

ANGUS COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENTAL AND LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE – 28 AUGUST 2003

LOCAL AIR QUALITY – UPDATE ON PREVIOUS ASSESSMENT

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL & CONSUMER PROTECTION

ABSTRACT

This report seeks to apprise the Committee on progress regarding the ongoing Review and Assessment of Air Quality within Angus in order to assess compliance with the Air Quality Strategy 2000 and the Air Quality Regulations 2000/02.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee:

- a) note the content of the report "Local Air Quality Management – Updating and Screening Assessment for Angus Council" which has been submitted to the Scottish Office and SEPA (Scottish Environment Protection Agency) for comment.
- b) agrees that the Director prepare a further report on receipt of comments from the Scottish Office and SEPA.

2. BACKGROUND

Members will recall Report No 25/99 and 389/99 regarding the Stage 1 Review and Assessment of Air Quality for Angus Council.

The Second Round of the Review and Assessment process required an Update and Screening Assessment of the Stage 1 Review and Assessment to be carried out by May 2003. This involved considering any changes to circumstances within Angus which may have had a bearing on Air Quality either detrimentally or beneficially.

In addition, amendments to the Air Quality Regulations have changed the standards and objectives to be met and the Stage 1 Assessment had to be reviewed again in the light of this. If any of the objectives for 7 listed pollutants are likely to be exceeded more detailed assessments have to be carried out by the Local Authority.

3. SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

A Report regarding this Stage 2 Assessment has been compiled by BMT Cordah Ltd, who were supplied with relevant information by the Environmental & Consumer Protection, Housing and Roads Departments and SEPA. It has been structured in accordance with Scottish Office Guidance. A copy of the Report entitled "Local Air Quality Management-Updating and Screening Assessment for Angus Council" is available in the Members Lounge.

4. CONCLUSION OF THE REPORT

The standards will not be exceeded, as set out in the National Air Quality objectives within Angus for:

- Carbon Monoxide
- Benzene
- 1,3 – butadiene
- Lead
- Sulphur Dioxide
- Nitrogen Dioxide
- Particles less than 10 microns in diameter

It is therefore deemed unnecessary to progress to a Detailed Assessment for any of these pollutants.

5. SUBSEQUENT STEPS IN REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Comments on the Report are still awaited from SEPA and the Scottish Executive. A further report will be submitted to the Committee on receipt of these and will include any recommendations regarding Angus Council's response to same.

A further progress report will require to be submitted to the Scottish Executive by the end of April 2004.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of providing the report was £3630 and this has been met from the base 2003/04 Revenue Budget of the Department. There will be ongoing monitoring costs in the region of £10,000 per annum which is also allowed for in the base 2003/04 Revenue Budget. The Scottish Executive have also awarded specific Capital Consent of £4000 towards the cost of undertaking an emissions inventory which will be carried out before April 2004.

7. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no human rights implications associated with this report.

8. CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Law and Administration, Director of Housing and Director of Roads have been consulted on the contents of this report.

S R Heggie
Director of Environmental and Consumer Protection

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing this report.

DJ/FMCI
4.8.03