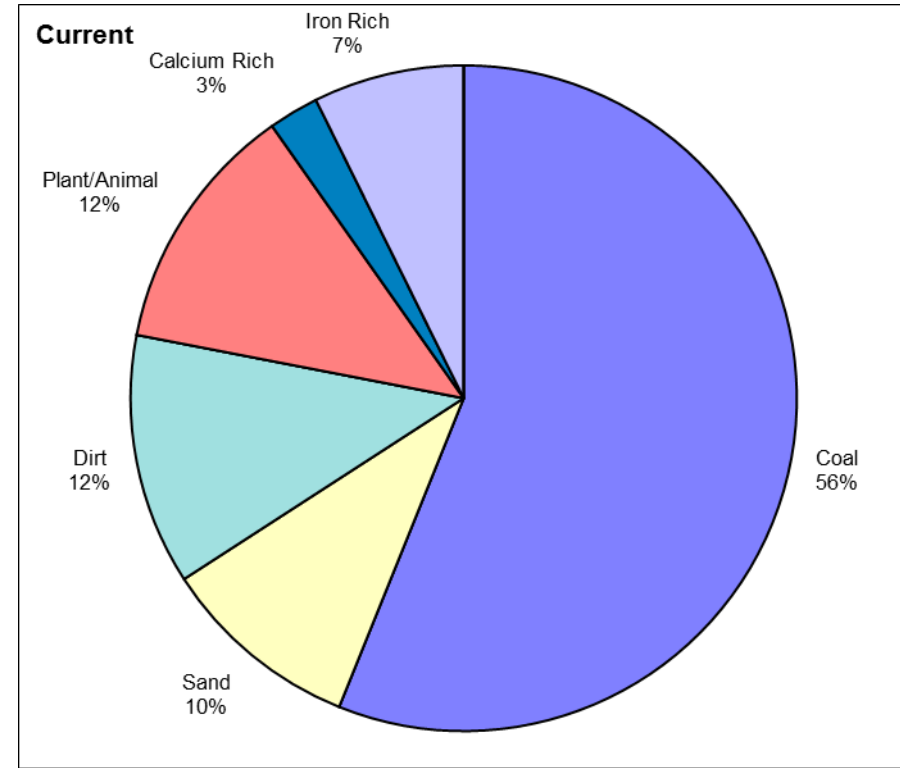
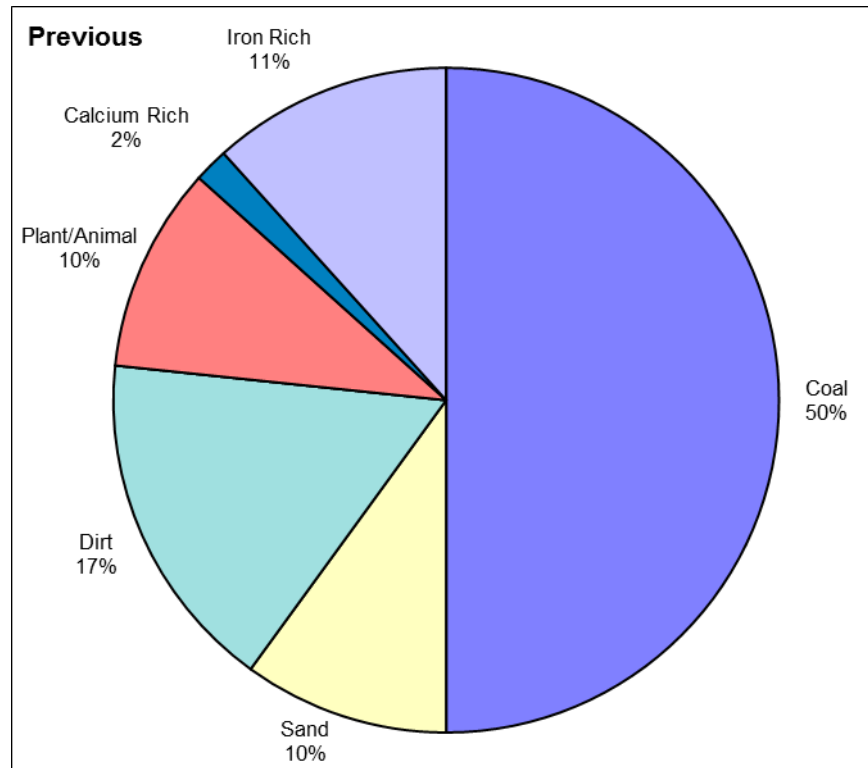
Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14



Period	Fallout Level (mg/m2/day)		No. Samples	% Data Capture	200 mg/m2/day 'Nuisance Limit'	
	Average	Maximum			Days within 10% of	Days Exceeding
Current	215	459	13	100.0	30	183
Previous	224	524	13	100.0	30	237
Change	-9	Decrease				-4%

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report Eglwys Nunydd Reservoir, Port Talbot Comparison of Fallout Composition

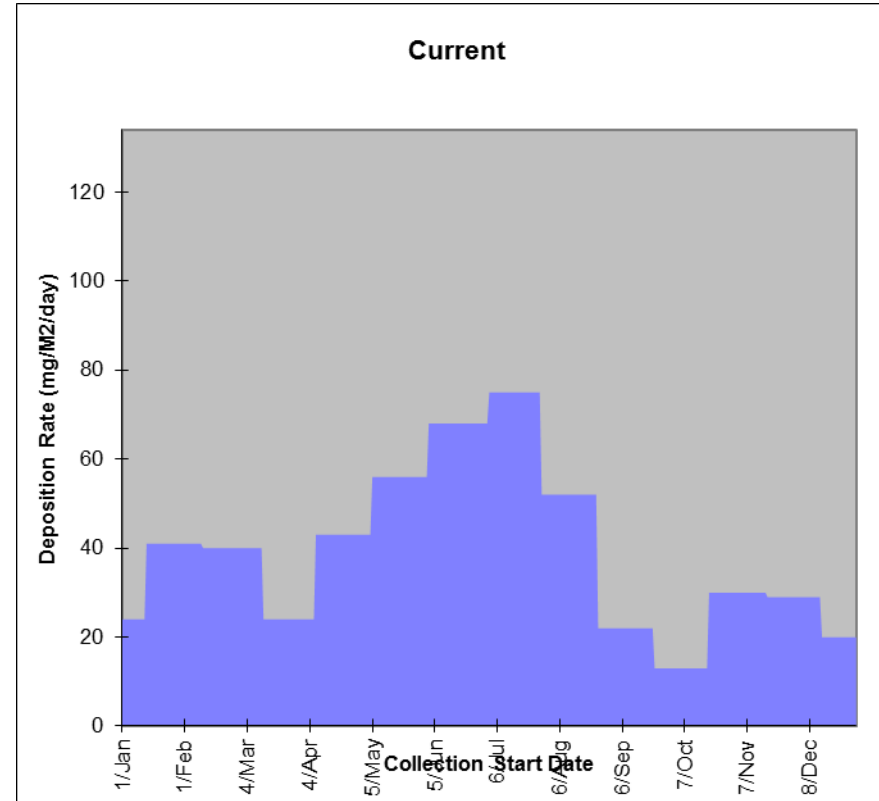
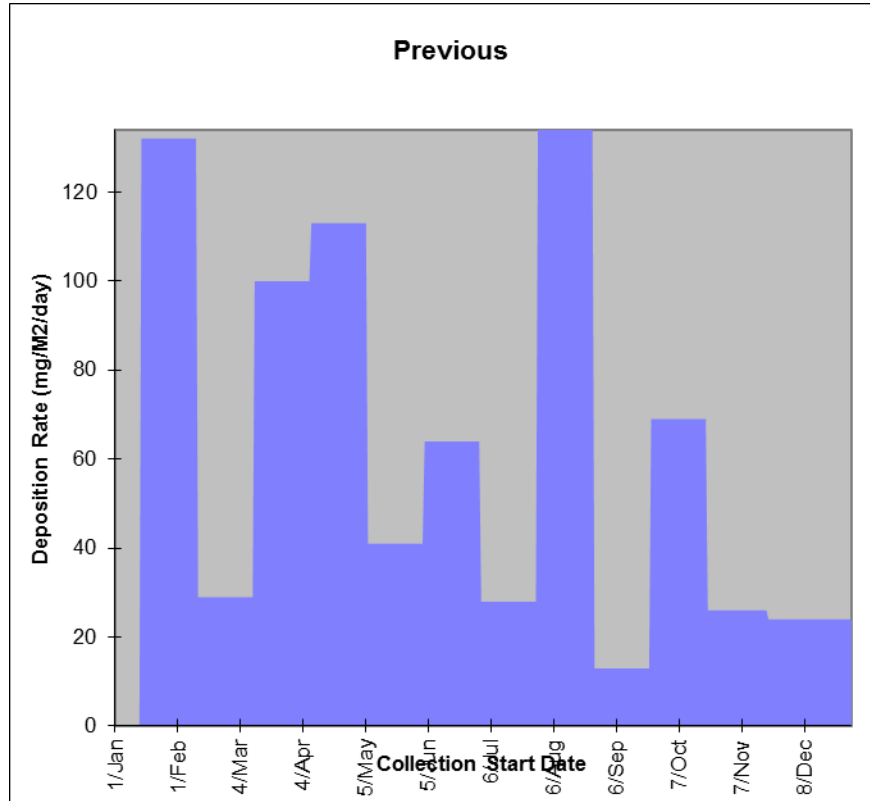
Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14



Measurement Type	Period	Coal	Carbonised	Sand	Dirt	Fly Ash	Plant/Animal	Calcium Rich	Iron Rich	Others
Av. Deposition Rate (mg/m2/day)	Current	23	0	4	5	0	5	1	3	0
	Previous	30	0	6	10	0	6	1	7	0

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report Eglwys Nunydd Reservoir, Port Talbot Comparison of Fallout Rate with Time

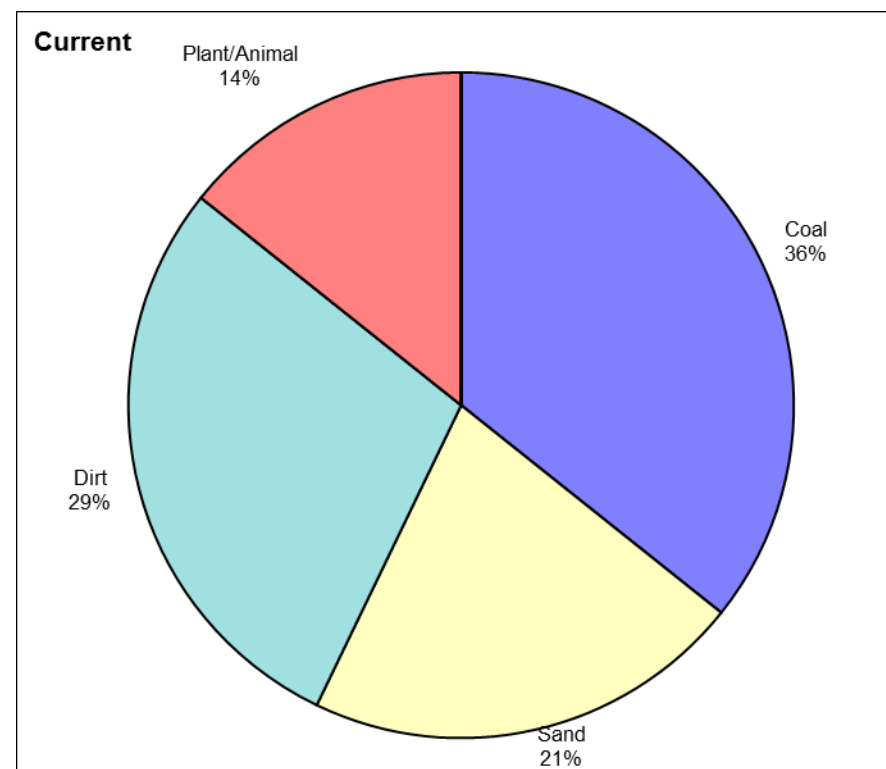
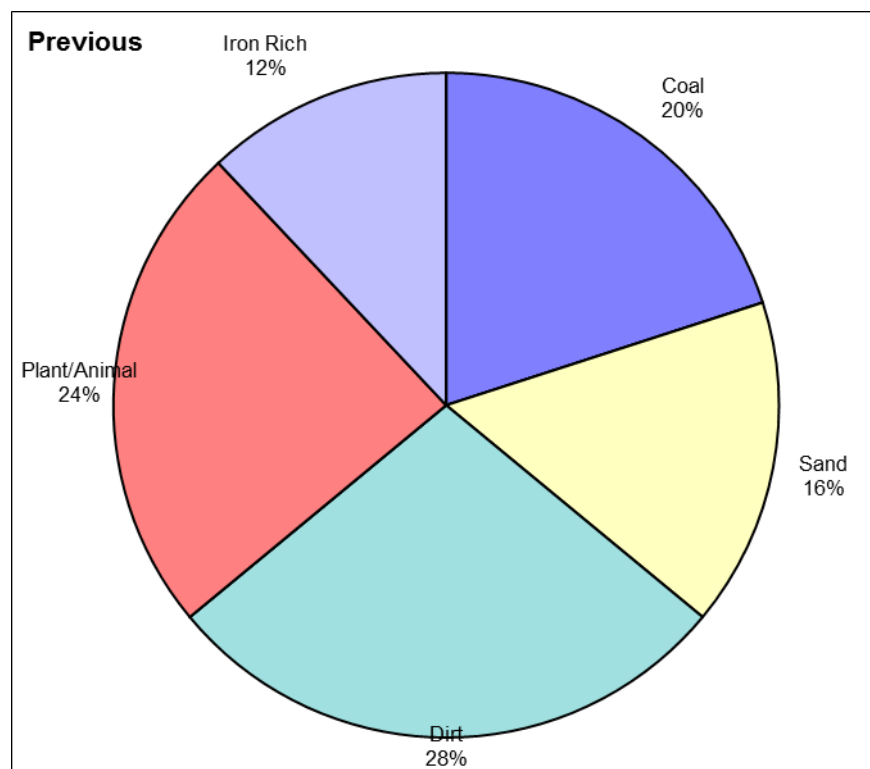
Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14



Period	Fallout Level (mg/m2/day)		No. Samples	% Data Capture	200 mg/m2/day 'Nuisance Limit'	
	Average	Maximum			Days within 10% of	Days Exceeding
Current	40	75	13	100.0	0	0
Previous	63	134	13	99.2	0	0
Change	-23	Decrease		-37%		

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report Primary School, Gwaen Cae Gurwen Comparison of Fallout Composition

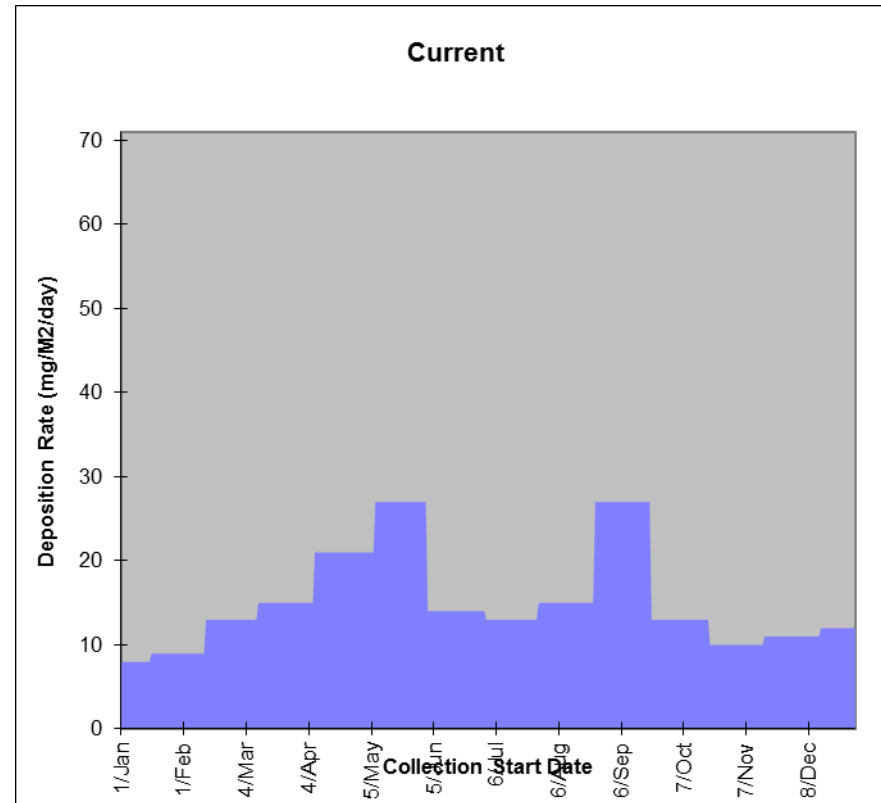
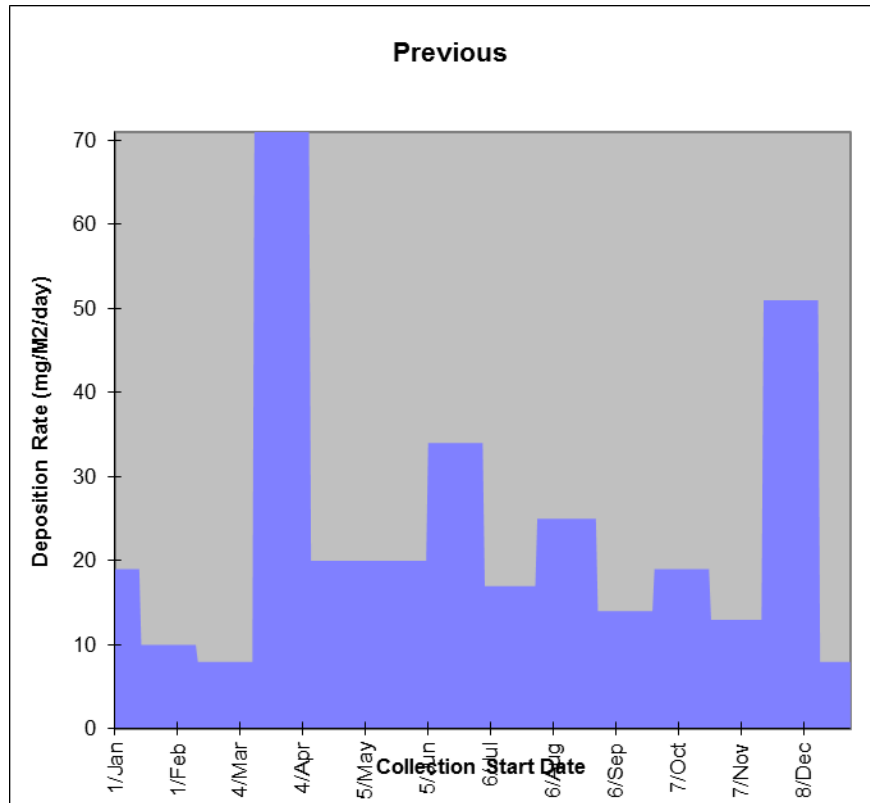
Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14



Measurement Type	Period	Coal	Carbonised	Sand	Dirt	Fly Ash	Plant/Animal	Calcium Rich	Iron Rich	Others
Av. Deposition Rate (mg/m2/day)	Current	5	0	3	4	0	2	0	0	0
	Previous	5	0	4	7	0	6	0	3	0

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report Primary School, Gwaen Cae Gurwen Comparison of Fallout Rate with Time

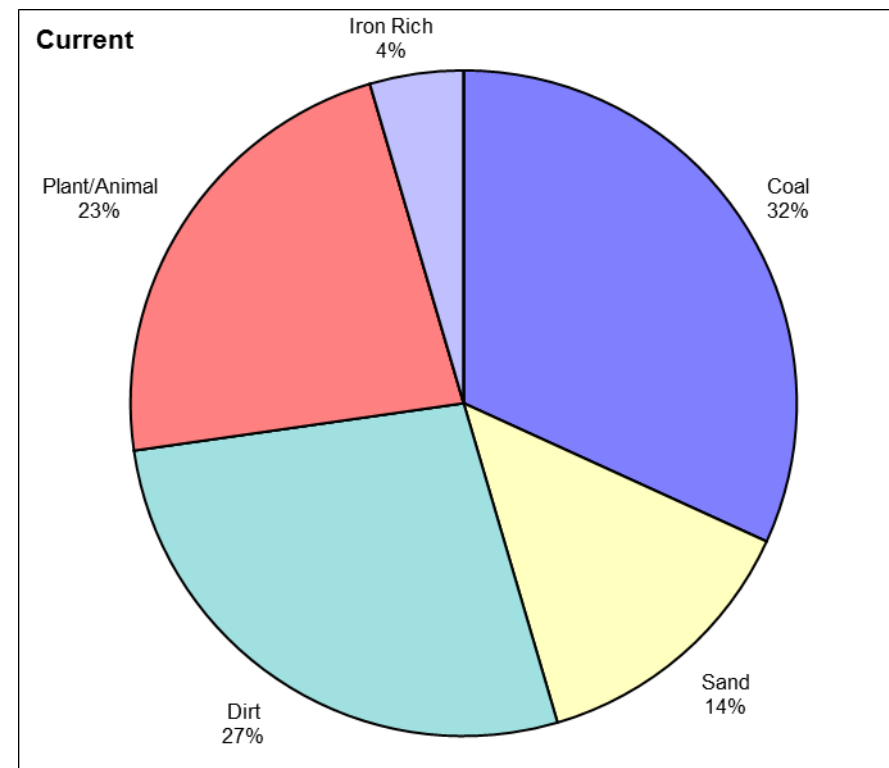
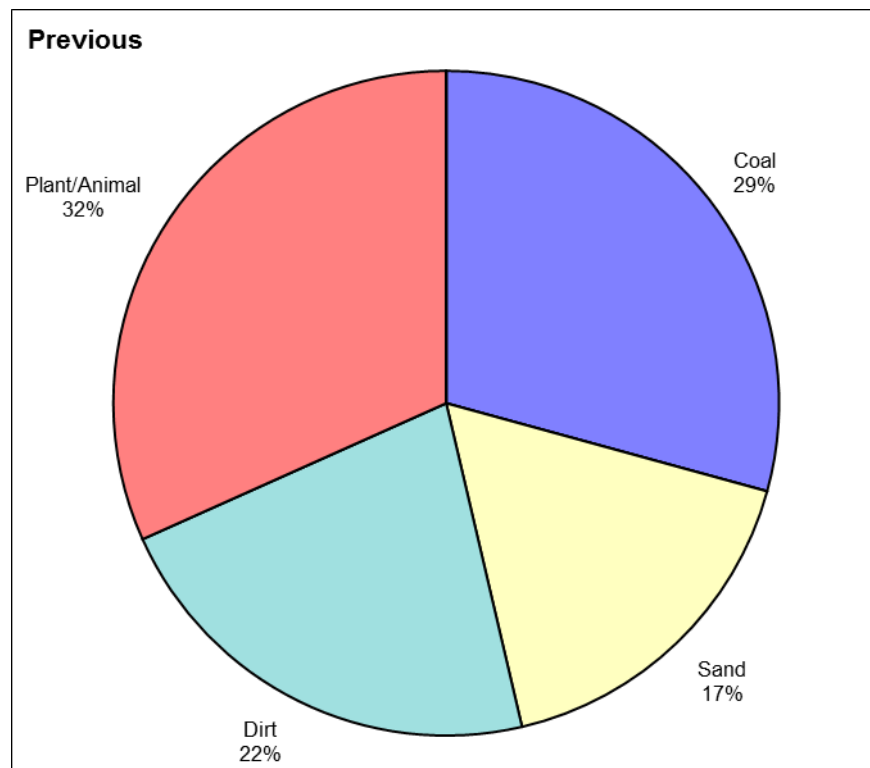
Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14



Period	Fallout Level (mg/m2/day)		No. Samples	% Data Capture	200 mg/m2/day 'Nuisance Limit'	
	Average	Maximum			Days within 10% of	Days Exceeding
Current	15	27	13	100.0	0	0
Previous	24	71	13	100.0	0	0
Change	-9	Decrease -38%				

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report Workingmens Club, Tairgwaith Comparison of Fallout Composition

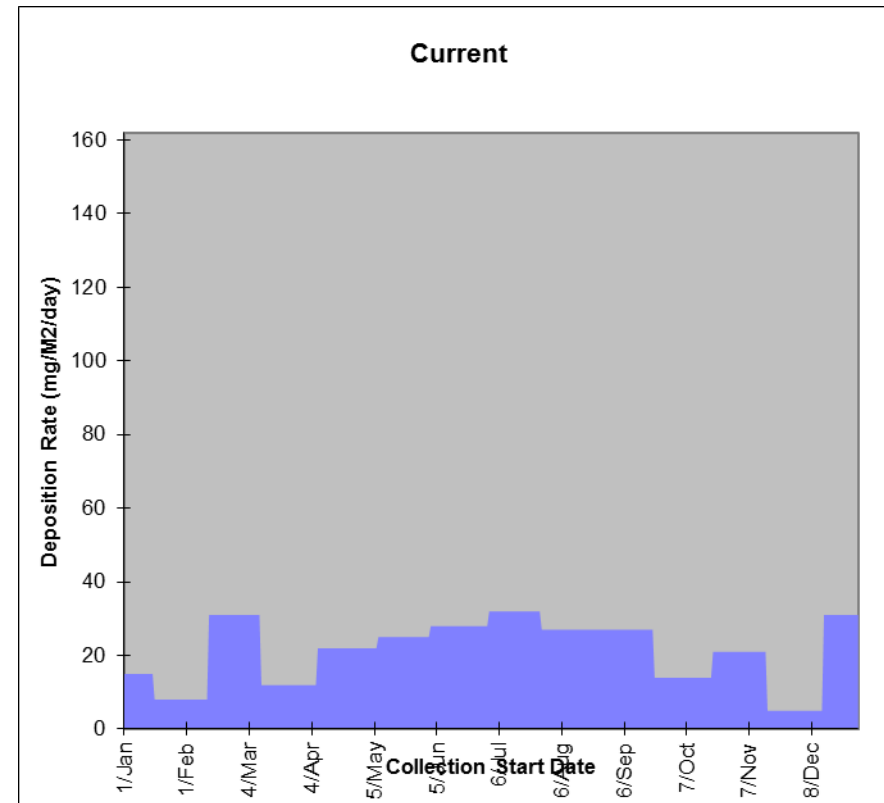
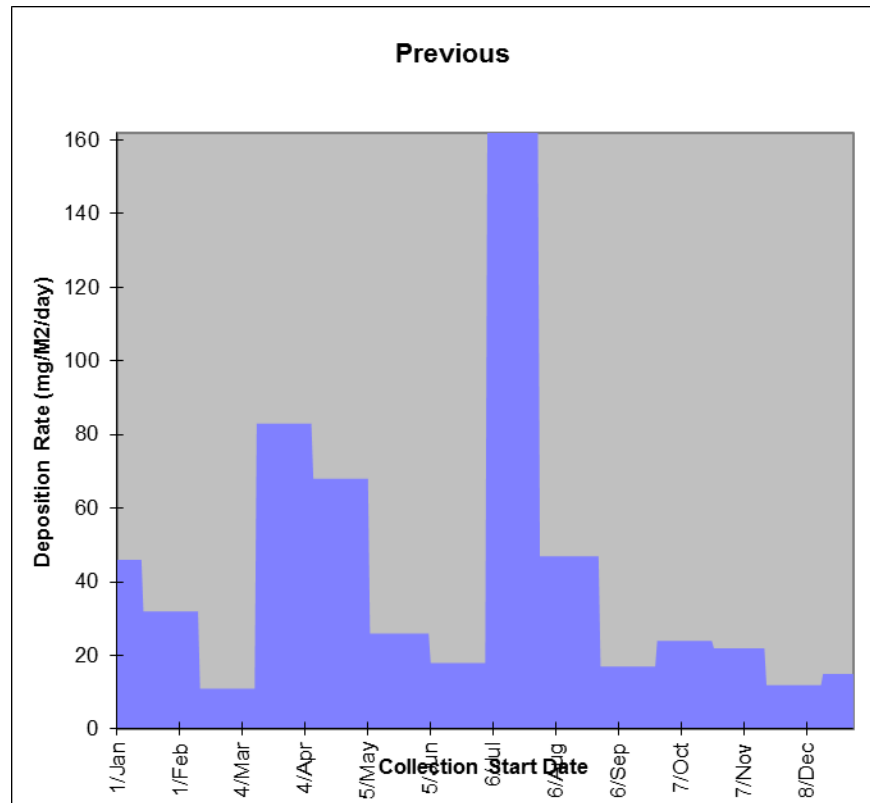
Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14



Measurement Type	Period	Coal	Carbonised	Sand	Dirt	Fly Ash	Plant/Animal	Calcium Rich	Iron Rich	Others
Av. Deposition Rate (mg/m2/day)	Current	7	0	3	6	0	5	0	1	0
	Previous	12	0	7	9	0	13	0	0	0

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report Workingmens Club, Tairgwaith Comparison of Fallout Rate with Time

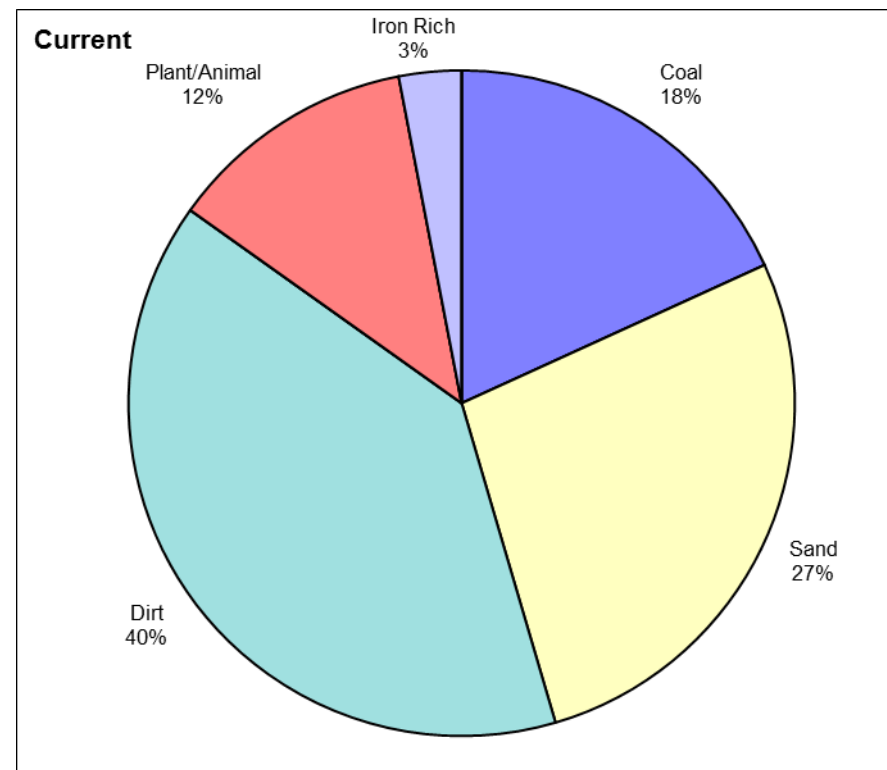
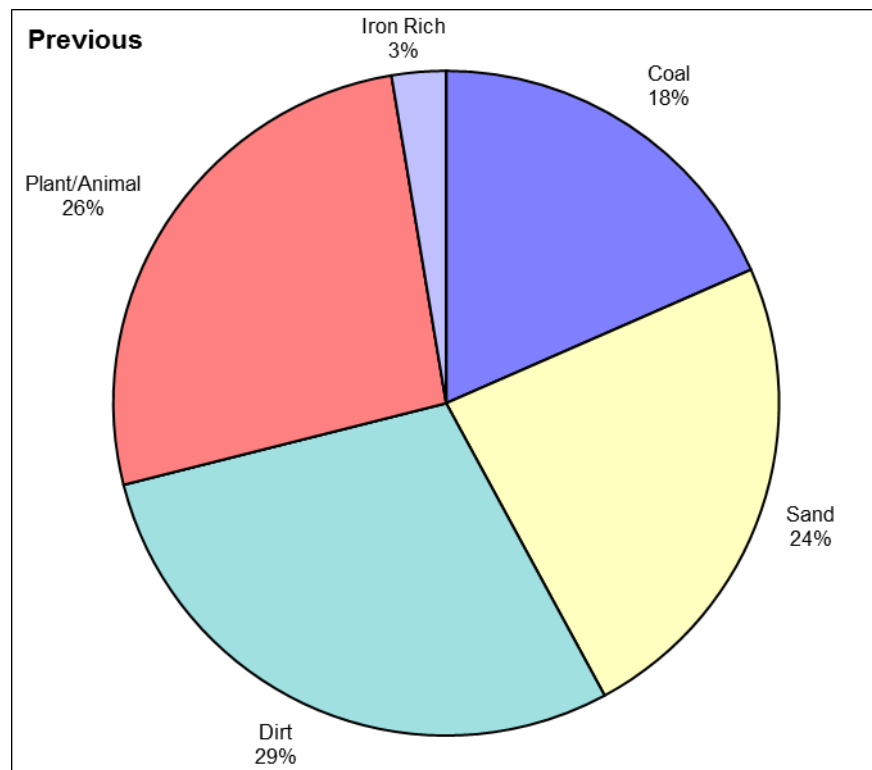
Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14



Period	Fallout Level (mg/m2/day)		No. Samples	% Data Capture	200 mg/m2/day 'Nuisance Limit'	
	Average	Maximum			Days within 10% of	Days Exceeding
Current	21	32	13	100.0	0	0
Previous	42	162	13	100.0	0	0
Change	-21	Decrease				-50%

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report 41, Parish Road, Cwmgwrach Comparison of Fallout Composition

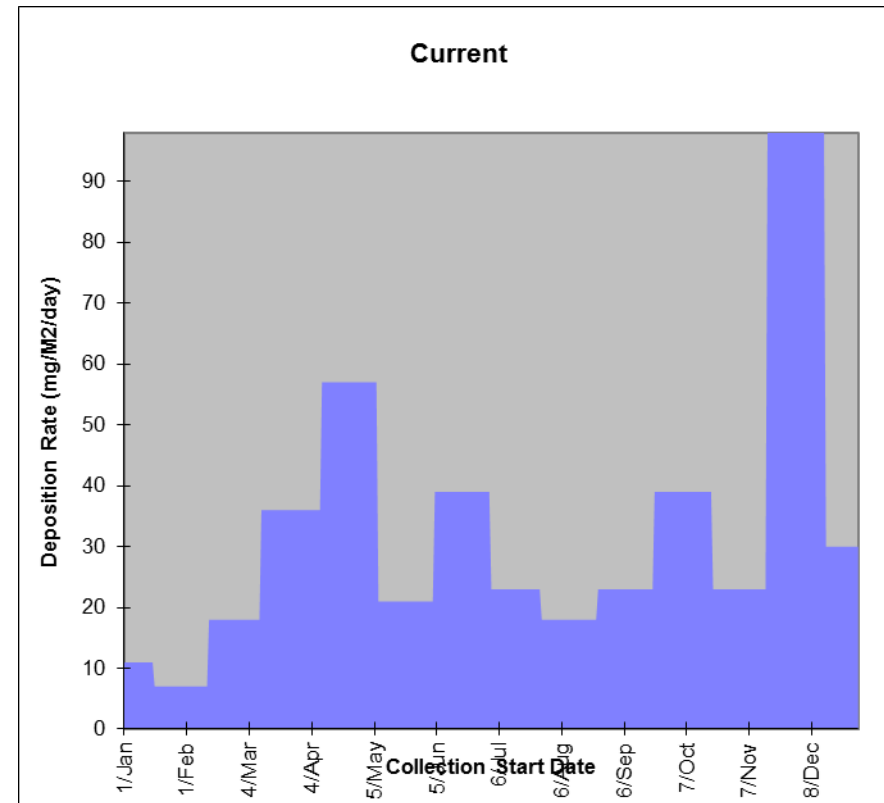
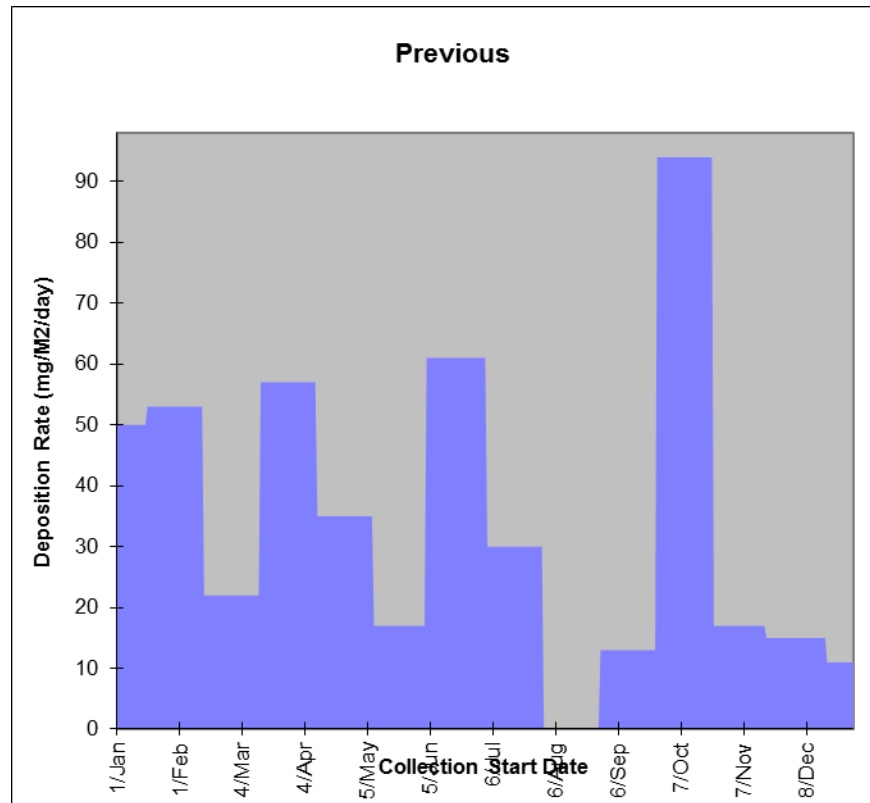
Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14



Measurement Type	Period	Coal	Carbonised	Sand	Dirt	Fly Ash	Plant/Animal	Calcium Rich	Iron Rich	Others
Av. Deposition Rate (mg/m2/day)	Current	6	0	9	13	0	4	0	1	0
	Previous	7	0	9	11	0	10	0	1	0

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report 41, Parish Road, Cwmgwrach Comparison of Fallout Rate with Time

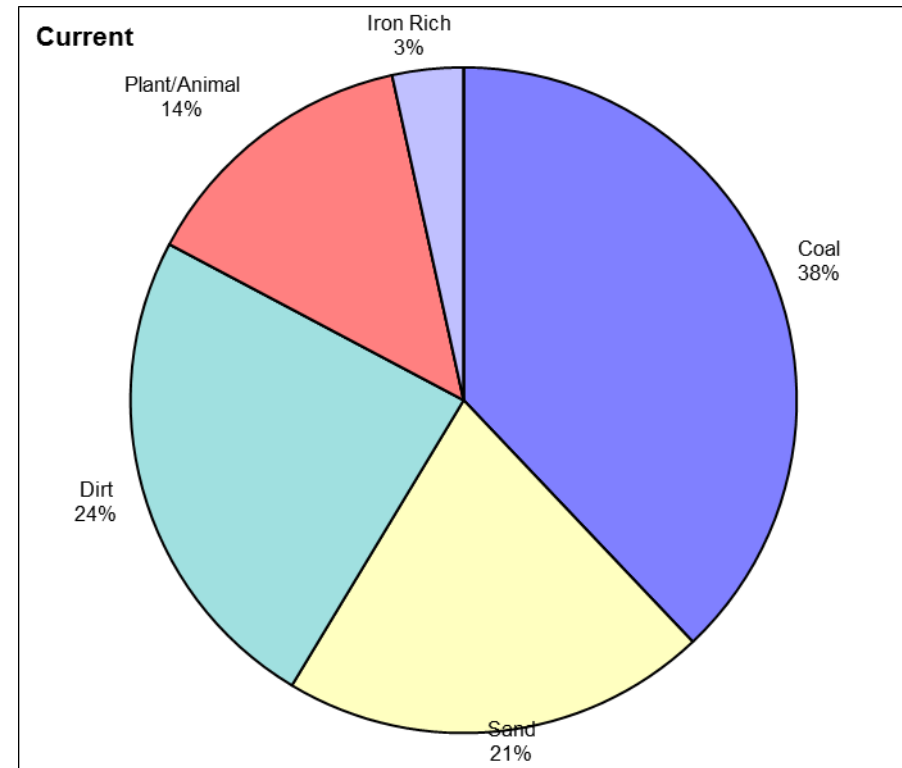
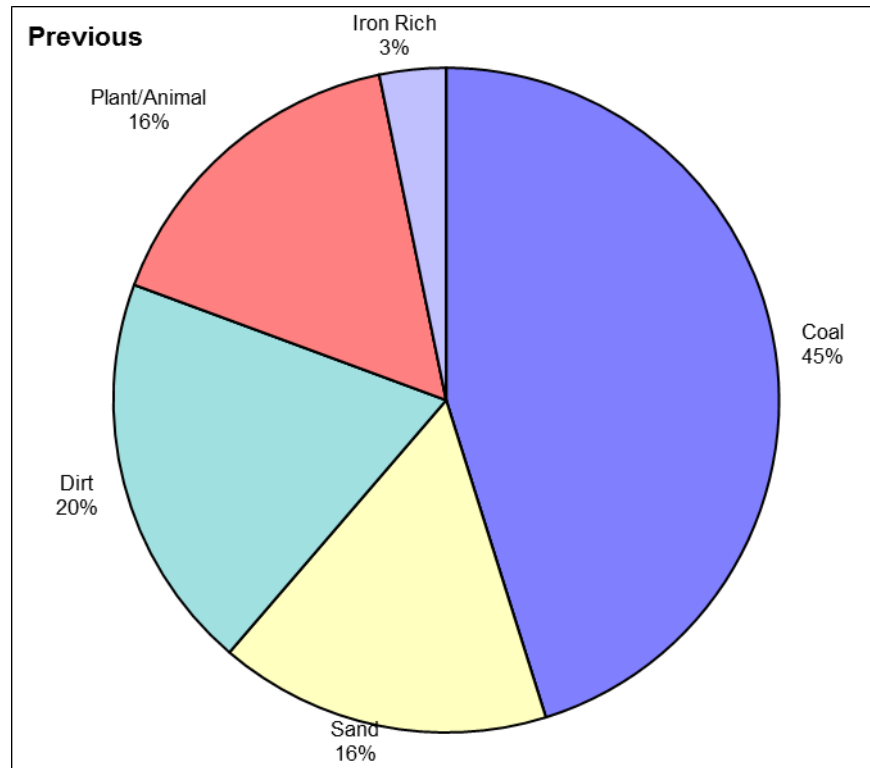
Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14



Period	Fallout Level (mg/m2/day)		No. Samples	% Data Capture	200 mg/m2/day 'Nuisance Limit'	
	Average	Maximum			Days within 10% of	Days Exceeding
Current	33	98	13	100.0	0	0
Previous	37	94	12	92.1	0	0
Change	-4	Decrease -11%				

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report 2, Llygad Yr Haul, Glynneath Comparison of Fallout Composition

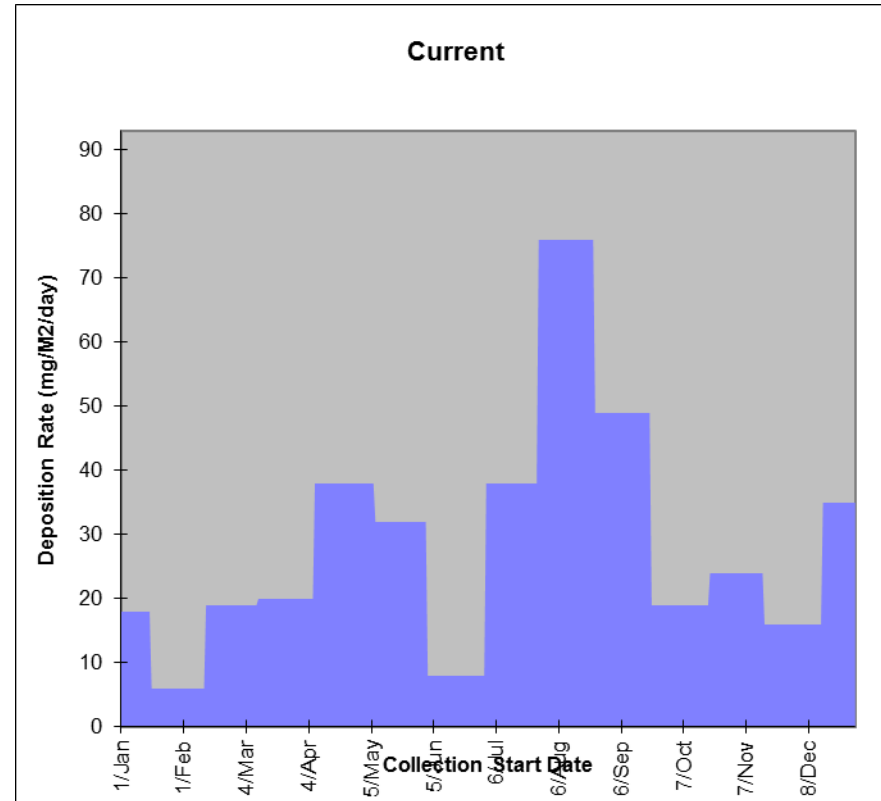
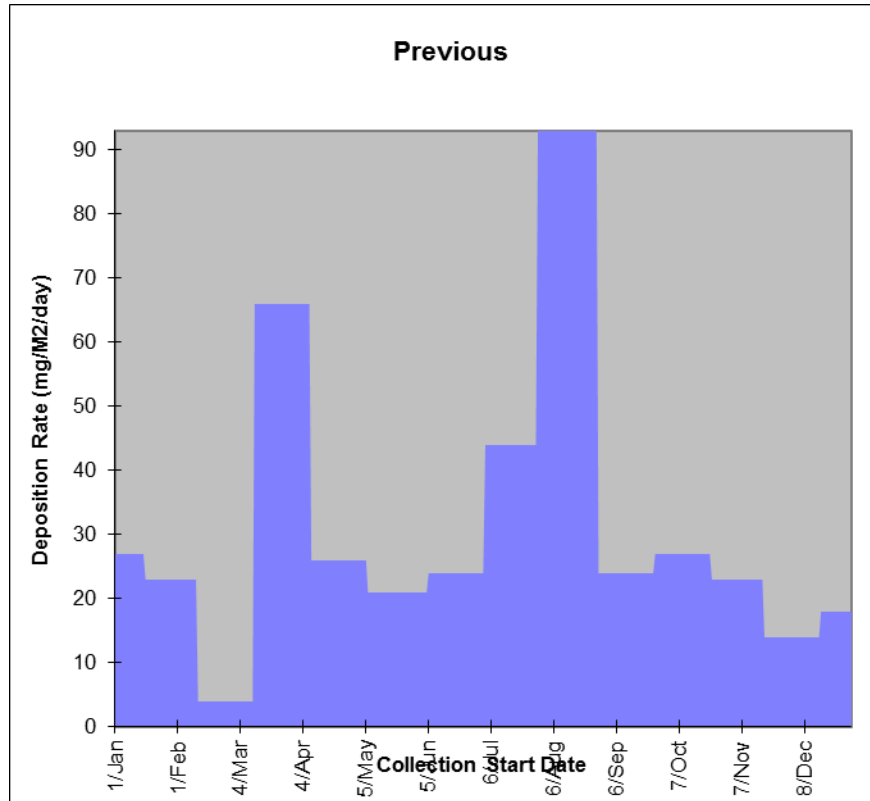
Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14



Measurement Type	Period	Coal	Carbonised	Sand	Dirt	Fly Ash	Plant/Animal	Calcium Rich	Iron Rich	Others
Av. Deposition Rate (mg/m2/day)	Current	11	0	6	7	0	4	0	1	0
	Previous	14	0	5	6	0	5	0	1	0

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report 2, Llygad Yr Haul, Glynneath Comparison of Fallout Rate with Time

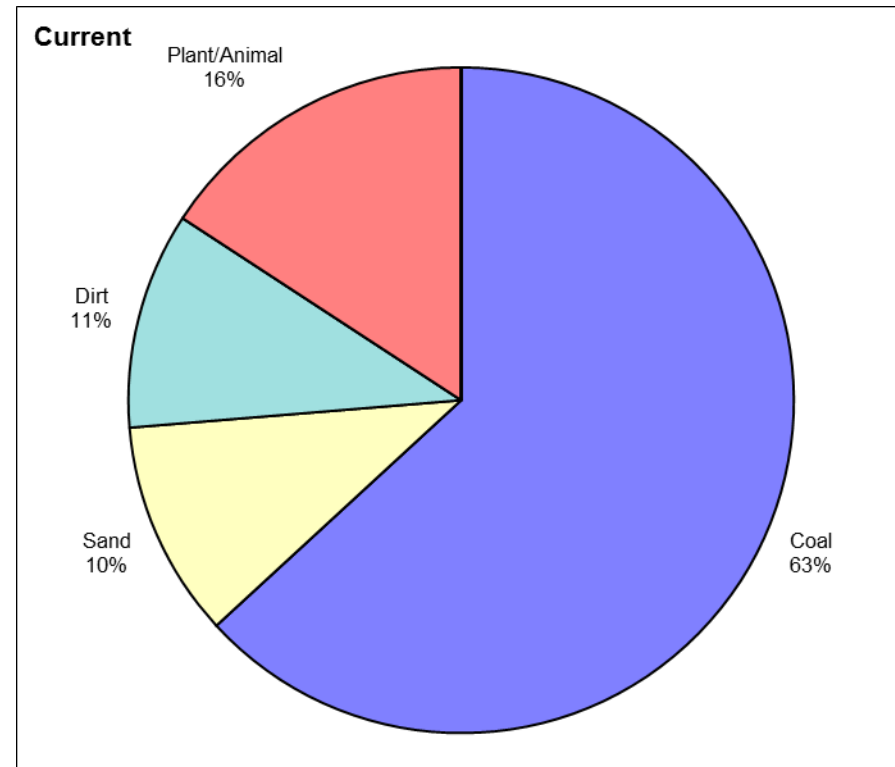
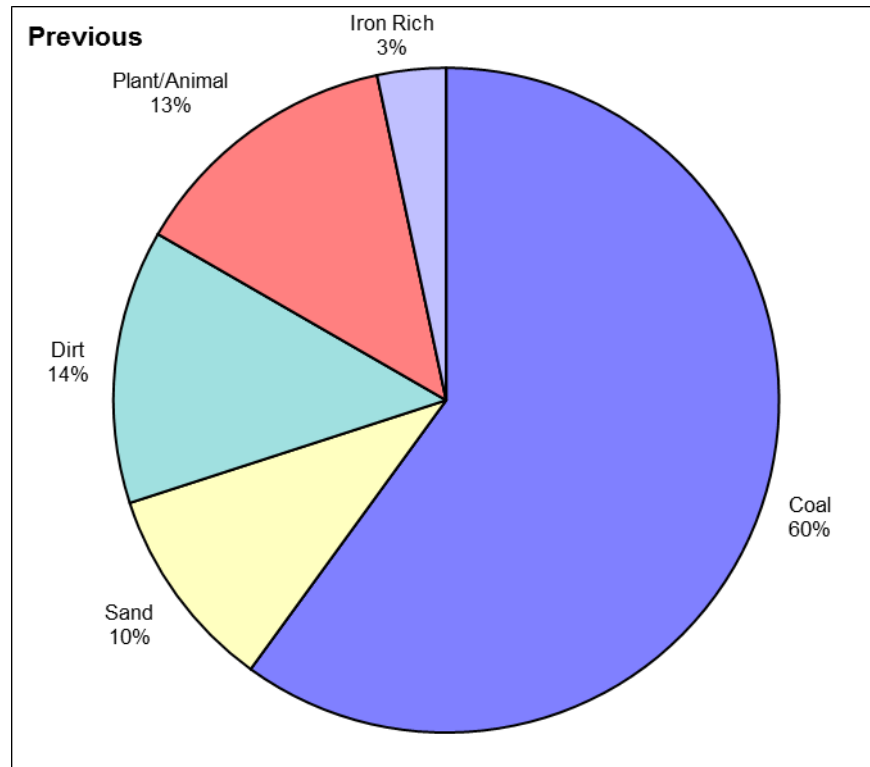
Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14



Period	Fallout Level (mg/m2/day)		No. Samples	% Data Capture	200 mg/m2/day 'Nuisance Limit'	
	Average	Maximum			Days within 10% of	Days Exceeding
Current	29	76	13	100.0	0	0
Previous	32	93	13	100.0	0	0
Change	-3	Decrease		-9%		

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report 11, Wembley Avenue, Onllwyn Comparison of Fallout Composition

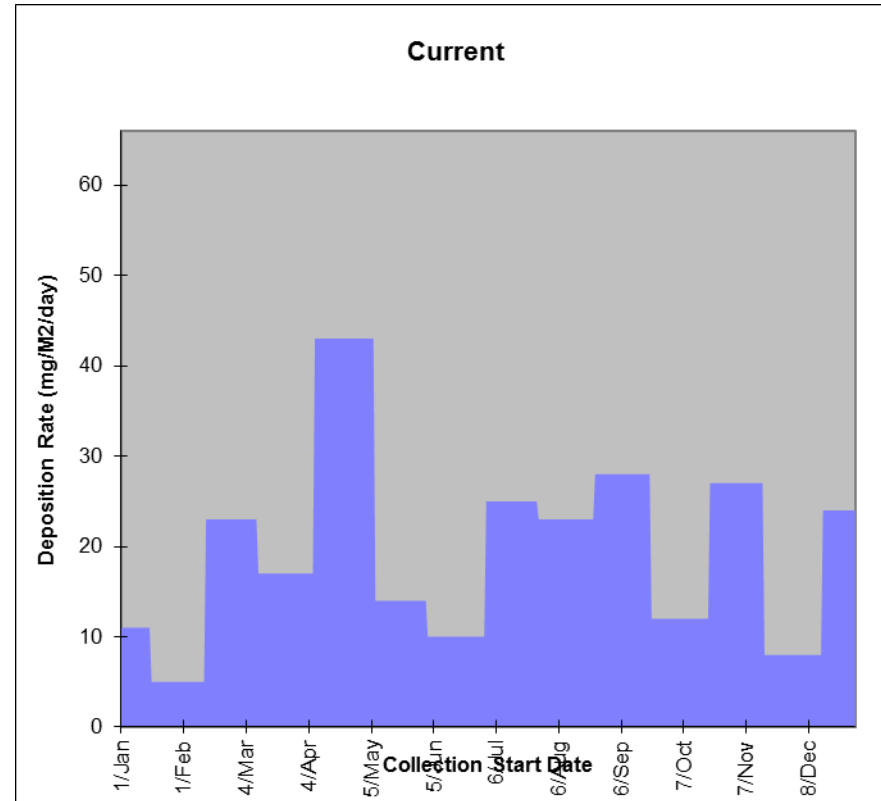
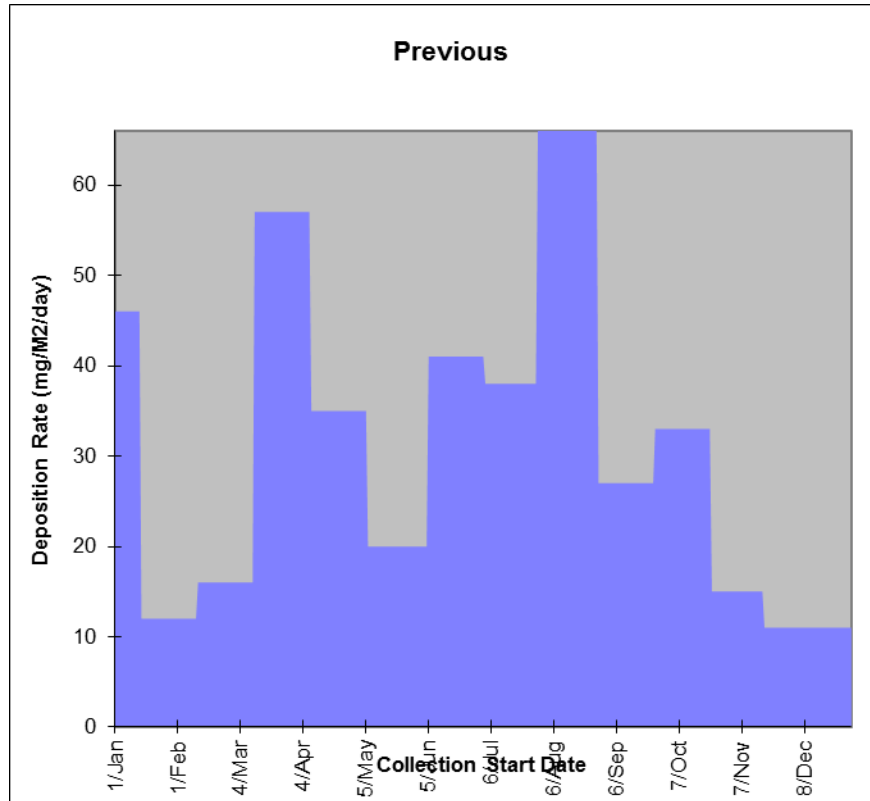
Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14



Measurement Type	Period	Coal	Carbonised	Sand	Dirt	Fly Ash	Plant/Animal	Calcium Rich	Iron Rich	Others
Av. Deposition Rate (mg/m ² /day)	Current	12	0	2	2	0	3	0	0	0
	Previous	18	0	3	4	0	4	0	1	0

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report 11, Wembley Avenue, Onllwyn Comparison of Fallout Rate with Time

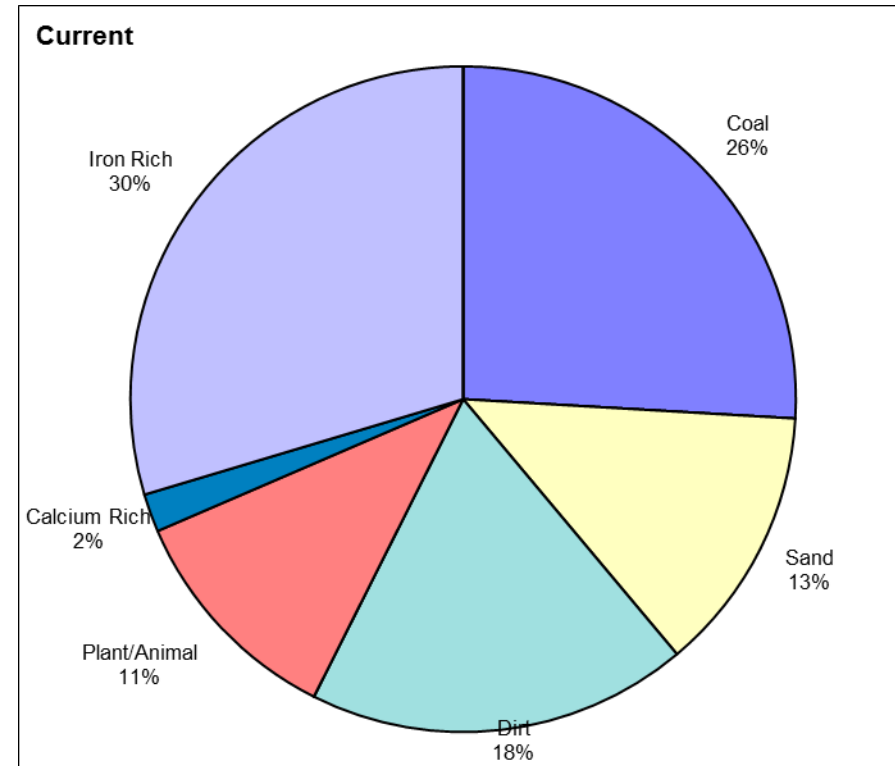
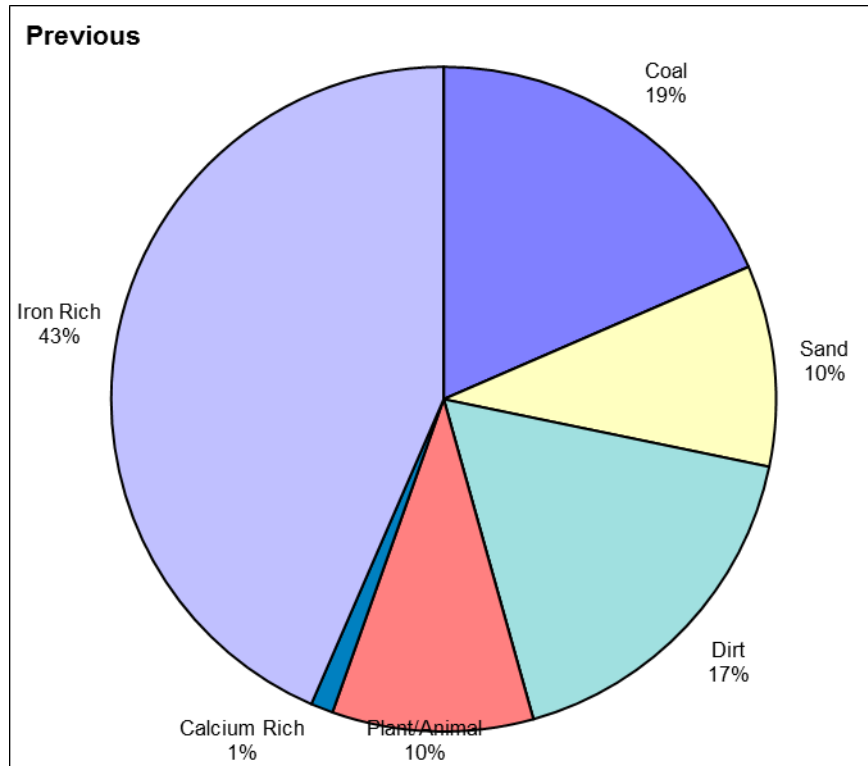
Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14



Period	Fallout Level (mg/m2/day)		No. Samples	% Data Capture	200 mg/m2/day 'Nuisance Limit'	
	Average	Maximum			Days within 10% of	Days Exceeding
Current	19	43	13	100.0	0	0
Previous	31	66	13	100.0	0	0
Change	-12	Decrease		-39%		

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report Little Warren, Port Talbot Comparison of Fallout Composition

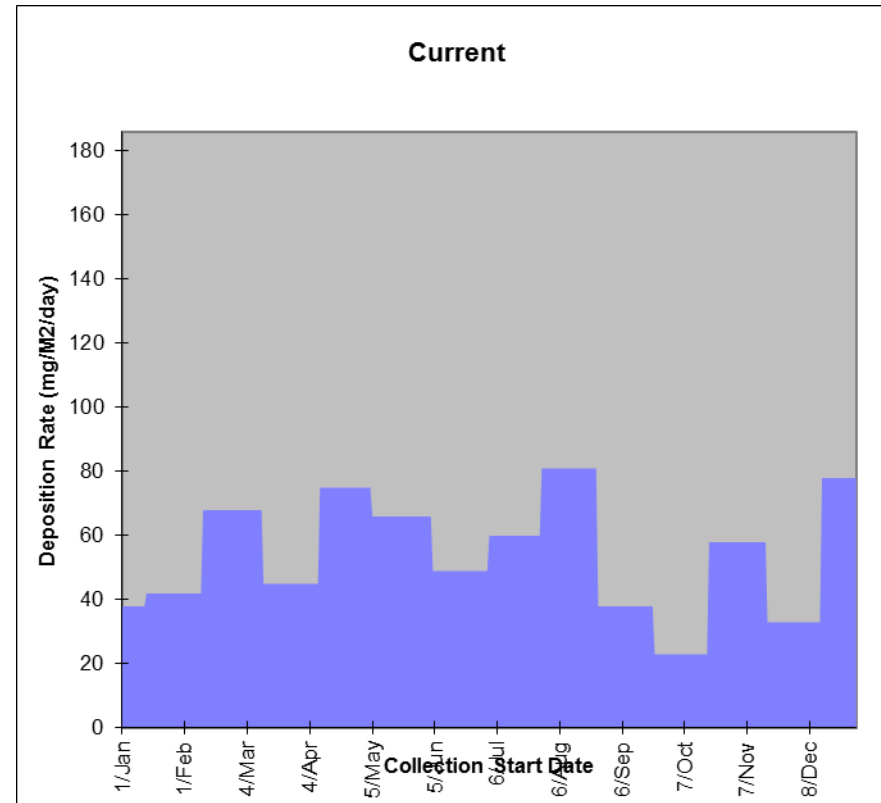
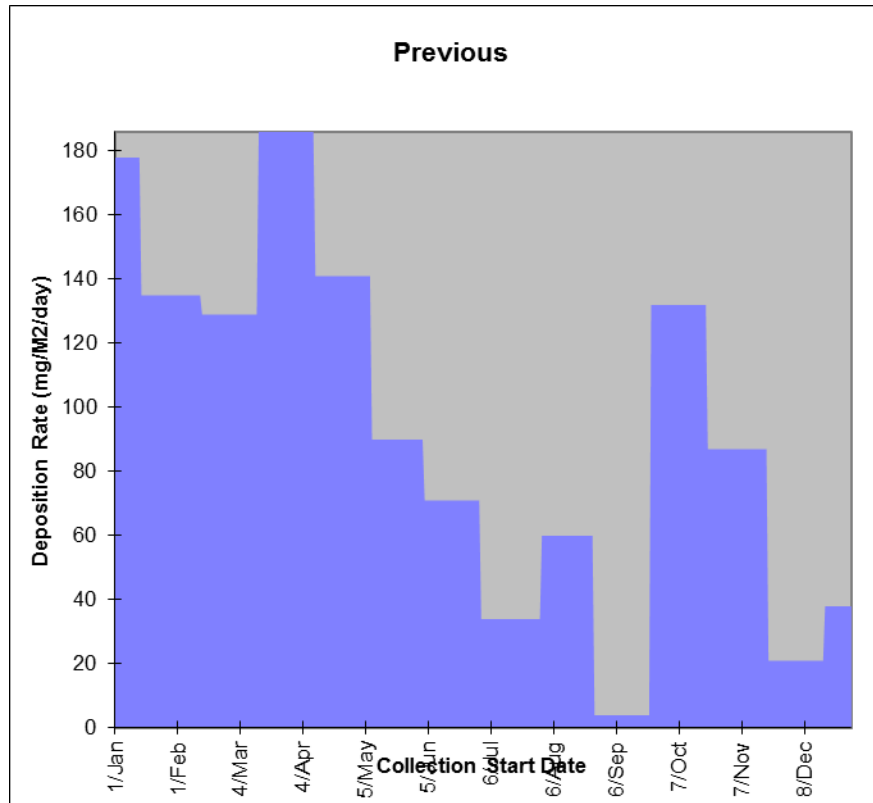
Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14



Measurement Type	Period	Coal	Carbonised	Sand	Dirt	Fly Ash	Plant/Animal	Calcium Rich	Iron Rich	Others
Av. Deposition Rate (mg/m2/day)	Current	14	0	7	10	0	6	1	16	0
	Previous	17	0	9	16	0	9	1	40	0

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report Little Warren, Port Talbot Comparison of Fallout Rate with Time

Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14

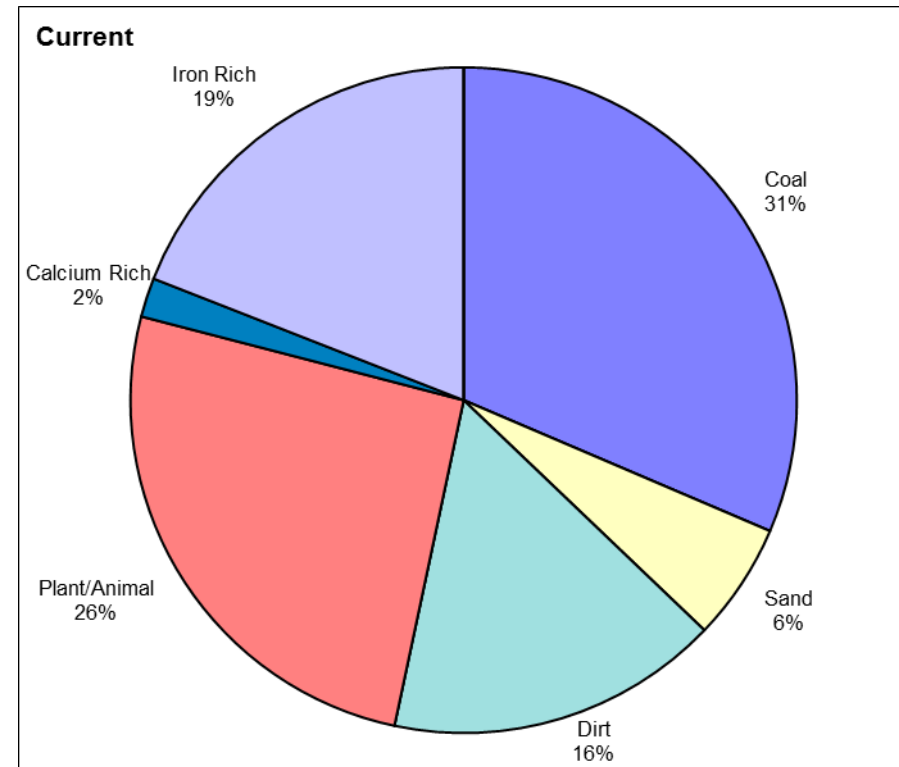
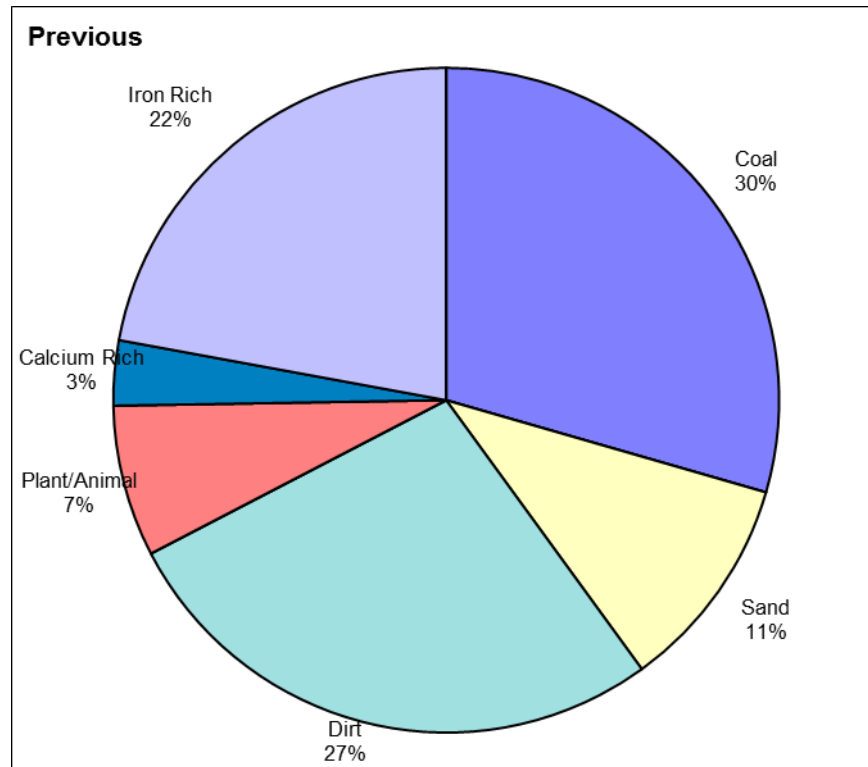


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Period	Fallout Level (mg/m2/day)		No. Samples	% Data Capture	200 mg/m2/day 'Nuisance Limit'	
	Average	Maximum			Days within 10% of	Days Exceeding
Current	92	186	13	100.0	28	0
Previous	65	178	13	100.0	0	0
Change	27	Increase 42%				

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report Dyffryn School, Bertha Road, Port Talbot Comparison of Fallout Rate with Time

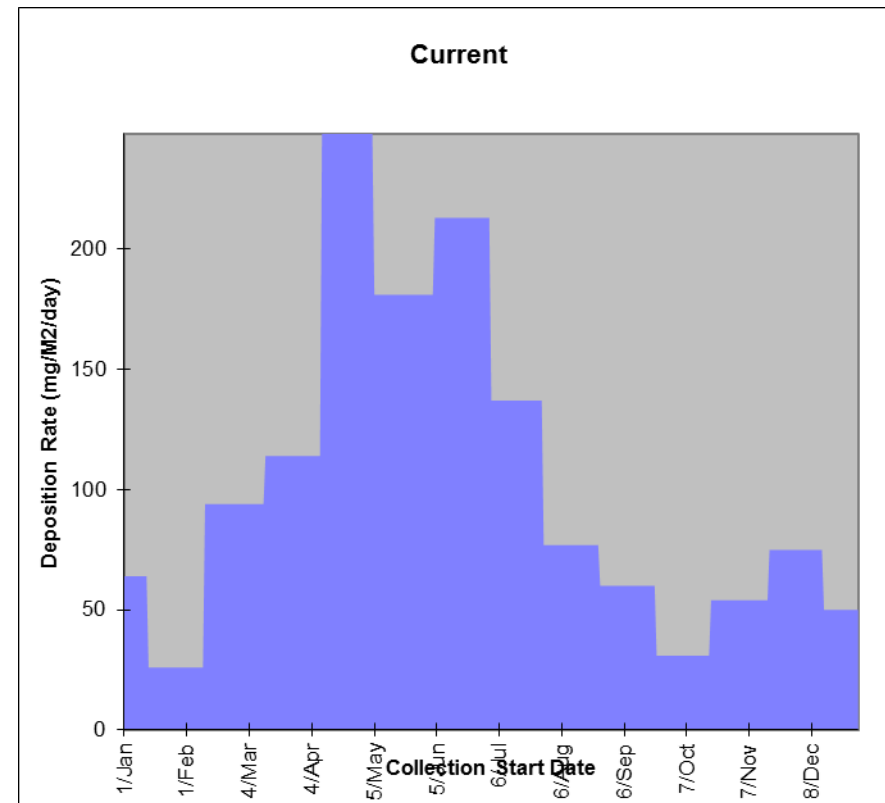
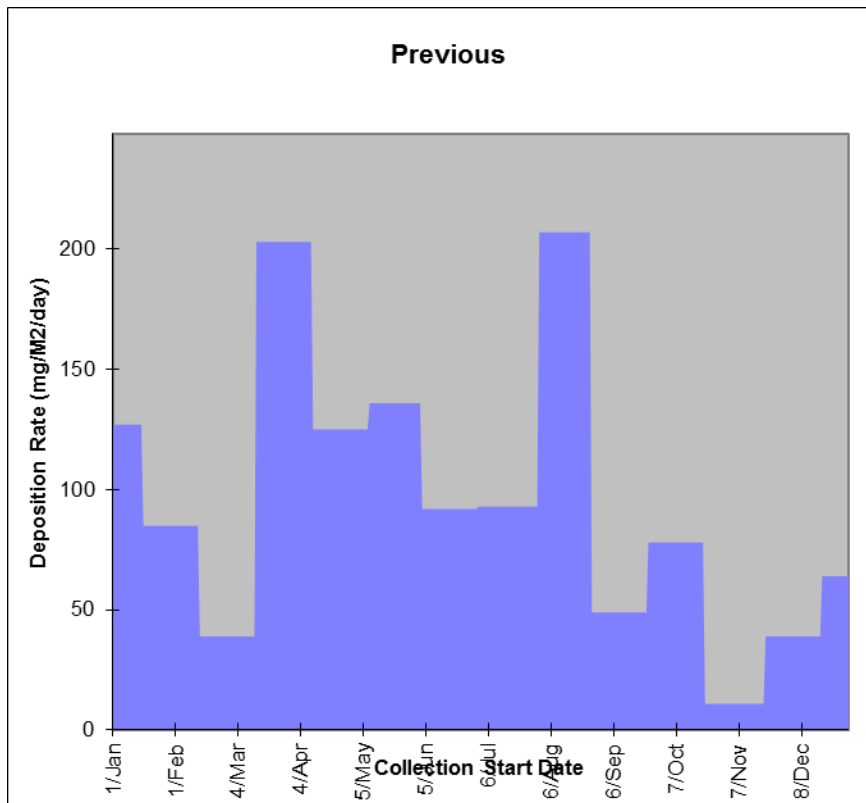
Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14



Measurement Type	Period	Coal	Carbonised	Sand	Dirt	Fly Ash	Plant/Animal	Calcium Rich	Iron Rich	Others
Av. Deposition Rate (mg/m2/day)	Current	28	0	10	26	0	7	3	21	0
	Previous	24	0	15	31	0	14	5	17	0

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report Dyffryn School, Bertha Road, Port Talbot Comparison of Fallout Rate with Time

Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14

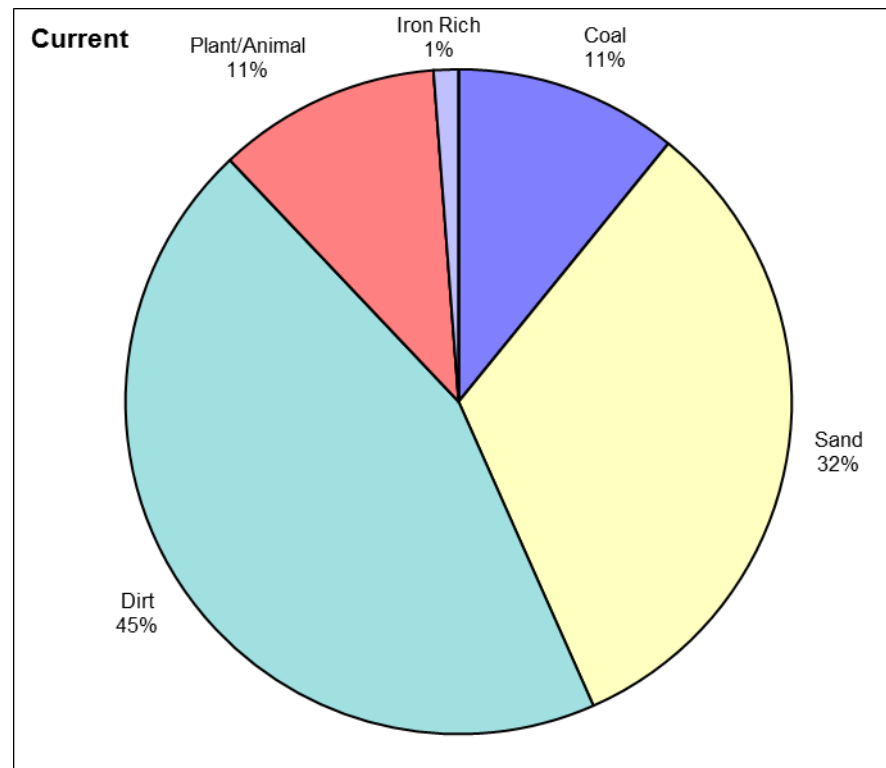
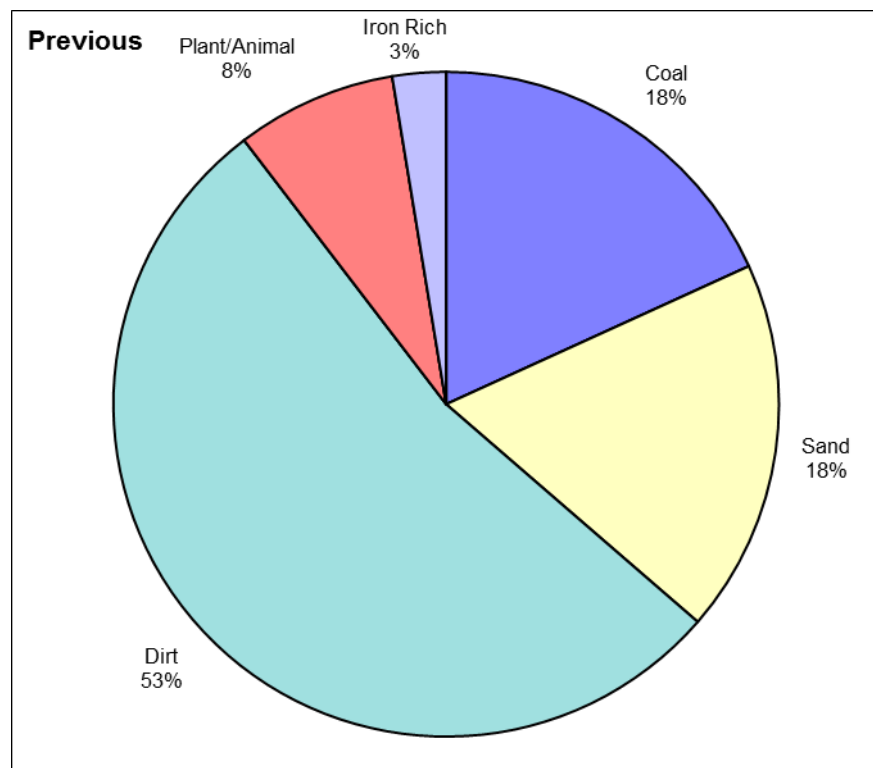


Period	Fallout Level (mg/m2/day)		No. Samples	% Data Capture	200 mg/m2/day 'Nuisance Limit'	
	Average	Maximum			Days within 10% of	Days Exceeding
Current	104	248	13	100.0	30	54
Previous	95	207	13	100.0	0	54
Change	9	Increase		9%		

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report Cwmllynfell

Comparison of Fallout Rate with Time

Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14

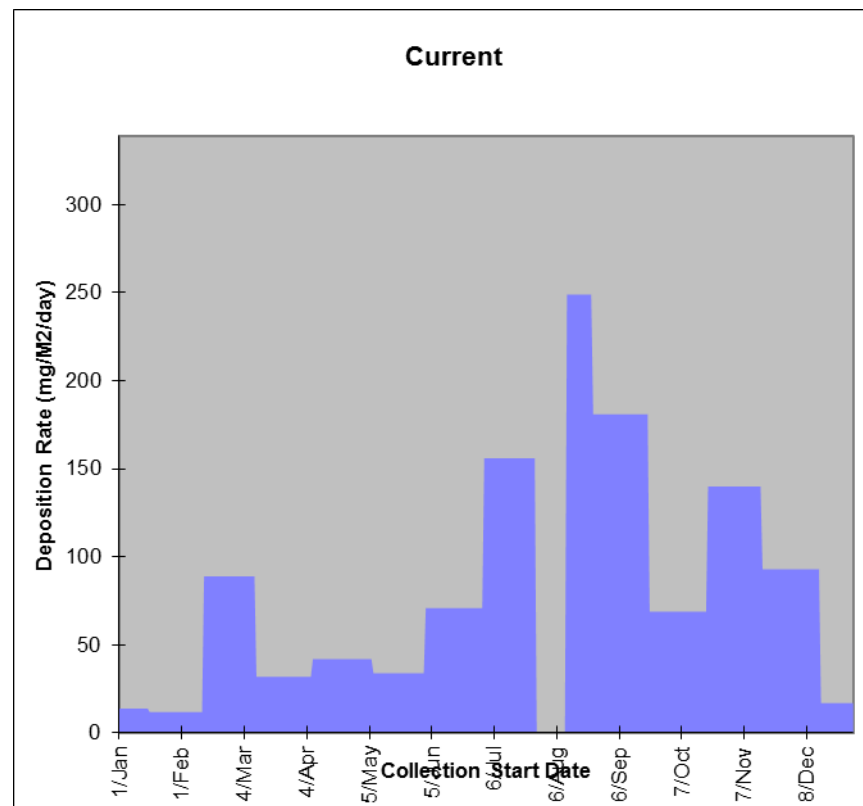
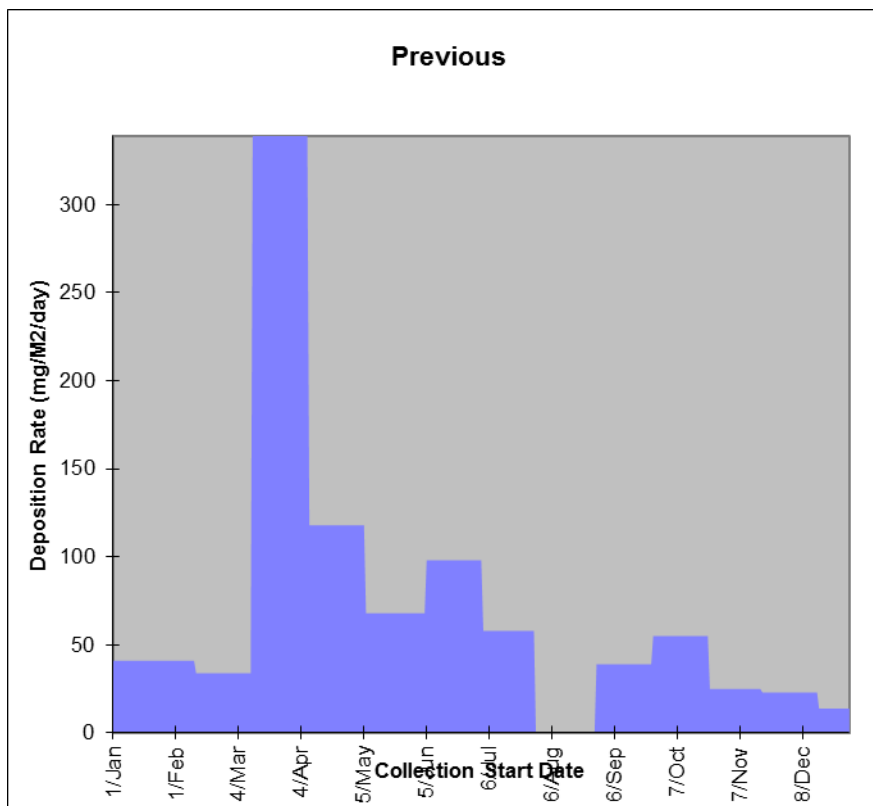


Measurement Type	Period	Coal	Carbonised	Sand	Dirt	Fly Ash	Plant/Animal	Calcium Rich	Iron Rich	Others
Av. Deposition Rate (mg/m2/day)	Current	9	0	27	37	0	9	0	1	0
	Previous	14	0	14	41	0	6	0	2	0

Deposit Gauge Analysis Report Cwmllynfell

Comparison of Fallout Rate with Time

Current Period = 01-Jan-15 to 31-Dec-15
 Previous Period = 01-Jan-14 to 31-Dec-14



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Period	Fallout Level (mg/m2/day)		No. Samples	% Data Capture	200 mg/m2/day 'Nuisance Limit'	
	Average	Maximum			Days within 10% of	Days Exceeding
Current	77	339	12	91.8	0	28
Previous	126	259	13	100.0	21	58
Change	-49	Decrease		-39%		

Figure 2.45 Comparison of average fallout rates, 2015

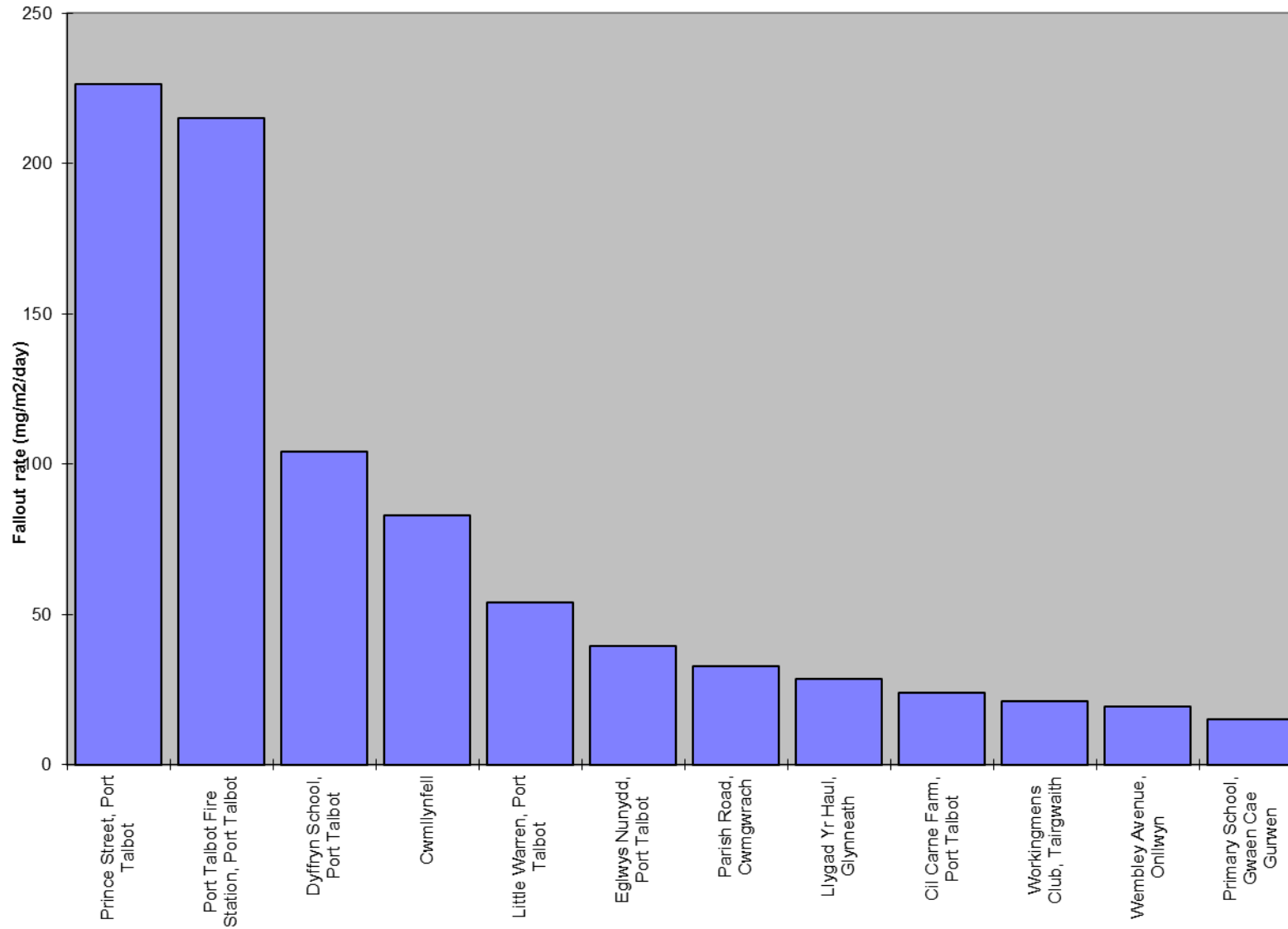
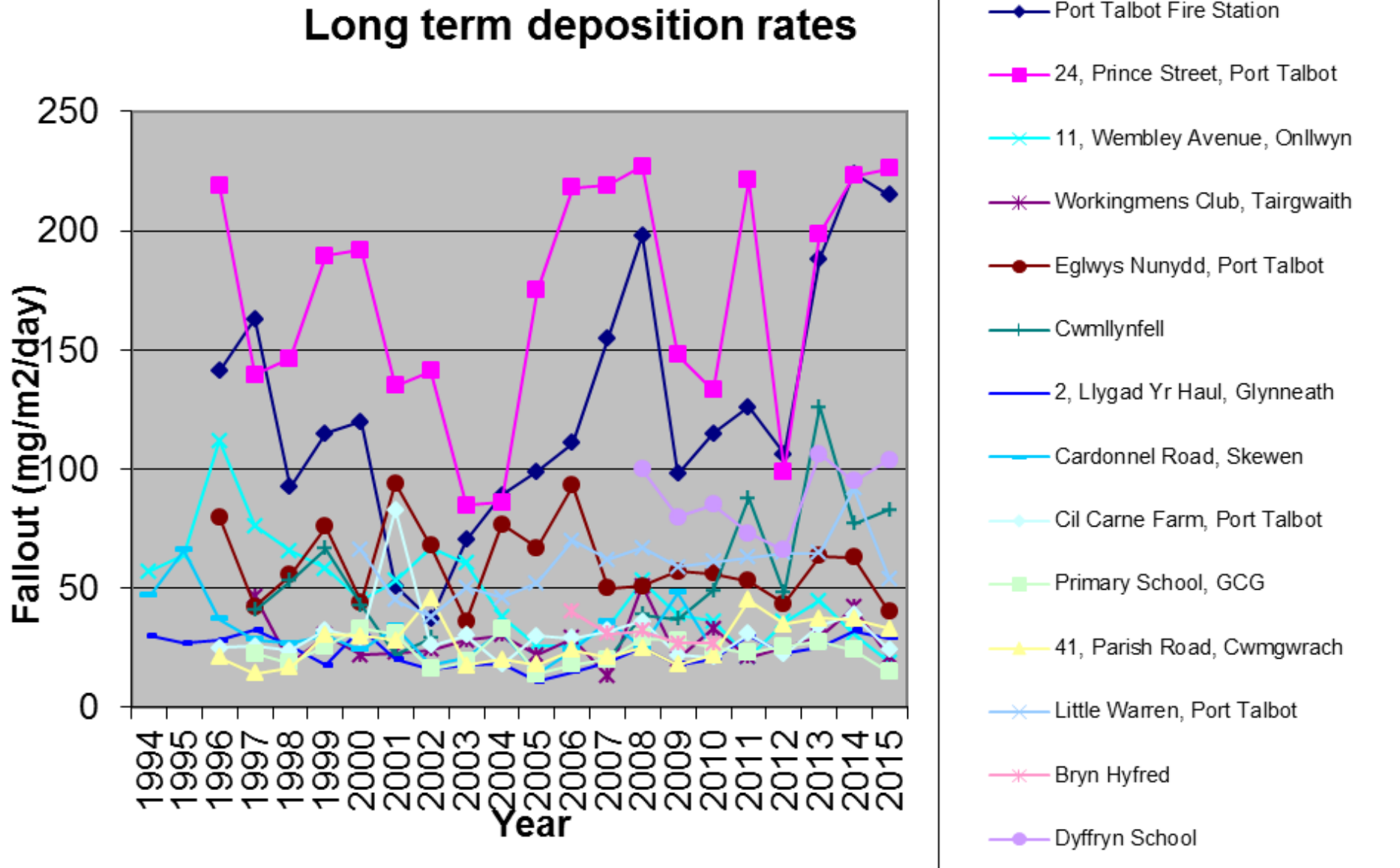


Table 2.16 - Sites ranked by average fallout level (mg/m²/day) 2015

Site Name	Fallout Level (mg/M2/day)		200 mg/M2/day 'Nuisance Limit'	
	Average	Maximum	Days within 10% of	Days Exceeding
Prince Street, Port Talbot	226	482	46	147
Port Talbot Fire Station, Port Talbot	215	459	30	183
Dyffryn School, Port Talbot	104	248	30	54
Cwmllynfell	83	249	28	13
Little Warren, Port Talbot	54	81	0	0
Eglwys Nunydd, Port Talbot	40	75	0	0
Parish Road, Cwmgwrach	33	98	0	0
Llygad Yr Haul, Glynneath	29	76	0	0
Cil Carne Farm, Port Talbot	24	40	0	0
Workingmens Club, Tairgwaith	21	32	0	0
Wembley Avenue, Onllwyn	19	43	0	0
Primary School, Gwaen Cae Gurwen	15	27	0	0

Figure 2.46 Long term deposition rates

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Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Table 2.17 - Long term deposition rates

Site Name	Fallout rate (mg/m ² /day)																	
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Port Talbot Fire Station	92	115	120	51	37	70	89	99	111	155	198	98	115	126	106	188	224	215
24, Prince Street, Port Talbot	146	189	192	135	141	85	86	175	218	219	227	148	133	221	99	199	223	226
11, Wembley Avenue, Onllwyn	66	58	45	53	67	60	38	26	26	34	53	39	36	21	36	45	31	19
Workingmens Club, Tairgwaith	18	30	22	23	24	28	30	22	29	13	51	20	33	21	25	30	42	21
Eglwys Nunydd, Port Talbot	55	76	44	94	68	36	77	67	93	50	51	57	56	53	44	64	63	40
Cwmllynfell	53	67	43	22	29					20	39	37	49	88	48	126	77	83
2, Llygad Yr Haul, Glynneath	26	18	33	20	16	18	19	11	15	19	25	18	20	30	23	25	32	29
Cardonnel Road, Skewen	27	30	24	34	18	21	32	14	24	36	25	48	24		24			
Cil Carne Farm, Port Talbot	24	32	29	83	26	30	18	30	29	32	36	22	21	31	22	34	39	24
Primary School, GCG	19	26	33	31	16	19	33	14	18	20	29	28	25	23	26	28	24	15
41, Parish Road, Cwmgwrach	17	31	30	28	46	18	20	18	24	21	25	18	22	45	35	37	37	33
Little Warren, Port Talbot			66	45	38	50	46	52	70	62	67	59	61	63	65	65	92	54
Bryn Hyfred									40	31	32	27	27					
Dyffryn School											100	80	85	73	66	106	95	104

2.3.2 Summary of Compliance with AQS Objectives

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council has examined the results from monitoring in the Taibach Margam area.

Concentrations within the AQMA exceeded the short-term air quality objective for PM10 at Port Talbot Fire Station and the AQMA should remain.

Concentrations outside of the AQMA are all below the objectives at relevant locations, therefore there is no need to proceed to a Detailed Assessment.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council has measured concentrations of nitrogen dioxide marginally above the annual mean objective at one location. A Detailed Assessment concluded that it could not be stated with reasonable certainty that the air quality objective was not being achieved. Consequently it was considered that an AQMA should not be declared at this time.

3 New Local Developments

3.1 Road Traffic Sources

No new sources have been identified.

3.2 Other Transport Sources

No new sources have been identified.

3.3 Industrial Sources

No new sources have been identified.

3.4 Commercial and Domestic Sources

No new sources have been identified.

3.5 New Developments with Fugitive or Uncontrolled Sources

No new sources have been identified.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council confirms that there are no new or newly identified local developments which may have an impact on air quality within the Local Authority area.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council confirms that all the following have been considered:

- **Road traffic sources**
- **Other transport sources**
- **Industrial sources**
- **Commercial and domestic sources**
- **New developments with fugitive or uncontrolled sources.**

4 Local / Regional Air Quality Strategy

The Council's air quality strategy (AirWise) was first drawn up in 2000 and was subsequently revised in 2006 and 2013. The latest version of the document can be found here:

<http://www.npt.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=4055>

Progress being taken towards implementation of the strategy is contained within strategy document.

It is proposed to next review the strategy in 2019.

5 Planning Applications

35 planning applications were referred for comments on grounds of air quality. The majority were considered to have negligible impact. Details regarding other sites are shown below.

Application number P2015/0641 related to the demolition and redevelopment of Port Talbot Fire Station, which lies within the Taibach Margam AQMA for PM₁₀. It was recommended that the applicant follow the demolition guidance from the IAQM and produce a dust management plan. Permission had not been granted at the time of writing.

Application number P2015/1012 dealt with proposed works at Margam Opencast Coal site. It was recommended that a screening assessment be carried out in accordance with the IAQM guidance. Planning permission granted.

Application number P2015/0975 concerned an 8 MW biomass boiler at the Intertissue Plant at Briton Ferry. Dispersion modelling was carried out to assess the impact at residential receptors. The dispersion modelling showed that the impact upon air quality at receptors was not significant. Planning permission granted.

Application number P2015/0513 related to a short term operating reserve (STOR) power station at Afan Way. Dispersion modelling has been undertaken to predict the impacts associated with stack emissions from the gas engines at the Site. There was considered to be no realistic potential for a breach of the air quality objectives. Planning permission granted.

Application number P2015/0691 dealt with a 20 MW gas power station at Christchurch Road, Port Talbot. Dispersion modelling showed that no air quality objectives would be breached as a consequence of either of the two proposed options for generators. Planning permission granted.

Application number P2015/0349 concerned a small scale electricity generation plant at Edward Works, Llandarcy. Dispersion modelling was used to assess the operational air quality impact from two separate proposed plant scenarios. In both cases, no air quality objectives were breached and the impacts were considered to be negligible. Planning permission granted.

6 Air Quality Planning Policies

The Council adopted the LDP on 27th January 2016. The extract below captures all relevant policies in respect of air quality / pollution, namely:

- Strategic Policy SP16 – Environmental Protection;
- Policy EN8 – Pollution and Land Stability; and
- Policy EN9 – Developments in the Central Port Talbot Area.

The Council has now started the process of preparing a raft of Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG), setting out more detailed topic or site specific guidance on the way in which the policies of the LDP will be applied in particular circumstances or areas. The 'Pollution' SPG has been identified as one of 5 key SPG that is currently being prepared. The SPG seeks to give information about pollution issues in Neath Port Talbot and sets out the relevant matters that will need to be taken into consideration when developments are being planned. In due course the Council will conduct a public / stakeholder consultation on the emerging SPG.

LDP (2011-2026) Extract

Environmental Protection

5.3.38 Strategic Policy SP16 Environmental Protection

Policy SP16 Environmental Protection

Air, water and ground quality and the environment generally will be protected and where feasible improved through the following measures:

1. Ensuring that proposals have no significant adverse effects on water, ground or air quality and do not significantly increase pollution levels;
2. Giving preference to the development of brownfield sites over greenfield sites where appropriate and deliverable;
3. Ensuring that developments do not increase the number of people exposed to significant levels of pollution.

LDP Objectives: OB 2, OB 16 and OB 17

5.3.39 The quality of the environment and the basic natural needs that it provides for are of great importance for human health and well-being, with the potential to affect quality of life in fundamental ways. The legacy of past activities in the area, mainly relating to heavy industry, coupled with present day industry, transport and development pressures all have impacts on the environment which need to be taken into account and addressed where possible. Air quality, ground contamination and stability and the quality of water resources can all affect and be affected by development proposals in the Plan, together with levels of light pollution and noise levels. The Plan strategy is to protect and improve the environment as far as possible, and Policy SP16 sets out the approach that will be taken.

5.3.40 In relation to environmental pollution, there is a wide range of control and permitting systems and regimes which developments and operations have to comply with that are separate from the Town and Country Planning system. These requirements cannot be duplicated in the Plan or in planning control, but have been taken into account in the development of Plan proposals and policies and will need to be reflected in planning decisions.

5.3.41 Policy EN8 Pollution and Land Stability

Policy EN8 Pollution and Land Stability

Proposals which would be likely to have an unacceptable adverse effect on health, biodiversity and/or local amenity or would expose people to unacceptable risk due to the following will not be permitted:

- Air pollution;
- Noise pollution;
- Light pollution;
- Contamination;
- Land instability;
- Water (including groundwater) pollution.

Proposals which would create new problems or exacerbate existing problems detailed above will not be acceptable unless mitigation measures are included to reduce the risk of harm to public health, biodiversity and/or local amenity to an acceptable level.

5.3.42 Pollution of all types can cause significant damage to human health, biodiversity, quality of life and residential amenity and Policy EN8 is intended to ensure that developments will not exacerbate existing problems, cause new problems or result in more people being routinely exposed to unacceptable pollution levels of any type. The policy refers to unacceptable effects or risk, and the interpretation of this will depend on the type of pollution being considered and likely effects.

5.3.43 In relation to air quality, objectives are set for a range of pollutants⁽²³⁾ and Neath Port Talbot's air quality is measured against these objectives at a range of sites across the County Borough. This monitoring has identified areas of concern in some central urban areas, with exceedances in the Margam / Taibach area leading to the declaration of an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) in 2001.

5.3.44 Development proposals that could potentially result in or contribute to breaches of any air quality objective will be required to show (through modelling exercises or other appropriate technical information, including taking into account cumulative impacts) that this will not occur. While the provisions would apply throughout the County Borough, developments in the vicinity of the AQMA that would result in additional direct emissions to the atmosphere or could have indirect effects such as through generating significant additional traffic are an example of such a proposal. If this requirement cannot be met, either with or without mitigation measures, the proposal will not be acceptable under the terms of the policy.

5.3.45 In the central Port Talbot area in particular, operations during the construction phase of developments have the potential to result in exceedances of air quality objectives relating to particulates. This may depend on local weather or atmospheric conditions and the type of operations being undertaken. Policy EN9 sets out specific requirements for development in the central Port Talbot area and further information on this topic will be provided in Supplementary Planning Guidance.

5.3.46 In relation to noise, potentially noisy proposals should not be located close to sensitive uses (such as hospitals, schools and housing) and new noise-sensitive developments should not be located near to existing noisy uses (including industry and existing or proposed transport infrastructure) unless it can be shown that adverse effects can be dealt with through mitigation measures incorporated into the design. Where noise levels are likely to be a significant issue, developers may be required to provide information to show that no nuisance is likely to be caused through increased noise levels at sensitive locations if the development proceeds. Policy EN10 sets out policy relating to designated Quiet Areas.

5.3.47 Light pollution can be an issue where it has potential adverse effects on the natural or historic environment, on people's health and amenity or on wildlife and habitats. These concerns will need to be balanced against the need to enhance safety and security and to enable sport, recreation and other activities to take place. Where lighting proposals have the potential to cause adverse effects, mitigation measures will be required to ensure that their impact is minimised.

5.3.48 Some of the Plan's brownfield allocations and proposals incorporate land that is contaminated due to past industrial uses. In many cases remediation measures have been or are being undertaken as part of the development process. In other cases, where contamination is likely or is found to be present, information will be required to show the level and type of contamination present, and proposals for remediation and mitigation to show that no adverse effects will be caused at any stage of development within or outside the site. In addition, developments and operations involving scrub clearance and soil removal off-site can have implications for the spread of invasive species, some of which (such as Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam) are subject to the Natural Resources Wales' licence control measures as part of the Environmental Protection Act (1990).

5.3.49 In cases where there is evidence that a site may be unstable, or that development may cause stability issues, developers may be required to undertake specialist investigation or assessment to show that the development can proceed safely and without having adverse effects. However, in such cases the responsibility and subsequent liability for the safe development and secure occupancy of the site rests with the developer and/or landowner.

5.3.50 Developments will be expected to minimise any adverse effects on water quality, and additional information may be required in cases where there may be issues relating to existing poor water quality or a development has the potential to cause pollution. Developments will be required to ensure that no pollution is caused through drainage.

5.3.51 Policy EN9 Developments in the Central Port Talbot Area

Policy EN9 Developments in the Central Port Talbot Area

Developments in the central Port Talbot area that could result in breaches of air quality objectives during their construction phase, will be required to be undertaken in accordance with a Construction Management Plan submitted as part of the planning process and agreed by the Council.

5.3.52 The construction of major developments in the central Port Talbot Area, including (but not limited to) those within the Harbourside SRA, may potentially result in breaches of air quality objectives in the surrounding area (including within the Margam/Taibach AQMA). The main risk relates to an increase in atmospheric particulates resulting from construction activities. Any such developments will consequently be required to submit a Construction Management Plan detailing measures to be taken to avoid this possibility. The Construction Management Plan should identify the construction operations that could cause air quality impacts and measures to prevent such impacts arising. These may include measures to minimise as far as possible the generation of dust, the modification or phasing of the more polluting activities and the suspension of any polluting activities at times of particular air pollution risk. Further details concerning these requirements will be set out in Supplementary Planning Guidance.

7 Local Transport Plans and Strategies

The Regional Transport Plan is the result of joint working between the four local authorities (Carmarthenshire, Neath Port Talbot, Swansea and Pembrokeshire) in south west Wales. It replaces the individual local transport plans previously adopted by the 4 councils. As well as acting as a bidding document for major transport schemes it will shape transport policy in the region for the period 2015 -2020 and beyond. Details can be found on the following web page:

<http://www.npt.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=2808>

8 Implementation of Action Plans

The Air Quality Action Plan was reviewed and updated in 2012. The updated document can be found here <http://www.npt.gov.uk/pdf/aqap2012.pdf>.

Progress made with the action plan measures during 2015 is shown in the following table.

Table 9.1 - Action Plan Progress

No.	Measure	Progress in Last 12 Months
A1	Multi agency interaction	<p>7 X PM₁₀ Data team meetings during 2015. 1 X PM₁₀ Regulator's meeting. 1 X PM₁₀ Steering Group meeting. Monitoring results were discussed as were plans for further work including studies by King's College and Birmingham University.</p> <p>All pollution and weather measurements continue and information is shared with partners on request. Our industrial alerts system is used by operators on the steelworks site to try to prevent exceedance days from happening.</p> <p>The LSB air quality project is now complete.</p>
A2	Dust reduction programme at Tata site	<p>Permits for Tata Steel, Harco and Cambrian Stone reviewed to implement BATc requirements by mid-March and the requirements of IED. A number of limits have been tightened to reduce the releases from the site to meet BATc.</p> <p>Steel & Slab. Slop detection/Prediction camera. Increased slag pot fleet purchased. Improved operational slag pot tipping procedures. Improved slag pot design providing greater life span. Slag pit re-organisation reducing lift off. Mist cannons. Installation of high speed doors at hot metal bay. Optimisation of extraction hood use. Improvements to extraction fans and current hood design. Extended hard standing road surfacing. Installation of wheel wash unit. Traffic management scheme in place. BOS plant extraction improvements ongoing to meet the BATc requirements.</p> <p>Raw materials In haul road upgrade. Installation of two wheel wash units. Installation of automatic stockyard dust suppression system.</p>

No.	Measure	Progress in Last 12 Months
		<p>Stockyard surfacing continued during this year (2015/6) but postponed during the sale process.</p> <p>Blending plant 24hr monitoring booth in full operation – accessing on-site and off-site air monitors . Internal triggers placed on operational parameters. Operational blending procedures improved to reduce lift off. Up-skilling library created for PM10 events. Revert storage area upgraded. Water sprays installed in reverts area. Conveyors 814 and 824 upgraded, including new sheeting and bridge sections. 4 x wheel washes installed. New bunkers installed, with 100% water spray coverage. Remote boom height operation of stackers. Surfacing of the sinter and lump ore yards complete.</p> <p>Blast Furnace No 4 New downcomer, dirty gas system and dust catcher. New stoves & Blast system. New stockhouse with integrated dust filtration extraction plant. Improvements to ducts & hoods & closing of casthouse building openings to air. Improvements to clay guns, drills & main trough cover with manipulators.</p> <p>Sinter plant Main stack waste gas system improvements ongoing to meet the BATc requirements. Sinter cooler operation improved to ensure consistent sinter temperature and hence down steam dust control. Main stack limits reduced to implement BATc for the main stack.</p> <p>Coke ovens Fugitive release limits from the coke ovens reduced to implement BATc for door, oven and associated equipment leakage. Ongoing improvements to the connections between the coke ovens and the gas collection system to reduce visible leakage. New methods introduced for monitoring fugitive releases with more frequent monitoring and therefore performance data.</p>
A3	Planning Policies	LDP issued.

No.	Measure	Progress in Last 12 Months
A4	Tree Planting	Urban Trees Project is now complete.
A5	Transport infrastructure (PDR)	Project now complete.
A6	Train haulage emissions	There were no complaints about dusty trains in Port Talbot during 2015.
A7	NPT permitting in vicinity of steel works	NPT continues to regulate Civil & Marine Slag Cement in accordance with the permit and BAT.
A8	Travel Plans	NPT CBC are currently in the process of using data from their site audits and staff surveys to inform their annual Travel Plan review, reflecting progress made towards sustainable travel planning. NPT Homes are also reviewing their Travel Plan. With the considerable development in the Baglan Bay area, a Travel Forum group is in the process of being set up where representatives from businesses and organisations from the area can get together to share travel plans and good practice with a view to encouraging more sustainable and active travel in the area.
A9	School Travel Plans	A total of 55 schools in the County Borough have travel plans, although this figure did not increase in 2015.
A10	Domestic Bonfires	Engagement with the public on air quality issues continues.
A11	Industrial Fires	Natural Resources Wales keeps a list of permitted sites with combustible wastes, which are risk categorised. NRW also investigates illegal sites. NPTCBC has taken proactive measures together with other agencies to prevent tyre fires.
A12	Hill Fires	A leaflet on controlled burning has been developed for farmers. This has been reproduced in the NFU Wales October news magazine. The leaflet has also been sent to FUW members via a mailing list. A fire safety education program is in place with a named officer for the Neath Port Talbot area.
A13	Increased street sweeping	The service is still available, but there has been no cause to call upon it in 2015.
A14	Public and industrial air alerts	The industrial air alerts system is used by approximately 145 subscribers. The trial of the public system is complete and there are currently no plans to continue with the service.

9 Conclusions and Proposed Actions

9.1 Conclusions from New Monitoring Data

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council has measured concentrations of nitrogen dioxide marginally above the annual mean objective at one location. A Detailed Assessment concluded that it could not be stated with reasonable certainty that the air quality objective was not being achieved. Consequently it was considered that an AQMA should not be declared at this time. A Detailed Assessment shall be required in respect of nitrogen dioxide for the calendar year of 2016.

The long-term Air Quality Objective for PM₁₀ was not breached in Port Talbot. However, the short-term average was breached at Port Talbot Fire Station, for the first time since 2007. The Taibach/Margam AQMA will continue to remain in force.

There were no exceedances of Air Quality Objectives for sulphur dioxide (SO₂), lead (Pb) or carbon monoxide (CO).

9.2 Conclusions relating to New Local Developments

No new local developments have been identified that require more detailed consideration in the next Updating and Screening Assessment.

9.3 Other Conclusions

Fine particulates of less than 2.5 microns in size (PM_{2.5}) easily complied with the EU Target which is to be complied with by 2015.

Ozone is not covered by Local Air Quality Management because trans-boundary pollution can have a significant effect upon local results. Neath Port Talbot, like other parts of the country, experiences significant numbers of exceedances of the UK air quality standard. The trend is one of gradual improvement over time.

Concentrations of polyaromatic hydrocarbons exceed the UK Air Quality Objective of 0.25 ng/m³, but are less than the EU Target value of 1 ng/m³. The trend line shows that concentrations are increasing over time.

Arsenic and cadmium easily comply with the EU Target, both in Port Talbot and Pontardawe.

Nickel concentrations comply with the EU Target at all locations in Neath, Port Talbot and Pontardawe, except Tawe Terrace. Nickel levels decreased substantially at Tawe Terrace during 2015.

The highest rates of fallout of large particles (nuisance dust) were measured in Port Talbot at Port Talbot Fire Station and Prince Street. The highest ever fallout rates were recorded at Prince Street.

None of the 35 planning applications considered on grounds of air quality were considered to pose a risk to compliance with air quality objectives.

9.4 Proposed Actions

There are no plans to revoke or modify the Taibach/Margam AQMA, given the breach of the short-term objective for PM₁₀.

The next actions to be taken will be to:

- Submit a LAQM Progress report for the calendar year of 2016.
- Submit a LAQM Detailed Assessment of NO₂ at the junction of Victoria Gardens and Cimla Road in Neath. This shall be carried out in respect of the long-term Air Quality Objective.

Appendices

Appendix A: QA/QC Data

Diffusion Tube Bias Adjustment Factors

NO₂ diffusion tubes are sourced from the Environmental Scientifics Group and are prepared using 50% TEA in acetone. The bias adjustment factor of 0.78 was used for 2014, as derived from a co-location study at three locations.

Factor from Local Co-location Studies (if available)

Continuous analysers were co-located with triplicate diffusion tubes at Port Talbot Fire Station, Pontardawe Swansea Road and Victoria Gardens.

Defra has provided a spreadsheet to facilitate the calculation of local bias adjustment factors. The spreadsheet used can be found at this location:

<http://laqm.defra.gov.uk/bias-adjustment-factors/local-bias.html>

Figure A1 – Pontardawe Post Office - Bias adjustment spreadsheet -

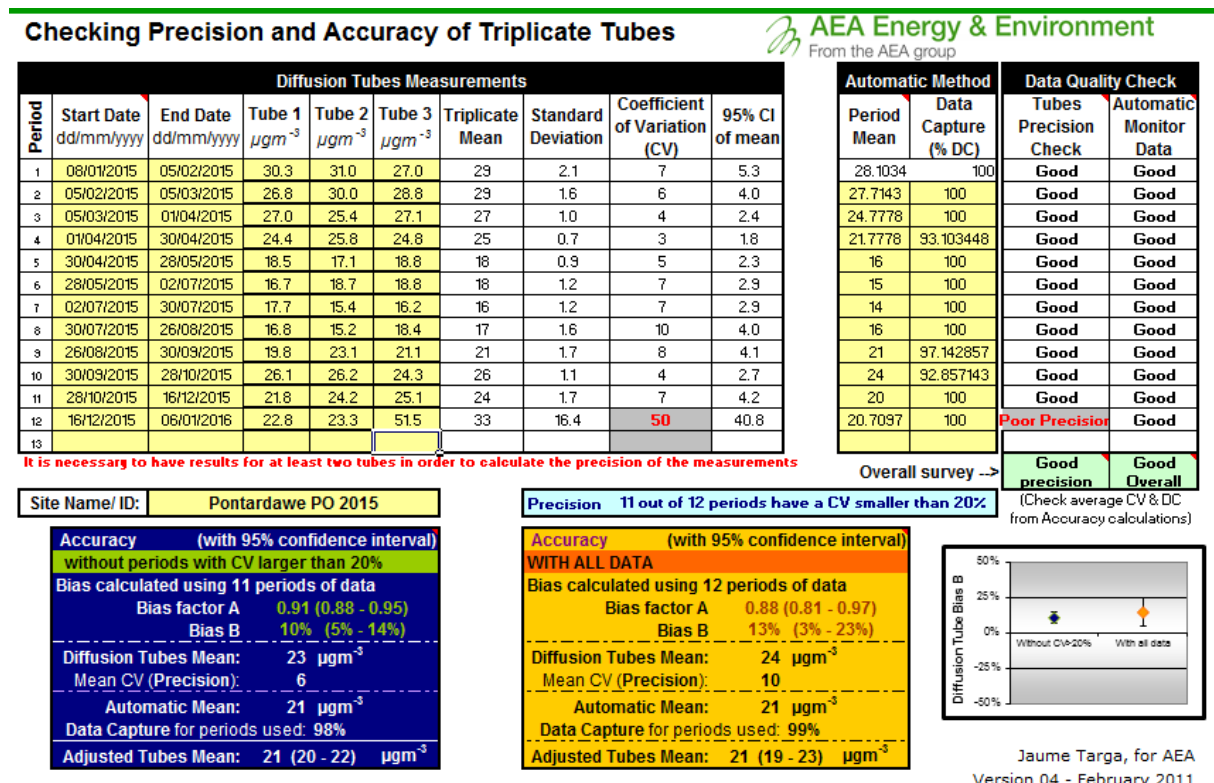


Figure A2 – Port Talbot Fire Station - Bias adjustment spreadsheet -

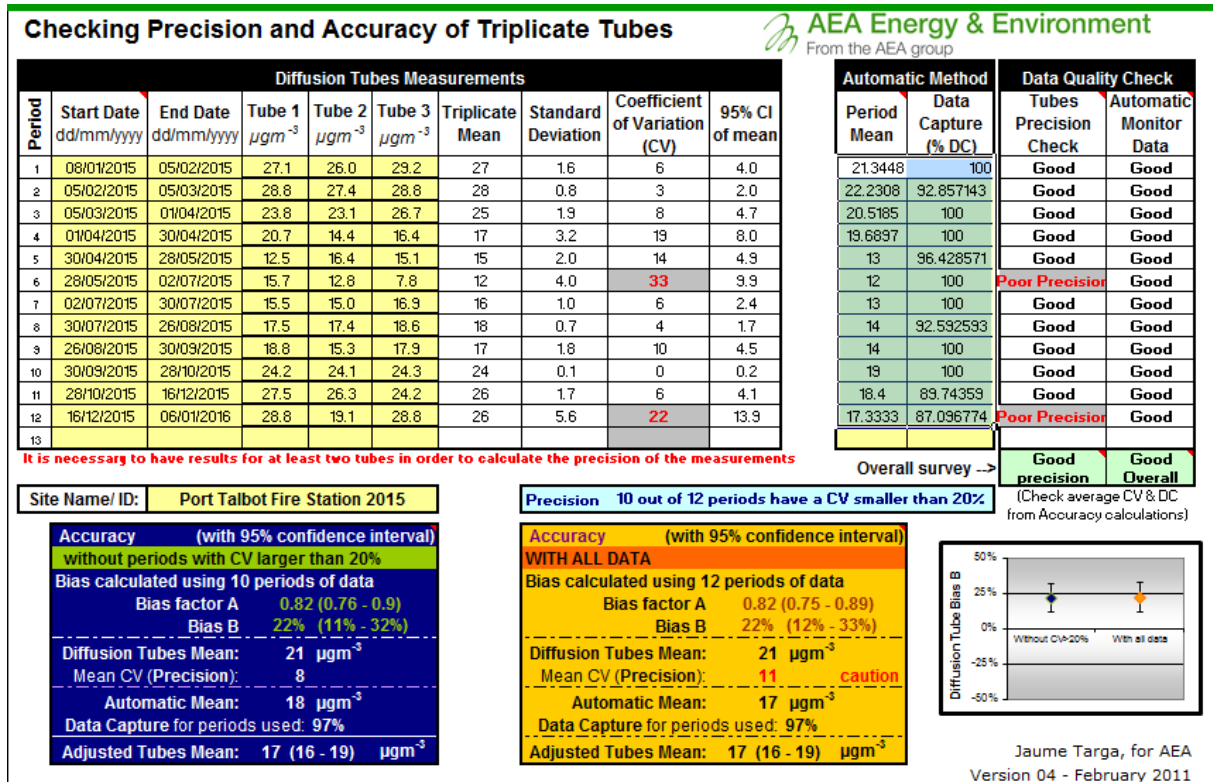
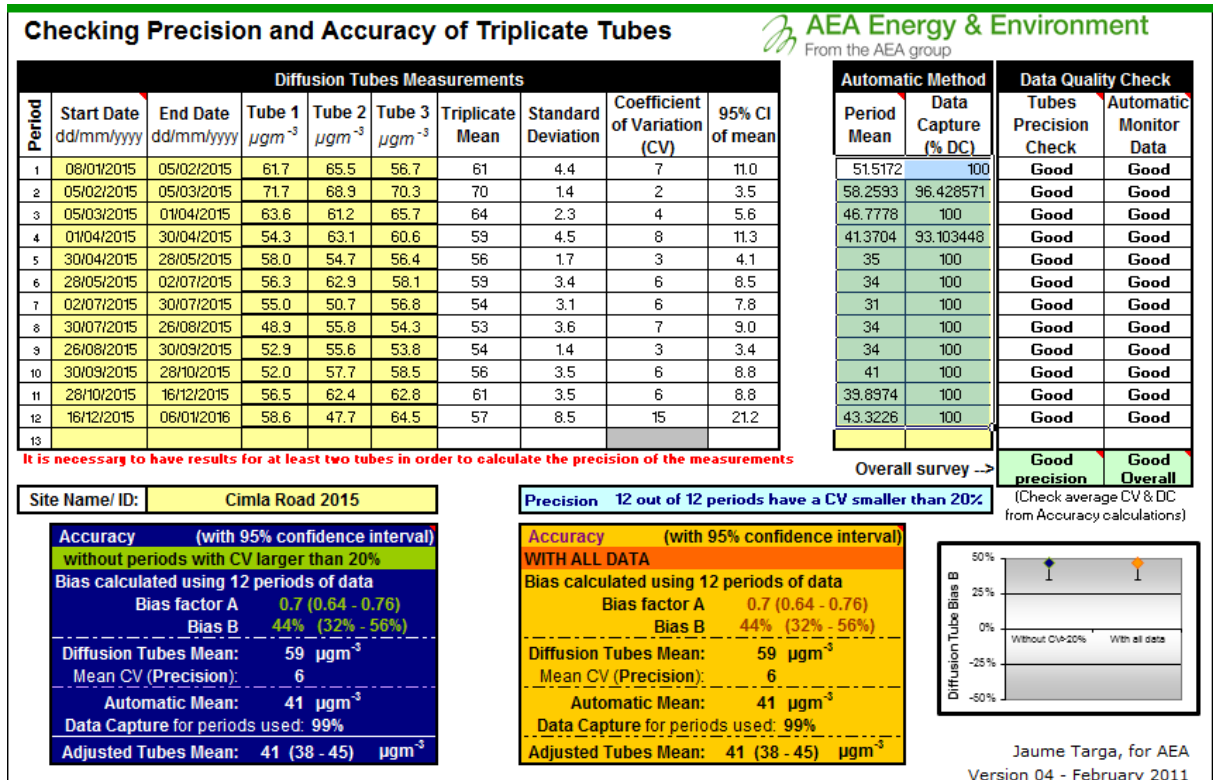


Figure A3 – Cimla Road - Bias adjustment spreadsheet -



Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

The locally derived bias adjustment factor of 0.80 is derived from the average of the three sites e.g. $(0.88 + 0.82 + 0.7) / 3$.

PM Monitoring Adjustment

No PM adjustment was required for PM₁₀ analysers operated by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council as FDMS TEOMs were used in all cases.

Short-term to Long-term Data adjustment

No data was lost in monitoring diffusion tube sites during 2015. Consequently, no long-term data adjustment was necessary.

QA/QC of automatic monitoring

The AURN site is subject to the quality control procedures of the network. Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council staff act as Local Site Operator, carrying out calibrations on an approximately fortnightly basis. There are regular site audits and validation and ratification are carried out by AURN staff prior to dissemination of the data via <http://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/>.

All PM₁₀ analysers are FDMS/TEOMs with C/B driers. No factors are applied to this data during the collection process. All equipment is covered by service and maintenance contracts with suppliers. These contracts provide for 6 monthly servicing and emergency callouts.

Monitoring stations are covered by a QA/QC contract with Ricardo-AEA which provides for two site audits per year and QA/QC of the data which is polled by AEAT and disseminated on the Welsh Air Quality Forum website. Data is subject to a similar QA/QC standard as the AURN.

QA/QC of diffusion tube monitoring

Harwell Scientifics have been shown to have good performance in respect of recent Wasp scheme analyses. Details of the most recent Wasp results can be viewed at the following Internet location:

[http://laqm.defra.gov.uk/documents/LAQM-WASP-Rounds-121--124-and-AIR-PT-Rounds-1-3-4-6-\(April-2013--February-2015\)-NO2-report.pdf](http://laqm.defra.gov.uk/documents/LAQM-WASP-Rounds-121--124-and-AIR-PT-Rounds-1-3-4-6-(April-2013--February-2015)-NO2-report.pdf)

Appendix B: Raw NO2 Data

Site Id	MonthYear	NO2 Conc ug
3	1/2015	26.9
3	2/2015	24.2
3	3/2015	24.6
3	4/2015	18.4
3	5/2015	12.5
3	6/2015	12.3
3	7/2015	13.8
3	8/2015	15.6
3	9/2015	17.1
3	10/2015	21.3
3	11/2015	19.4
3	12/2015	12.7
4	1/2015	34.9
4	2/2015	41.9
4	3/2015	38.0
4	4/2015	34.0
4	5/2015	19.8
4	6/2015	26.7
4	7/2015	25.7
4	8/2015	28.0
4	9/2015	30.5
4	10/2015	41.7
4	11/2015	34.4
4	12/2015	32.4
5	1/2015	50.5
5	2/2015	51.3
5	3/2015	42.6
5	4/2015	32.3
5	5/2015	31.9
5	6/2015	30.1
5	7/2015	31.3
5	8/2015	27.5
5	9/2015	37.4
5	10/2015	41.5
5	11/2015	41.7
5	12/2015	28.4
7	1/2015	40.5
7	2/2015	40.1
7	3/2015	39.2
7	4/2015	34.8
7	5/2015	33.0
7	6/2015	30.1

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Site Id	MonthYear	NO2 Conc ug
7	7/2015	31.1
7	8/2015	31.7
7	9/2015	33.4
7	10/2015	37.6
7	11/2015	38.0
7	12/2015	31.1
8	1/2015	46.8
8	2/2015	35.3
8	3/2015	40.3
8	4/2015	30.9
8	5/2015	32.1
8	6/2015	28.2
8	7/2015	32.6
8	8/2015	32.1
8	9/2015	31.5
8	10/2015	36.9
8	11/2015	42.0
8	12/2015	34.4
9	1/2015	49.0
9	2/2015	36.1
9	3/2015	39.7
9	4/2015	32.8
9	5/2015	30.7
9	6/2015	29.4
9	7/2015	31.9
9	8/2015	28.0
9	9/2015	35.5
9	10/2015	40.7
9	11/2015	42.6
9	12/2015	35.3
10	1/2015	45.9
10	2/2015	45.1
10	3/2015	38.8
10	4/2015	34.6
10	5/2015	27.6
10	6/2015	30.0
10	7/2015	29.8
10	8/2015	29.6
10	9/2015	33.6
10	10/2015	35.5
10	11/2015	39.9
10	12/2015	32.4
11	1/2015	47.0
11	2/2015	43.6

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Site Id	MonthYear	NO2 Conc ug
11	3/2015	43.6
11	4/2015	38.8
11	5/2015	24.6
11	6/2015	31.9
11	7/2015	30.5
11	8/2015	28.6
11	9/2015	31.5
11	10/2015	38.0
11	11/2015	36.5
11	12/2015	28.4
12	1/2015	50.3
12	2/2015	48.6
12	3/2015	42.2
12	4/2015	34.6
12	5/2015	29.8
12	6/2015	29.6
12	7/2015	27.8
12	8/2015	29.4
12	9/2015	35.7
12	10/2015	39.9
12	11/2015	37.1
12	12/2015	31.5
13	1/2015	50.9
13	2/2015	44.5
13	3/2015	37.4
13	4/2015	29.2
13	5/2015	28.0
13	6/2015	27.3
13	7/2015	25.9
13	8/2015	25.2
13	9/2015	30.9
13	10/2015	35.1
13	11/2015	31.3
13	12/2015	28.6
14	1/2015	55.7
14	2/2015	48.0
14	3/2015	45.9
14	4/2015	31.7
14	5/2015	30.9
14	6/2015	30.1
14	7/2015	30.5
14	8/2015	32.4
14	9/2015	36.1
14	10/2015	41.7

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Site Id	MonthYear	NO2 Conc ug
14	11/2015	39.9
14	12/2015	30.1
15	1/2015	49.5
15	2/2015	56.8
15	3/2015	45.1
15	4/2015	34.9
15	5/2015	31.3
15	6/2015	28.6
15	7/2015	31.5
15	8/2015	28.6
15	9/2015	34.9
15	10/2015	36.5
15	11/2015	40.3
15	12/2015	30.7
16	1/2015	54.0
16	2/2015	54.7
16	3/2015	45.5
16	4/2015	36.5
16	5/2015	35.5
16	6/2015	35.9
16	7/2015	31.1
16	8/2015	35.3
16	9/2015	40.1
16	10/2015	36.9
16	11/2015	47.4
16	12/2015	41.5
17	1/2015	43.8
17	2/2015	53.2
17	3/2015	46.7
17	4/2015	43.0
17	5/2015	31.5
17	6/2015	34.9
17	7/2015	35.1
17	8/2015	34.6
17	9/2015	42.4
17	10/2015	47.6
17	11/2015	48.2
17	12/2015	49.9
18	1/2015	48.8
18	2/2015	55.1
18	3/2015	52.0
18	4/2015	42.0
18	5/2015	47.0
18	6/2015	40.9

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Site Id	MonthYear	NO2 Conc ug
18	7/2015	45.1
18	8/2015	42.8
18	9/2015	44.0
18	10/2015	45.7
18	11/2015	52.4
18	12/2015	39.6
19	1/2015	27.5
19	2/2015	28.4
19	3/2015	24.6
19	4/2015	17.1
19	5/2015	14.6
19	6/2015	12.1
19	7/2015	15.7
19	8/2015	17.9
19	9/2015	17.3
19	10/2015	24.2
19	11/2015	25.9
19	12/2015	25.5
20	1/2015	56.1
20	2/2015	50.1
20	3/2015	47.0
20	4/2015	40.3
20	5/2015	38.8
20	6/2015	37.6
20	7/2015	38.6
20	8/2015	35.7
20	9/2015	39.0
20	10/2015	40.1
20	11/2015	46.8
20	12/2015	44.9
21	1/2015	64.5
21	2/2015	64.1
21	3/2015	47.8
21	4/2015	46.3
21	5/2015	33.0
21	6/2015	38.6
21	7/2015	43.2
21	8/2015	45.5
21	9/2015	49.2
21	10/2015	55.3
21	11/2015	55.3
21	12/2015	53.4
22	1/2015	44.0
22	2/2015	39.0

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Site Id	MonthYear	NO2 Conc ug
22	3/2015	35.7
22	4/2015	28.0
22	5/2015	25.7
22	6/2015	25.7
22	7/2015	23.8
22	8/2015	23.2
22	9/2015	29.8
22	10/2015	30.3
22	11/2015	36.1
22	12/2015	37.4
23	1/2015	37.8
23	2/2015	39.9
23	3/2015	41.3
23	4/2015	33.2
23	5/2015	27.6
23	6/2015	28.6
23	7/2015	25.3
23	8/2015	29.4
23	9/2015	32.3
23	10/2015	44.2
23	11/2015	38.8
23	12/2015	34.8
24	1/2015	46.1
24	2/2015	47.8
24	3/2015	42.0
24	4/2015	34.9
24	5/2015	33.6
24	6/2015	27.8
24	7/2015	32.6
24	8/2015	30.5
24	9/2015	34.9
24	10/2015	35.9
24	11/2015	40.3
24	12/2015	33.2
25	1/2015	36.3
25	2/2015	34.9
25	3/2015	35.3
25	4/2015	34.9
25	5/2015	24.2
25	6/2015	23.4
25	7/2015	23.0
25	8/2015	26.5
25	9/2015	27.6
25	10/2015	35.1

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Site Id	MonthYear	NO2 Conc ug
25	11/2015	30.9
25	12/2015	32.6
26	1/2015	39.4
26	2/2015	43.0
26	3/2015	44.2
26	4/2015	42.8
26	5/2015	38.4
26	6/2015	38.8
26	7/2015	39.0
26	8/2015	32.8
26	9/2015	38.0
26	10/2015	43.8
26	11/2015	48.6
26	12/2015	44.9
27	1/2015	64.3
27	2/2015	62.8
27	3/2015	55.1
27	4/2015	45.7
27	5/2015	40.9
27	6/2015	42.6
27	7/2015	44.7
27	8/2015	45.1
27	9/2015	42.6
27	10/2015	54.5
27	11/2015	50.9
27	12/2015	39.6
28	1/2015	41.7
28	2/2015	45.9
28	3/2015	38.6
28	4/2015	36.1
28	5/2015	27.3
28	6/2015	26.9
28	7/2015	28.6
28	8/2015	30.0
28	9/2015	30.7
28	10/2015	31.5
28	11/2015	38.0
28	12/2015	40.3
33	1/2015	29.4
33	2/2015	28.6
33	3/2015	26.5
33	4/2015	25.0
33	5/2015	18.0
33	6/2015	18.0

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Site Id	MonthYear	NO2 Conc ug
33	7/2015	16.3
33	8/2015	16.9
33	9/2015	21.3
33	10/2015	25.5
33	11/2015	23.8
33	12/2015	23.4
34	1/2015	61.2
34	2/2015	70.3
34	3/2015	63.4
34	4/2015	59.1
34	5/2015	56.3
34	6/2015	58.9
34	7/2015	54.1
34	8/2015	52.8
34	9/2015	54.0
34	10/2015	55.9
34	11/2015	60.5
34	12/2015	56.8

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APPENDIX 2

Part IV Environment Act 1995

Detailed Assessment of nitrogen dioxide – (July 2016)

In fulfillment of Part IV of the
Environment Act 1995
Local Air Quality Management

Date (July 2016)

Local Authority Officer	Martin Hooper
Department	Environment
Address	Quays Brunel Way Baglan Energy Park Neath SA11 2GG
Telephone	01639 686517
e-mail	m.hooper@npt.gov.uk
Report Reference number	E2/16/9/2016 DA
Date	July 2016

Air Quality

DETAILED ASSESSMENT OF NITROGEN DIOXIDE – (xx 2016)

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SUMMARY

This document has been produced in response to the requirements of the Welsh Government for review and assessment of air quality. The 2014 Detailed Assessment of air quality concluded that a Detailed Assessment was necessary at Victoria Gardens, Neath.

Measurements have shown that the only location having relevant exposure where the annual averaged AQO was breached was No. 1 Victoria Gardens (40.7 ug/m³). However, this exceedance is marginal and is based upon the use of the NO₂ with distance calculator spreadsheet. This will have introduced an additional degree of uncertainty over and above that introduced by the use of diffusion tubes (albeit in triplicate) at No. 3 Victoria Gardens.

The aim of the Detailed Assessment is to establish with reasonable certainty whether there is a likelihood that AQOs are not being achieved. It is considered that this result is not sufficient in this regard and that an AQMA will not be declared at this time.

The Council therefore intends to deploy diffusion tubes in triplicate at No. 1 Victoria Gardens using circular clips which will allow deployment without the need for ladders. This will overcome the previous health and safety limitation on monitoring at this location and will eliminate the additional uncertainty introduced by the NO₂ with distance calculator spreadsheet. A further Detailed Assessment of NO₂ shall then be carried out on 2016 data.

Introduction

The Government and Devolved Administrations have adopted two Air Quality Objectives for nitrogen dioxide. An annual mean concentration of $40 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and a 1-hour mean concentration of $200 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ not to be exceeded more than 18 times per year. Both objectives are to be achieved by the end of 2005.

In addition, the first Air Quality Daughter Directive also sets limit values for nitrogen dioxide, which have been translated into UK legislation. A 1-hour limit of $200 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ applies, not to be exceeded by more than 18 times per year. An annual mean limit value of $40 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ also applies, both to be achieved by the 1st January 2010.

Summary of recent investigations and developments

The 2010 Air Quality Progress Report identified that a detailed assessment was required for nitrogen dioxide (NO_2) at Pontardawe Post Office and at Victoria Gardens, Neath.

The 2011 detailed assessment was carried out using more diffusion tubes and this confirmed a potential problem at both locations. As a consequence of these findings it was decided that continuous analysers would be deployed to provide more reliable data for a decision on whether a declaration of AQMAs needed to be made. Both analysers were deployed in July 2012.

It was not possible to site the continuous analyser at the frontage of the Post Office due to a lack of space and health & safety considerations. The nearest location where this could be located was the nearby old bus stop, which is less than 5 metres from the diffusion tube on the frontage of the Post Office. It became clear that results at the continuous monitor were significantly lower than those at the frontage of the Post Office. Consequently, diffusion tubes were deployed in triplicate on the monitor.

It was impossible to locate the analyser at the frontage of 1, Victoria Gardens, given the very narrow pavement. An attempt was therefore made to set up the instrument in the front garden of No. 3 next door. However the owner of the property withdrew permission for use of the garden shortly after the equipment was deployed, so another site had to be found. The location on the pavement near the lights had sufficient room and had no safety issues.

In order to try to avoid the need for declaration of an AQMA at Pontardawe, steps were taken to try to reduce pollution levels at the Post Office. The bus stop was relocated approximately 55 metres further up the hill beyond the houses at 10 & 12 Swansea Road. Pollution from buses can be considerable and there were also reports of buses idling so relocation of the bus stop was aimed at reducing pollution levels at the Post Office.

At the same time, double yellow lines were extended outside the Post Office. The aim was to discourage parking outside, which tends to cause tailbacks and congestion as the road is not wide enough for vehicles to pass parked cars if there is queuing at the lights.

Detailed assessment of nitrogen dioxide

An extra two parking spaces were provided off road at the new bus stop with the further goal of reducing congestion. All of these works were completed in March 2013.

In addition, the sequencing of the traffic lights was reviewed in October 2011 in order to try to reduce queuing up Swansea Road past the Post Office.

The Council has not used modelling to determine pollution levels as it is less accurate than monitoring. Instead diffusion tubes have been deployed at relevant locations and a local bias adjustment factor has been employed based upon three continuous analysers co-located with diffusion tubes.

The interim 2012 detailed assessment showed that neither the annual averaged Air Quality Objective ($40 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) nor the hourly averaged AQO ($200\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) for nitrogen dioxide were exceeded at sites near Pontardawe Post Office.

Continuous measurements of NO_2 at Victoria Gardens, Neath showed that the hourly averaged AQO was complied with. The annual averaged AQO was also complied with at all sites where diffusion tubes were deployed. However, a single property at 1 Victoria Gardens ($41.7 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) was predicted to exceed the annual averaged AQO when NO_2 levels were calculated with the "distance from roads spreadsheet". This exceedance was considered to be quite marginal and was based upon less than a year's worth of data. It was therefore considered that bias adjustment factors would have been less reliable than would have been the case for a full year of data. Consequently an AQMA was not declared at that stage. Rather, a detailed assessment would be repeated with a full year's worth of data.

A detailed assessment for the calendar year of 2014 showed that neither the annual averaged Air Quality Objective ($40 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) nor the hourly averaged AQO ($200\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) for nitrogen dioxide were exceeded at sites near Victoria Gardens, Neath. Although, a single property at 1 Victoria Gardens ($39.8 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) was close to, but did not exceed the annual averaged AQO when NO_2 levels when calculated with the "distance from roads spreadsheet".

Monitoring sites

Automatic monitoring sites

Nitrogen dioxide is continuously measured at Pontardawe Post Office, at Victoria Gardens in Neath and at Margam Fire Station (AURN).

Figure 1. Nitrogen dioxide monitoring locations



However, this detailed assessment deals only with data from Neath as NO₂ levels at the other locations have not necessitated a detailed assessment.

Detailed assessment of nitrogen dioxide

Table 1. NO₂ monitoring station details

Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Reference	Y OS Grid Reference	Inlet Height (m)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Monitoring Technique	Relevant Exposure? (Y/N with distance (m) from monitoring site to relevant exposure)	Distance to Kerb of Nearest Road (m) (N/A if not applicable)	Does this Location Represent Worst-Case Exposure?
VG2	Victoria Gardens	Roadside	275471	197183	1.4	NO ₂	N	Chemiluminescence	Y (21)	1	N

Detailed assessment of nitrogen dioxide

Figure 2 - NOx analyser on Cimla Road



NOx
analyser

Figure 3 – View across junction to Victoria Gardens



3 Victoria
Gardens

1 Victoria
Gardens

Detailed assessment of nitrogen dioxide

Diffusion tube monitoring sites

Nitrogen dioxide is measured at a variety of locations using passive diffusion tubes. The tubes are exposed for one month and are provided and analysed by ESG at Didcot. The tubes are prepared using acetone:triethanolamine (50:50) and are subject to intercomparison quality assurance tests as part of the Workplace Analysis Scheme for Proficiency (WASP).

This report deals only the sites in the vicinity of Victoria Gardens, Neath.

Figure 4 Location of NO₂ diffusion tubes in Neath



Table 2. Details of Non- Automatic Monitoring Sites

Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Reference	Y OS Grid Reference	Site Height (m)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Is Monitoring Co-located with a Continuous Analyser (Y/N)	Relevant Exposure? (Y/N with distance (m) from monitoring site to relevant exposure)	Distance to Kerb of Nearest Road (m) (N/A if not applicable)	Does this Location Represent Worst-Case Exposure?
Page 269	8 Victoria Gardens, Neath	Roadside	275494	197272	1.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y (2m)	4.5 m	N
269	28 Eastland Road, Neath	Roadside	275420	197161	1.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	4 m	N
12	34 Eastland Road, Neath	Roadside	275427	197139	1.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	4 m	N
13	40 Eastland Road, Neath	Roadside	275415	197110	1.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	4 m	N

Detailed assessment of nitrogen dioxide

Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Reference	Y OS Grid Reference	Site Height (m)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Is Monitoring Co-located with a Continuous Analyser (Y/N)	Relevant Exposure? (Y/N with distance (m) from monitoring site to relevant exposure)	Distance to Kerb of Nearest Road (m) (N/A if not applicable)	Does this Location Represent Worst-Case Exposure?
14	32 Eastland Road, Neath	Roadside	275431	197149	1.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	4 m	N
15	30 Eastland Road, Neath	Roadside	275434	197157	1.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	4 m	N
16	5 Victoria Gardens, Neath	Roadside	275464	197230	1.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	3.5 m	Y
17	1 Greenway Road, Neath	Roadside	275455	197211	2.0	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	1 m	Y

Detailed assessment of nitrogen dioxide

Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Reference	Y OS Grid Reference	Site Height (m)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Is Monitoring Co-located with a Continuous Analyser (Y/N)	Relevant Exposure? (Y/N with distance (m) from monitoring site to relevant exposure)	Distance to Kerb of Nearest Road (m) (N/A if not applicable)	Does this Location Represent Worst-Case Exposure?
20	3 Victoria Gardens, Neath	Roadside	275463	197223	1.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	3.5 m	Y
Page 271	50 Greenway Road, Neath	Roadside	275452	197195	2.0	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	1 m	Y
23	4 Victoria Gardens, Neath	Roadside	275482	197227	1.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y (0m)	3.5 m	Y
34	Lights at Cimla Junction	Roadside	275472	197185	1.4	NO ₂	N	Y	Y (20m)	1.5 m	N

Comparison of Monitoring Results with Air Quality Objectives

Table 3 Results of Automatic Monitoring for NO₂: Comparison with Annual Mean Objective

Site ID	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period % ^a	Valid Data Capture 2015 % ^b	Annual Mean Concentration (µg/m ³)				
					2011* ^c	2012* ^c	2013* ^c	2014* ^c	2015 ^c
VG2	Roadside	N	99	99	-	51	42	42	40

In bold, exceedence of the NO₂ annual mean AQS objective of 40µg/m³

^a i.e. data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year

^b 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%)

^c Means should be “annualised” as in Boxes 7.9 and 7.10 of LAQM.TG16, if valid data capture is less than 75%

* Annual mean concentrations for previous years are optional

Figure 5 – Trends in Annual Mean NO₂ Concentrations Measured at Victoria Gardens Monitoring Site

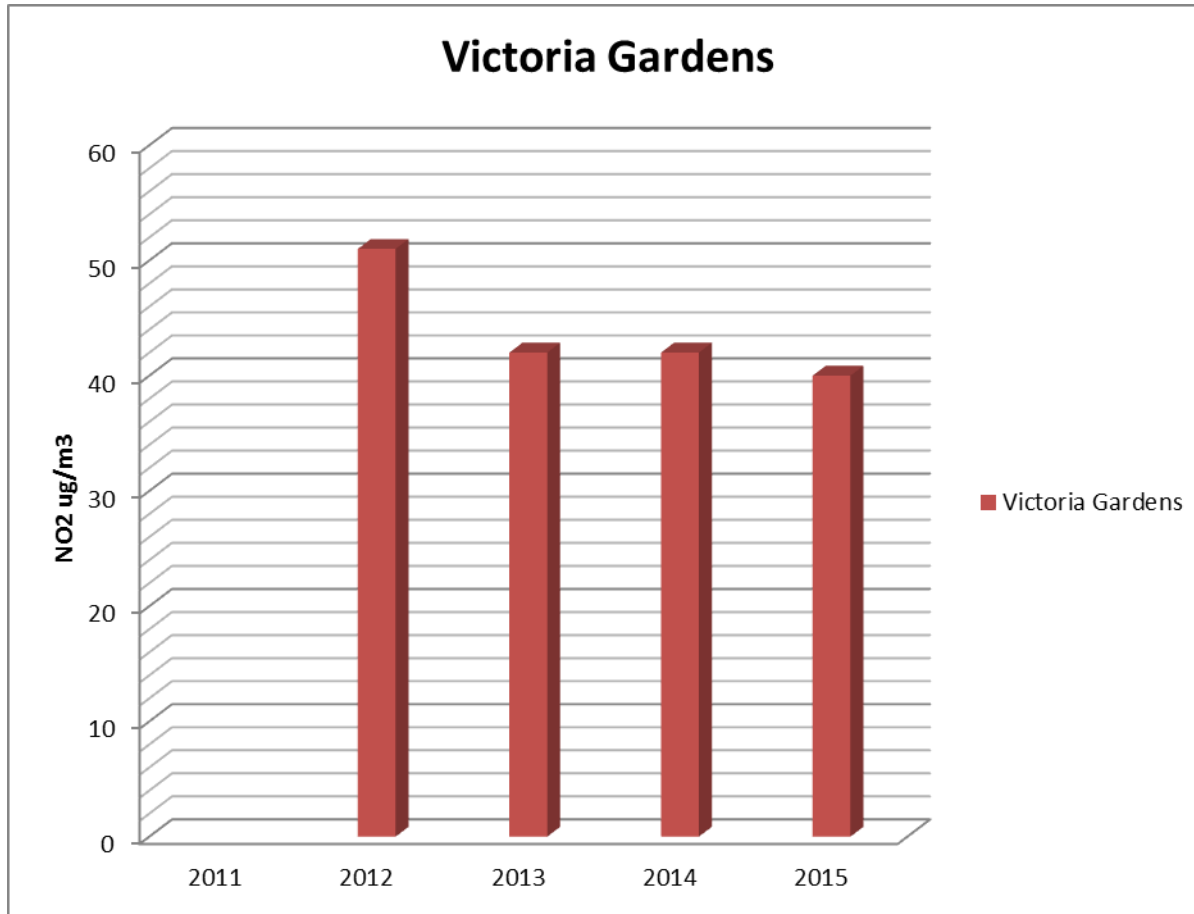


Table 4 Results of Automatic Monitoring for NO₂: Comparison with 1-hour Mean Objective

Site ID	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period % ^a	Valid Data Capture 2015 % ^b	Number of Hourly Means > 200µg/m ³				
					2011* ^c	2012* ^c	2013* ^c	2014* ^c	2015 ^c
VG2	Roadside	N	99	99	-	0 (142)	0	0	0

In bold, exceedence of the NO₂ hourly mean AQS objective (200µg/m³ – not to be exceeded more than 18 times per year)

^a i.e. data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year

^b 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%)

^c If the data capture for full calendar year is less than 90%, include the 99.8th percentile of hourly means in brackets

* Number of exceedences for previous years is optional

Table 5 Results of NO₂ Diffusion Tubes 2013

Site ID	Location	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Triplicate or Co-located Tube	Full Calendar Year Data Capture 2015 (Number of Months or %) ^a	2015 Annual Mean Concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) - Bias Adjustment factor = 0.80 ^b
4	8 Victoria Gardens, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	25.7
5	28 Eastland Road, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	29.6
12	34 Eastland Road, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	28.9
13	40 Eastland Road, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	26.2
14	32 Eastland Road, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	30.1

Detailed assessment of nitrogen dioxide

Site ID	Location	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Triplicate or Co-located Tube	Full Calendar Year Data Capture 2015 (Number of Months or %) ^a	2015 Annual Mean Concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) - Bias Adjustment factor = 0.80 ^b
15	30 Eastland Road, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	29.8
16	5 Victoria Gardens, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	32.8
17	1 Greenway Road, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	33.9
20	3 Victoria Gardens, Neath	Roadside	N	Triplicate	12	34.1
21	50 Greenway Road, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	39.5

Site ID	Location	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Triplicate or Co-located Tube	Full Calendar Year Data Capture 2015 (Number of Months or %) ^a	2015 Annual Mean Concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) - Bias Adjustment factor = 0.80 ^b
23	4 Victoria Gardens, Neath	Roadside	N	N	12	27.4
34	Lights at Cimla Junction	Roadside	N	Triplicate and Co-located	12	46.6

In bold, exceedence of the NO₂ annual mean AQS objective of 40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

Underlined, annual mean > 60 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, indicating a potential exceedence of the NO₂ hourly mean AQS objective

^a Means should be “annualised” as in Boxes 7.9 and 7.10 of LAQM.TG16, if full calendar year data capture is less than 75%

^b If an exceedence is measured at a monitoring site not representative of public exposure, NO₂ concentration at the nearest relevant exposure should be estimated based on the “[NO₂ fall-off with distance](http://laqm.defra.gov.uk/tools-monitoring-data/no2-falloff.html)” calculator (<http://laqm.defra.gov.uk/tools-monitoring-data/no2-falloff.html>), and results should be discussed in a specific section. The procedure is also explained in paragraphs 7.77 to 7.79 of LAQM.TG16.

Table 6 Results of NO₂ Diffusion Tubes (2008 to 2012)

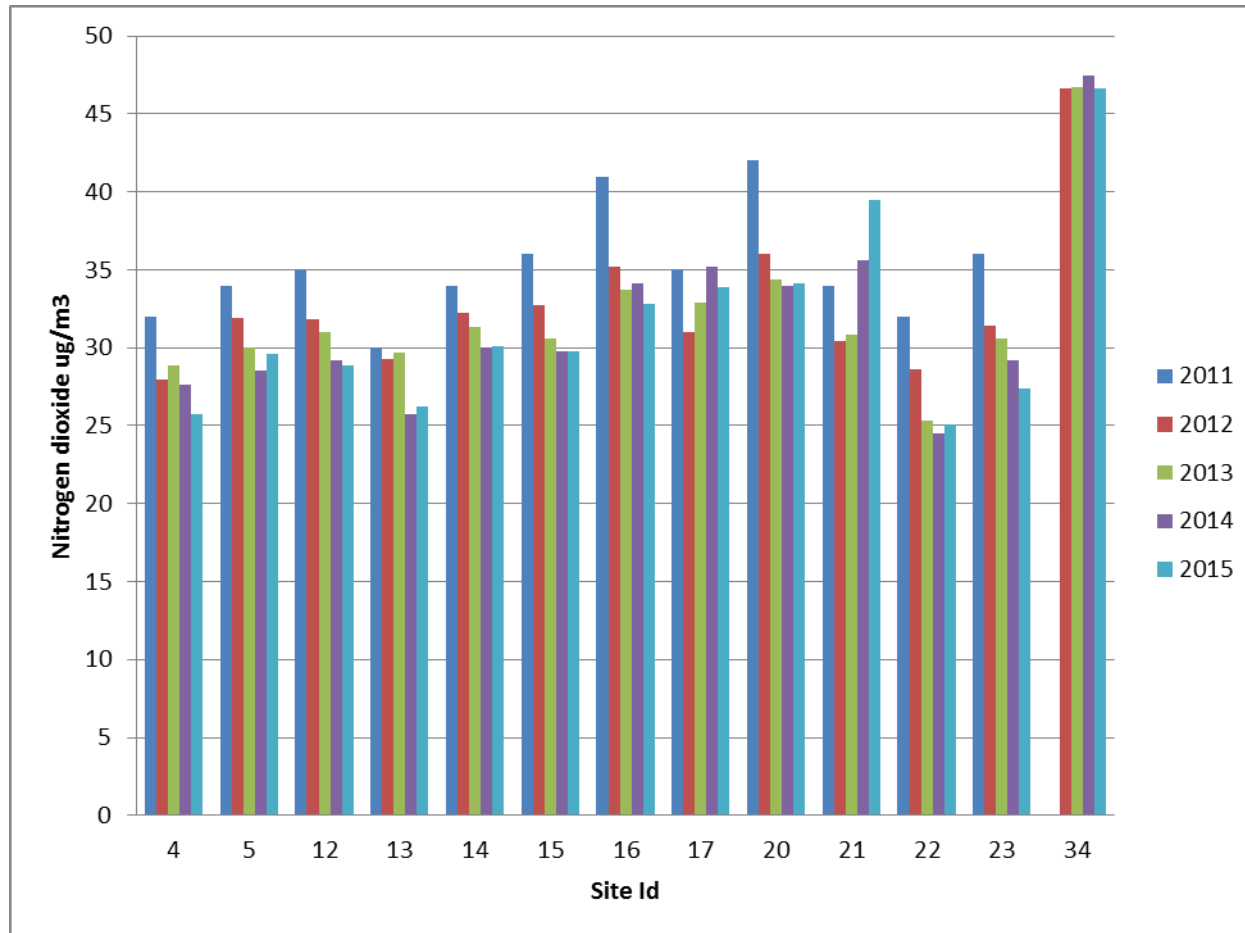
Site ID	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Annual Mean Concentration (µg/m ³) - Adjusted for Bias ^a				
			2011 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.83)	2012 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.79)	2013 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.75)	2014 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.78)	2015 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.80)
4	Roadside	N	32	28.0	28.9	27.6	25.7
5	Roadside	N	34	31.9	30.0	28.5	29.6
12	Roadside	N	35	31.8	31.0	29.2	28.9
13	Roadside	N	30	29.3	29.7	25.7	26.2
14	Roadside	N	34	32.2	31.3	30.0	30.1
15	Roadside	N	36	32.7	30.6	29.8	29.8
16	Roadside	N	41	35.2	33.7	34.1	32.8
17	Roadside	N	35	31.0	32.9	35.2	33.9
20	Roadside	N	42	36.0	34.4	34.0	34.1
21	Roadside	N	34	30.4	30.8	35.6	39.5
23	Roadside	N	36	31.4	30.6	29.2	27.4
34	Roadside	N	-	46.6	46.7	47.5	46.6

In bold, exceedence of the NO₂ annual mean AQS objective of 40µg/m³

Underlined, annual mean > 60µg/m³, indicating a potential exceedence of the NO₂ hourly mean AQS objective

^a Means should be “annualised” as in Boxes 7.9 and 7.10 of LAQM.TG16, if full calendar year data capture is less than 75%

Figure 6 – Trends in Annual Mean Nitrogen Dioxide Concentrations Measured at Diffusion Tube Monitoring Sites



Detailed assessment of nitrogen dioxide

The sites that have failed to meet the annual averaged air quality objective during the last five years have been some of those located at Victoria Gardens or Pontardawe Post Office.

Monitoring at 1 Victoria Gardens had to cease on account of health & safety concerns since the pavement was very low and narrow and it was considered to be dangerous to use the ladder to exchange the tubes. The property next door at 3, Victoria Gardens continues to be measured and is used to estimate NO₂ levels at No.1 Victoria Gardens. Therefore it is necessary to estimate the pollution level at this property using the “NO₂ with distance from roads calculator” spreadsheet.


No. 3 is set back approximately 3.5 metres from the kerb, whereas the frontage at No. 1 faces directly onto the pavement.

The background maps spreadsheet for NO₂ for Neath Port Talbot for the year of 2015 was downloaded from <http://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/data/laqm-background-maps?year=2011> . The nearest location to the junction at Victoria Gardens and Cimla Road was defined by the coordinates 275500, 197500. The background NO₂ concentration at this location is 14.6 µg/m³.

The data entered into the spreadsheet is shown below:

Detailed assessment of nitrogen dioxide

Figure 7- Screenshot of NO₂ with distance calculator spreadsheet

This calculator allows you to predict the annual mean NO₂ concentration for a location ("receptor") that is close to a monitoring site, but nearer or further the kerb than the monitor. The next sheet shows your results on a graph. 

Enter data into the yellow cells

Step 1	How far from the KERB was your measurement made (in metres)?	(Note 1)	3.5	metres
Step 2	How far from the KERB is your receptor (in metres)?	(Note 1)	1	metres
Step 3	What is the local annual mean background NO ₂ concentration (in µg/m ³)?	(Note 2)	14.6	µg/m ³
Step 4	What is your measured annual mean NO ₂ concentration (in µg/m ³)?	(Note 2)	34.1	µg/m ³
Result	The predicted annual mean NO ₂ concentration (in µg/m ³) at your receptor	(Note 3)	40.7	µg/m ³

Note 1: In some cases the term "kerb" may be taken to be the edge of the trafficked road - see the FAQ at <http://laqm2.defra.gov.uk/FAQs/Monitoring/Location/index.htm> for further details. Distances should be measured horizontally from the kerb and assumes that the monitor and receptor have similar elevations. Each distance should be greater than 0.1m and less than 50m (in practice, using a value of 0.1m when the monitor is closer to the kerb than this is likely to be reasonable). The receptor is the location for which you wish to make your prediction. The monitor can either be closer to the kerb than the receptor, or further from the kerb than the receptor. The closer the monitor and the receptor are to each other, the more reliable the prediction will be. When your receptor is further from the kerb than your monitor, it is recommended that the receptor and monitor should be within 20m of each other. When your receptor is closer to the kerb than your monitor, it is recommended that the receptor and monitor should be within 10m of each other.

Note 2: The measurement and the background must be for the same year. The background concentration could come from the national maps published at www.airquality.co.uk, or alternatively from a nearby monitor in a background location.

Note 3: The calculator follows the procedure set out in Box 2.3 of LAQM TG(09). The results will have a greater uncertainty than the measured data. More confidence can be placed in results where the distance between the monitor and the receptor is small than where it is large.

Issue 4: 25/01/11. Created by Dr Ben Marner; Approved by Prof Duncan Laxen. Contact: benmarner@aqiconsultants.co.uk

This shows that the annual averaged air quality objective at 1 Victoria Gardens did not comply with the air quality objective i.e. 40.7 µg/m³.

Monitoring has been carried out at several properties in the vicinity of the junction, therefore dispersion modelling is considered to be unnecessary for purposes of identifying the geographical area of any potential exceedance.

Conclusion

Measurements have shown that the only location having relevant exposure where the annual averaged AQO was breached was No. 1 Victoria Gardens (40.7 ug/m³). However, this exceedance is marginal and is based upon the use of the NO₂ with distance calculator spreadsheet. This will have introduced an additional degree of uncertainty over and above that introduced by the use of diffusion tubes (albeit in triplicate) at No. 3 Victoria Gardens.

The aim of the Detailed Assessment is to establish with reasonable certainty whether there is a likelihood that AQOs are not being achieved. It is considered that this result is not sufficient in this regard and that an AQMA will not be declared at this time.

The Council therefore intends to deploy diffusion tubes in triplicate at No. 1 Victoria Gardens using circular clips which will allow deployment without the need for ladders. This will overcome the previous health and safety limitation on monitoring at this location and will eliminate the additional uncertainty introduced by the NO₂ with distance calculator spreadsheet. A further Detailed Assessment of NO₂ shall then be carried out on 2016 data.

Appendix A: QA/QC Data

Diffusion Tube Bias Adjustment Factors

NO₂ diffusion tubes are sourced from the Environmental Scientifics Group and are prepared using 50% TEA in acetone. The bias adjustment factor of 0.78 was used for 2014, as derived from a co-location study at three locations.

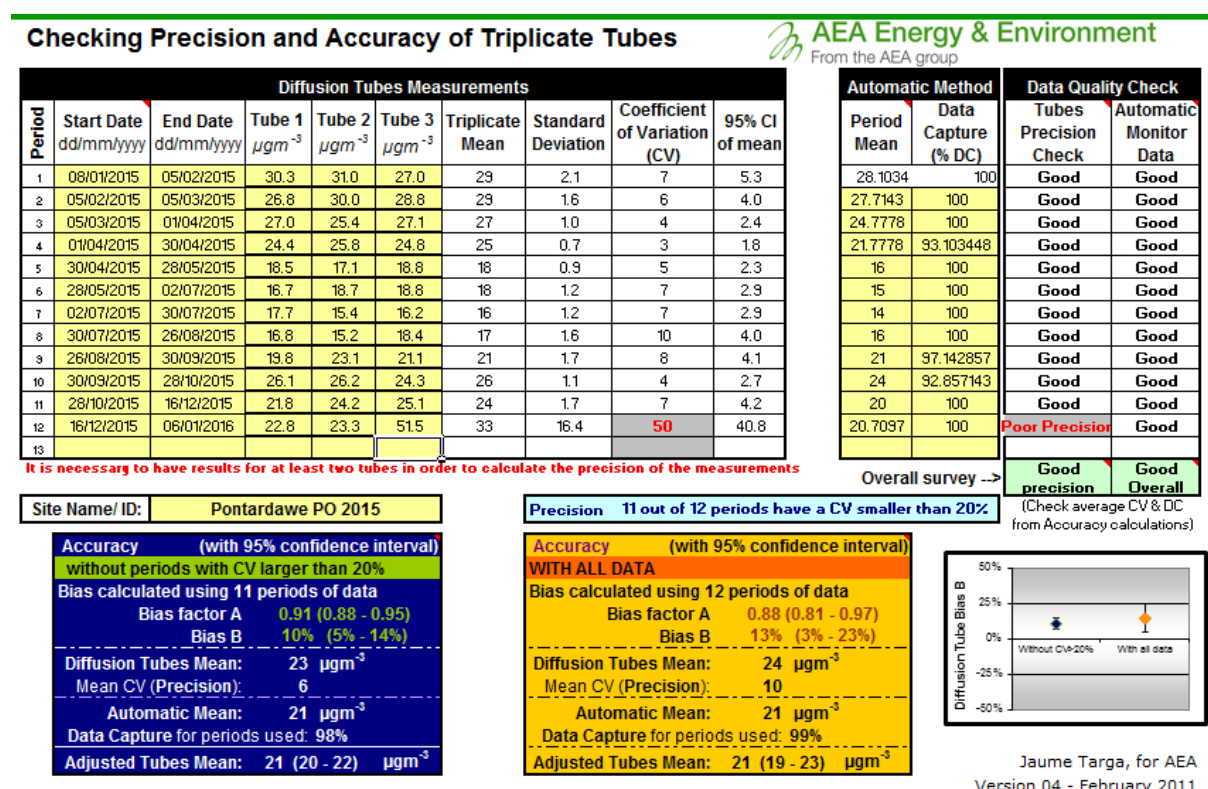
Factor from Local Co-location Studies (if available)

Continuous analysers were co-located with triplicate diffusion tubes at Port Talbot Fire Station, Pontardawe Swansea Road and Victoria Gardens.

Defra has provided a spreadsheet to facilitate the calculation of local bias adjustment factors. The spreadsheet used can be found at this location:

<http://laqm.defra.gov.uk/bias-adjustment-factors/local-bias.html>

Figure A1 – Pontardawe Post Office - Bias adjustment spreadsheet -



Detailed assessment of nitrogen dioxide

Figure A2 – Port Talbot Fire Station - Bias adjustment spreadsheet -

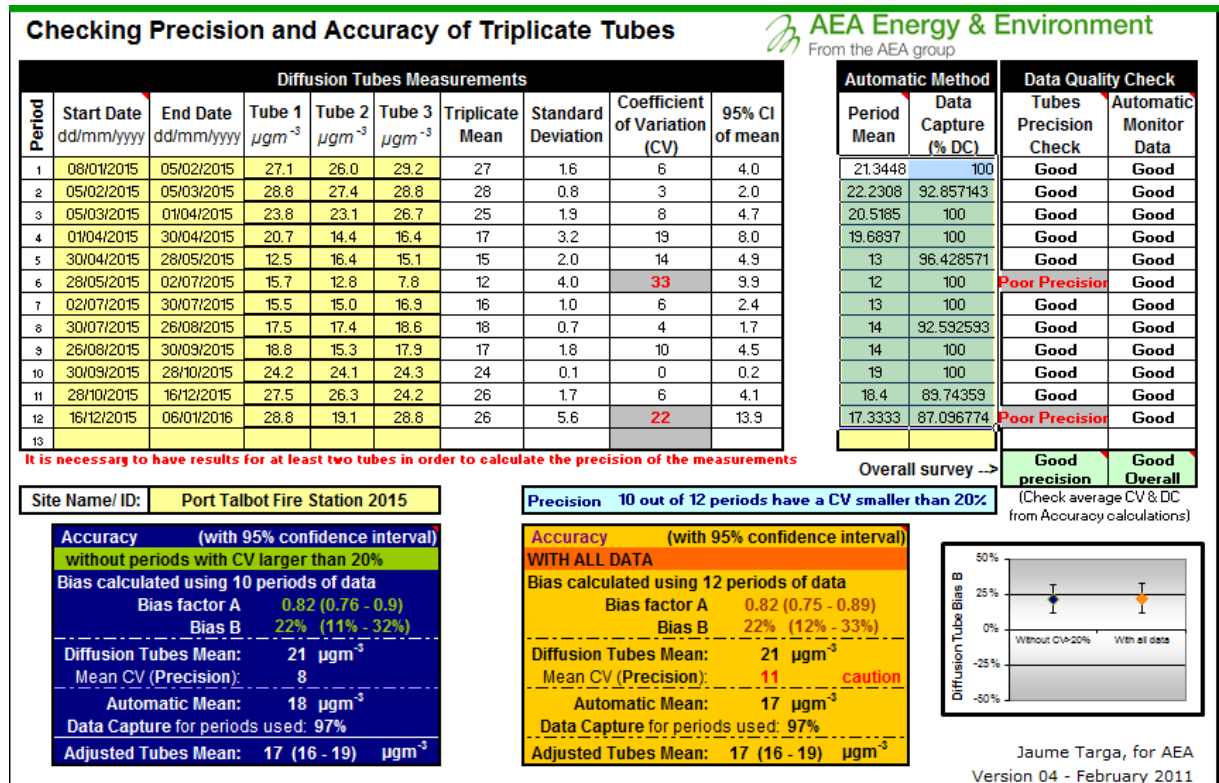
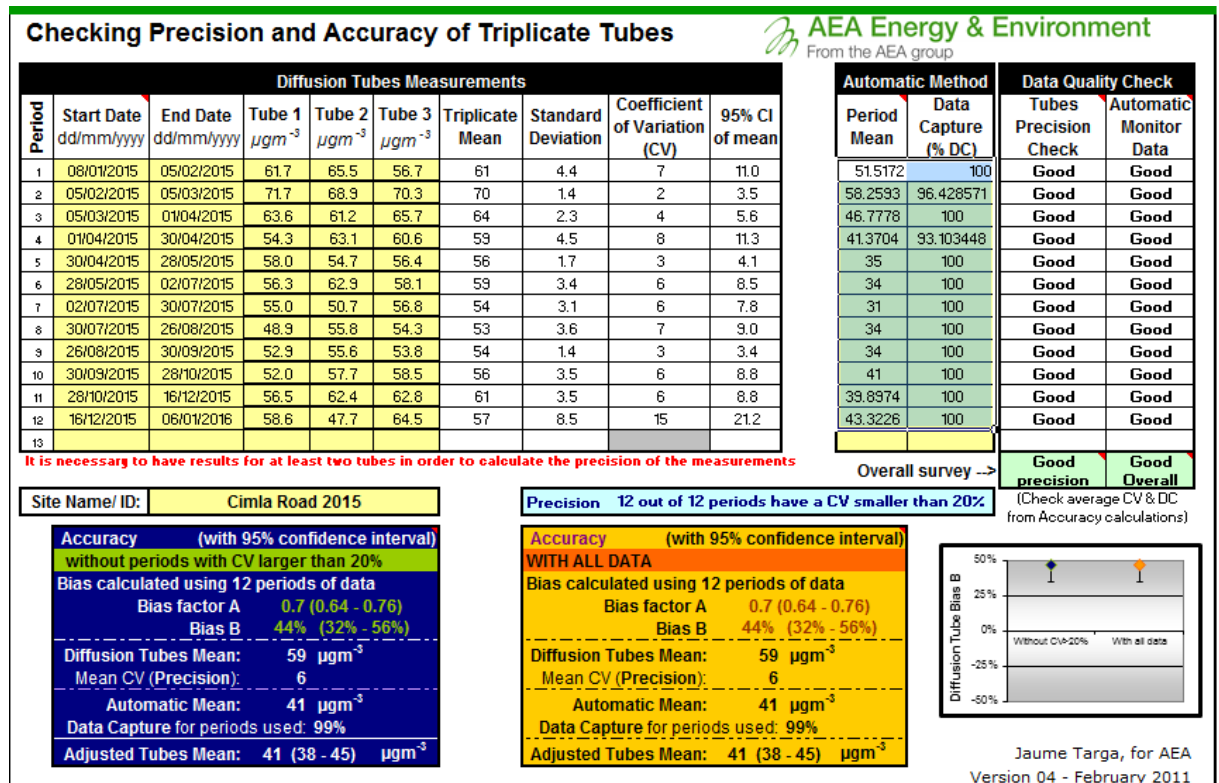


Figure A3 – Cimla Road - Bias adjustment spreadsheet -



Detailed assessment of nitrogen dioxide

The locally derived bias adjustment factor of 0.80 is derived from the average of the three sites e.g. $(0.88 + 0.82 + 0.7) / 3$.

PM Monitoring Adjustment

No PM adjustment was required for PM₁₀ analysers operated by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council as FDMS TEOMs were used in all cases.

Short-term to Long-term Data adjustment

No data was lost in monitoring diffusion tube sites during 2015. Consequently, no long-term data adjustment was necessary.

QA/QC of automatic monitoring

The AURN site is subject to the quality control procedures of the network. Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council staff act as Local Site Operator, carrying out calibrations on an approximately fortnightly basis. There are regular site audits and validation and ratification are carried out by AURN staff prior to dissemination of the data via <http://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/>.

All PM₁₀ analysers are FDMS/TEOMs with C/B driers. No factors are applied to this data during the collection process. All equipment is covered by service and maintenance contracts with suppliers. These contracts provide for 6 monthly servicing and emergency callouts.

Monitoring stations are covered by a QA/QC contract with Ricardo-AEA which provides for two site audits per year and QA/QC of the data which is polled by AEAT and disseminated on the Welsh Air Quality Forum website. Data is subject to a similar QA/QC standard as the AURN.

QA/QC of diffusion tube monitoring

Harwell Scientifics have been shown to have good performance in respect of recent Wasp scheme analyses. Details of the most recent Wasp results can be viewed at the following Internet location:

[http://laqm.defra.gov.uk/documents/LAQM-WASP-Rounds-121--124-and-AIR-PT-Rounds-1-3-4-6-\(April-2013--February-2015\)-NO2-report.pdf](http://laqm.defra.gov.uk/documents/LAQM-WASP-Rounds-121--124-and-AIR-PT-Rounds-1-3-4-6-(April-2013--February-2015)-NO2-report.pdf)

Detailed assessment of nitrogen dioxide

Appendix B: Raw NO2 Data

Site Id	Month/Year	NO2 Conc ug
4	1/2015	34.9
4	2/2015	41.9
4	3/2015	38.0
4	4/2015	34.0
4	5/2015	19.8
4	6/2015	26.7
4	7/2015	25.7
4	8/2015	28.0
4	9/2015	30.5
4	10/2015	41.7
4	11/2015	34.4
4	12/2015	32.4
5	1/2015	50.5
5	2/2015	51.3
5	3/2015	42.6
5	4/2015	32.3
5	5/2015	31.9
5	6/2015	30.1
5	7/2015	31.3
5	8/2015	27.5
5	9/2015	37.4
5	10/2015	41.5
5	11/2015	41.7
5	12/2015	28.4
12	1/2015	50.3
12	2/2015	48.6
12	3/2015	42.2
12	4/2015	34.6
12	5/2015	29.8
12	6/2015	29.6
12	7/2015	27.8
12	8/2015	29.4
12	9/2015	35.7
12	10/2015	39.9
12	11/2015	37.1
12	12/2015	31.5
13	1/2015	50.9
13	2/2015	44.5
13	3/2015	37.4
13	4/2015	29.2
13	5/2015	28.0

Detailed assessment of nitrogen dioxide

Site Id	Month/Year	NO2 Conc ug
13	6/2015	27.3
13	7/2015	25.9
13	8/2015	25.2
13	9/2015	30.9
13	10/2015	35.1
13	11/2015	31.3
13	12/2015	28.6
14	1/2015	55.7
14	2/2015	48.0
14	3/2015	45.9
14	4/2015	31.7
14	5/2015	30.9
14	6/2015	30.1
14	7/2015	30.5
14	8/2015	32.4
14	9/2015	36.1
14	10/2015	41.7
14	11/2015	39.9
14	12/2015	30.1
15	1/2015	49.5
15	2/2015	56.8
15	3/2015	45.1
15	4/2015	34.9
15	5/2015	31.3
15	6/2015	28.6
15	7/2015	31.5
15	8/2015	28.6
15	9/2015	34.9
15	10/2015	36.5
15	11/2015	40.3
15	12/2015	30.7
16	1/2015	54.0
16	2/2015	54.7
16	3/2015	45.5
16	4/2015	36.5
16	5/2015	35.5
16	6/2015	35.9
16	7/2015	31.1
16	8/2015	35.3
16	9/2015	40.1
16	10/2015	36.9
16	11/2015	47.4
16	12/2015	41.5

Detailed assessment of nitrogen dioxide

Site Id	Month/Year	NO2 Conc ug
17	1/2015	43.8
17	2/2015	53.2
17	3/2015	46.7
17	4/2015	43.0
17	5/2015	31.5
17	6/2015	34.9
17	7/2015	35.1
17	8/2015	34.6
17	9/2015	42.4
17	10/2015	47.6
17	11/2015	48.2
17	12/2015	49.9
20	1/2015	56.1
20	2/2015	50.1
20	3/2015	47.0
20	4/2015	40.3
20	5/2015	38.8
20	6/2015	37.6
20	7/2015	38.6
20	8/2015	35.7
20	9/2015	39.0
20	10/2015	40.1
20	11/2015	46.8
20	12/2015	44.9
21	1/2015	64.5
21	2/2015	64.1
21	3/2015	47.8
21	4/2015	46.3
21	5/2015	33.0
21	6/2015	38.6
21	7/2015	43.2
21	8/2015	45.5
21	9/2015	49.2
21	10/2015	55.3
21	11/2015	55.3
21	12/2015	53.4
23	1/2015	37.8
23	2/2015	39.9
23	3/2015	41.3
23	4/2015	33.2
23	5/2015	27.6
23	6/2015	28.6
23	7/2015	25.3

Detailed assessment of nitrogen dioxide

Site Id	Month/Year	NO2 Conc ug
23	8/2015	29.4
23	9/2015	32.3
23	10/2015	44.2
23	11/2015	38.8
23	12/2015	34.8
34	1/2015	61.2
34	2/2015	70.3
34	3/2015	63.4
34	4/2015	59.1
34	5/2015	56.3
34	6/2015	58.9
34	7/2015	54.1
34	8/2015	52.8
34	9/2015	54.0
34	10/2015	55.9
34	11/2015	60.5
34	12/2015	56.8

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NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Environment & Highways Cabinet Board

1st September 2016

Report of the Head of Planning and Public Protection

Nicola Pearce

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected: All

Changes to Officer Delegation Arrangements – the Highways Act 1980, the Hedgerow Regulations 1997

Purpose of Report

- 1 To seek approval from Members to amend the Authority's current constitution and delegation arrangements to officers in relation to legislation enforced by the Environment Directorate [which are currently set out in the Officers of the Council Delegation Arrangements in Part 3 of the Authority's Constitution (version 14-Aug-15)].

Executive Summary

- 2 This report seeks to add to the Constitution:
 - An additional duty of the Highways Act 1980, following an amendment brought in by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CROW) 2000; and
 - The right to enter land under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997, not previously addressed within the Constitution.

The Highways Act 1980

- 3 The Highways Act, 1980 deals with the management and operation of the highway network, including Public Rights of Way.
- 4 The CROW Act, 2000, enacted an amendment to the Highways Act, under Section 130a, introducing measures for any person to be able to serve notice on the Highway Authority to remove an

obstruction from a highway. The Highway Authority is required to respond to this notice within 1 month of the notice having been served, outlining the action, if any, that will be taken to remove the obstruction.

- 5 If the person serving the notice is not satisfied that the obstruction has been removed, they may subsequently apply to the Magistrate's Court for an order requiring the Highways Authority to take measures to secure the removal of the obstruction.

The Hedgerow Regulations 1997

- 6 The Hedgerow Regulations, 1997, protects certain countryside hedgerows from being removed. The Local Planning Authority (LPA) administers the regulations and a landowner wishing to remove a hedgerow covered by the regulations must apply to the LPA in writing.
- 7 The LPA is required to respond to the notification, laying out whether the hedgerow may be removed, or must be retained. The LPA may be required to enter land for the purpose of surveying the hedgerow where a notification has been made, or to ascertain whether an offence has been committed in relation to the Regulations.

Financial Impact

- 8 There is already a requirement for the Highway Authority to deal with obstructions on the Highway, and for the Planning Authority to administer notifications for the removal of hedgerows covered by the Regulations. There is no additional cost to implementing the requirements outlined above.

Equality Impact Assessment

- 9 A Screening Assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010. After completing the assessment it has been determined that this proposal does not require an Equalities Impact Assessment.

Workforce Impact

- 10 There is already a requirement for the Highway Authority to deal with obstructions on the Highway, and for the Planning Authority to

administer notifications for the removal of hedgerows covered by the Regulations. The workforce impact of responding to these notices will be negligible.

Legal Impact

11 There are no legal impacts in respect of this report.

Risk Management

12 There are no significant risks associated with this report.

Consultation

13 There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

Recommendation

14 That having considered the report, it is resolved to make the following recommendations for approval:

1. That the delegation arrangements in respect of the Environment Directorate for the Highways Act (1980), which are set out in version 14-Aug-15 of the Authority's Constitution are amended to include: Section 130a – to be able to respond to notices served on the Authority for the removal of obstructions on the Public Right of Way.
2. That the delegation arrangements in respect of the Planning Department, for (ix) Rights of Entry (p. 3.160), which are set out in version 14-Aug-15 of the Authority's Constitution, are amended to include: The Hedgerow Regulations (1997) - Section 12.
3. That the Head of Legal Services be authorised to seek amendment of the Constitution by the Council in due course in order to reflect the above changes to the Authority's delegation arrangements.

Reason for Proposed Decision

- 15 To ensure that the Constitution reflects changes that has been made to certain legislation.

Implementation of Decision

- 16 The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

Appendices

- 17 None.

List of Background Papers

- 18 None.

Officer Contact

- 19 Nicola Pearce – Head of Planning and Public Protection.
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NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Environment and Highways Cabinet Board

1st September 2016

Report of the Head of Engineering & Transport

D. W. Griffiths

Matter for Decision

Ward Affected: Coedffranc West

Proposed Traffic Orders: Llandarcy Village

Purpose of Report

1. To obtain Members' approval to advertise the Legal Orders for the implementation of Traffic Orders on Llandarcy Village Road, Prettyman Drive and The Greenway.

Executive Summary

2. The report outlines the proposed Orders and the reason why the Orders are required.

Background

3. Following a Planning Application, it has been conditioned that a 20mph zone and speed cushions be placed on Llandarcy Village Road, Prettyman Drive and The Greenway.

Financial Implications

4. The work will be funded by the developer.

Equality Impact Assessment

5. A Screening Assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010. After completing the assessment, it has been determined that this function does not require an Equality Impact Assessment.

Workforce Impact

6. Not applicable.

Legal Impact

7. The scheme will be advertised for a 21-day period.

Risk Management

8. There are no service risk management issues associated with this scheme.

Consultation Outcome

9. A consultation exercise will be carried out when the scheme is advertised.

Recommendation

It is recommended that:-

10. Approval is given for the proposed measures to be advertised as indicated on the attached plan (Appendix A) and for the Orders to be implemented, subject to there being no objections.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

11. To reduce speed in the interest of road safety.

Implementation of Decision

12. The decision is proposed for implementation after the three-day call-in period.

Appendices

13. Appendix A – Llandarcy Village Plan

List of Background Papers

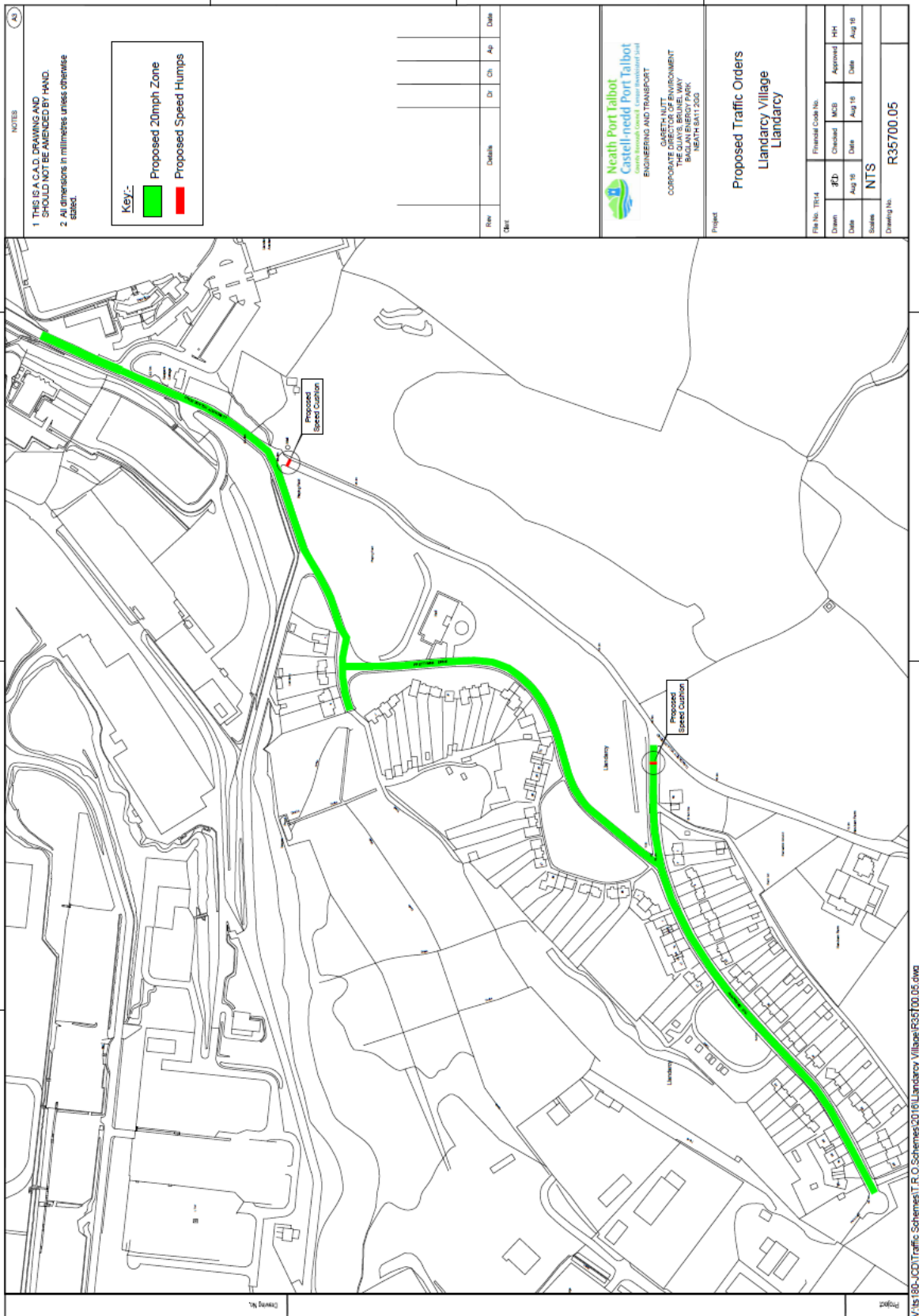
14. File TR14

Officer Contact

15. Mr J C Davies – Senior Engineer Traffic
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16. Mr M Brumby – Project Manager Highways
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Appendix A



NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Environment and Highways Cabinet Board

1st September 2016

Report of the Head of Engineering & Transport

D. W. Griffiths

Matter for Decision

Ward Affected: Glynneath

Proposed Prohibition of Waiting at any Time
Traffic Regulation Order
Maes y Pergwm/Addoldy Road, Glynneath

Purpose of Report

1. To consider the objection received following the advertisement of the above scheme as indicated in Appendix A.

Executive Summary

2. One letter was received in respect of the proposal.
3. The report outlines the objection and the recommendations for the scheme.

Background

4. The bridge at the junction of Maes Y Pergwm and Addoldy Road has been repaired and has been reopened after 16 years. The proposed Traffic Regulation Orders are required to improve the visibility at the junction of Maes Y Pergwm and Addoldy Road.

Financial Implications

5. The work will be funded from the Bridge Capital Strengthening Programme.

Equality Impact Assessment

6. A Screening Assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010. After completing the assessment, it has been determined that this function does not require an Equality Impact assessment.

Workforce Impact

7. Not applicable.

Legal Impact

8. The scheme has been advertised for a 21-day period.

Risk Management

9. There are no service risk management issues associated with this scheme.

Consultation Outcome

10. A consultation exercise was carried out when the scheme was advertised in July 2016.
11. One letter of objection to the scheme was received stating that the resident would have difficulty in parking if the scheme was implemented. They believe that the proposed Traffic Order is too long in length and request that it be shortened to allow themselves and any visitors to park outside their property.

Recommendation

It is recommended that:-

12. The objection received is overruled as there is adequate parking in the area.
13. The Traffic Orders are required to improve the visibility at the junction of Maes Y Pergwm and Addoldy Road and are supported by the local Ward Member and residents.

14. The Traffic Orders to be implemented as advertised and the objector informed accordingly.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

15. The scheme is necessary to prevent indiscriminate parking in the interest of road safety.

Implementation of Decision

16. The decision is proposed for implementation after the three-day call-in period.

Appendices

17. Appendix A – Plan

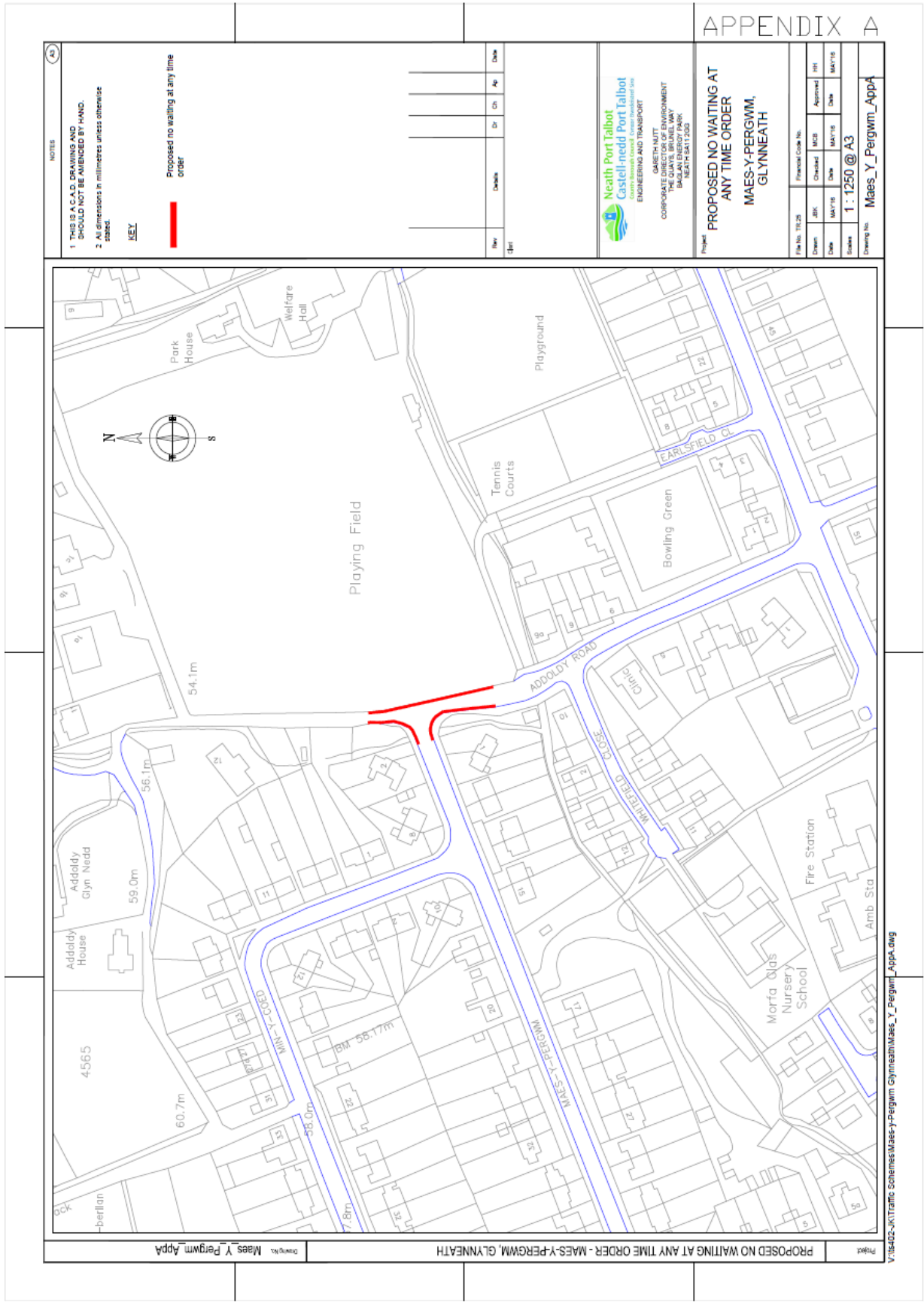
List of Background Papers

18. File TR25

Officer Contact

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Appendix A



NOTES

1 THIS IS A C.A.D. DRAWING AND SHOULD NOT BE AMENDED BY HAND.

2 All dimensions in millimetres unless otherwise stated.

KEY

Proposed no waiting at any time order

No.	Description	Dr	Ch	Ap	Date

Neath Port Talbot
 Castell-nedd Port Talbot
 ENGINEERING AND TRANSPORT

GARETH HUITT
 CORPORATE DESIGN DEPARTMENT
 THE QUAYS BRUNEL WAY
 BACUPAN ENERGY PARK
 NEATH SA61 2DD

PROPOSED NO WAITING AT ANY TIME ORDER
 MAES-Y-PERGWM,
 GLYNNEATH

Financial Code No.	
Drawn	Checked
Date	Date
Scale	1: 1250 @ A3

Project: Maes_y_Pergwm_Appa

APPENDIX A

Drawn: Maes Y Pergwm Appa

PROPOSED NO WAITING AT ANY TIME ORDER - MAES-Y-PERGWM, GLYNNEATH

V:\15-02-UKTraffic Schemes\Maes-y-Pergwm Glynneath\Maes_Y_Pergwm_Appa.dwg

By virtue of paragraph(s) 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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