



# Updating and Screening Assessment 2015 for Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

In fulfillment of Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002  
Local Air Quality Management

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

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## Executive Summary

The Environment (NI) Order 2002, places a duty on local authorities to review and assess the air quality in their council areas. The Local Air Quality Management regime provides the framework for each district council to review and assess a range of air pollutants against objectives set out in the Air Quality Strategy for Northern Ireland. This report is provided to ensure that local air quality is reviewed annually in accordance with the principles prescribed under Local Air Quality Management regulations and technical guidance LAQM.TG(09).

This document addresses the present and future air quality with regard to the pollutants currently detailed within the Air Quality Strategy. Previous annual reviews concluded that there was no likelihood of exceedance of the air quality strategy objective levels for each pollutant. The current Update and Screening Assessment for the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area confirms that no significant changes have occurred to alter these findings and concludes there is no requirement for a detailed assessment for any of the pollutants concerned.

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Description of Local Authority Area

This Updating and Screening Assessment is provided for the new Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area which has been established as a result of a Local Government Reform process reducing the number of councils in Northern Ireland from twenty six to eleven.

The new council occupies a total area of approximately 3,000 sq. km making it the largest council in terms of land mass equating to around twenty percent of Northern Ireland. It is located in the most westerly part of the province with much of the land rural in nature and includes the large water body of Lower and Upper Lough Erne. Conversely, it has a population of approximately 114,365 which is the smallest of the eleven councils resulting in the lowest population density.

There are two main centres within the district, Omagh to the North East with a population of 21,297 and Enniskillen with a population of 13,757 to the west. The district has a number of satellite villages and a dispersed settlement pattern typical of rural Northern Ireland. More detailed information for the district council area is available on the website [www.fermanaghomagh.com](http://www.fermanaghomagh.com).

The area has a large agricultural business sector and a broad mix of service industries including fabrication, quarrying, timber and cement product manufacture and a range of businesses supporting tourism and hospitality.

## 1.2 Purpose of Report

This report fulfils the requirements of the Local Air Quality Management process as set out in the Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002, the Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland 2007 and the relevant Policy and Technical Guidance documents. The LAQM process places an obligation on all local authorities to regularly review and assess air quality in their areas, and to determine whether or not the air quality objectives are likely to be achieved. Where

exceedences are considered likely, the local authority must then declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and prepare an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) setting out the measures it intends to put in place in pursuit of the objectives.

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

### 1.3 Air Quality Objectives

The air quality objectives applicable to LAQM in Northern Ireland are set out in the Air Quality Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003, Statutory Rules of Northern Ireland 2003, no. 342, 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,  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$  for carbon monoxide) with the number of exceedences in each year that are permitted (where applicable).

**Table 1.1 Air Quality Objectives included in Regulations for the purpose of LAQM in Northern Ireland**

Pollutant	Air Quality Objective		Date to be achieved by
	Concentration	Measured as	
Benzene	16.25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Running annual mean	31.12.2003
	3.25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Running annual mean	31.12.2010
1,3-Butadiene	2.25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Running annual mean	31.12.2003
Carbon monoxide	10.0 $\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$	Running 8-hour mean	31.12.2003
Lead	0.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Annual mean	31.12.2004
	0.25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Annual mean	31.12.2008
Nitrogen dioxide	200 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	1-hour mean	31.12.2005
	40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Annual mean	31.12.2005

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<b>Particles (PM<sub>10</sub>) (gravimetric)</b>	50 µg/m <sup>3</sup> , not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	24-hour mean	31.12.2004
	40 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual mean	31.12.2004
<b>Sulphur dioxide</b>	350 µg/m <sup>3</sup> , not to be exceeded more than 24 times a year	1-hour mean	31.12.2004
	125 µg/m <sup>3</sup> , not to be exceeded more than 3 times a year	24-hour mean	31.12.2004
	266 µg/m <sup>3</sup> , 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 following table outlines the conclusions of the previous review and assessments prepared for the former Omagh District Council and Fermanagh District Council areas.

**Table 1.2** Previous Air Quality Reports for Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area

<b>Stage 1 Review and Assessment 2001</b>	The first stage assessment identified three pollutants of concern namely nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide and particulate matter at risk of exceeding the strategy objectives.
<b>Stage 2/3 Review and Assessment 2004</b>	Following on from the findings of stage 1, a more detailed assessment of air quality was required for the three identified pollutants of concern. Informed by the results of monitoring/modelling it was concluded that it was not necessary to declare any AQMA for the district council.
<b>Progress Report 2005</b>	This report concluded that no exceedances of the air quality objectives were identified at relevant receptors.
<b>Updating &amp; Screening Assessment 2006</b>	The updating and screening assessment was undertaken in accordance with the LAQM TG (03). The report concluded that due to a major road development on the periphery of Omagh Town there may be likelihood of exceedance of objectives for nitrogen dioxide and particulates from road sources. Monitoring for nitrogen dioxide was initiated.
<b>Progress Report 2007</b>	The monitoring for nitrogen dioxide in Omagh continued for the period of this report. This report concluded that there were no



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	exceedances of the air quality objectives for the remaining pollutant objective levels.
<b>Progress Report 2008</b>	This report concluded that no exceedances of the air quality objectives were identified at relevant receptors. Ongoing monitoring of nitrogen dioxide in Omagh generated from road traffic.
<b>Updating &amp; Screening Assessment 2009</b>	The USA was prepared in accordance with updated guidance contained within LAQM.TG(09). Informed by the completion of a monitoring/modelling programme for pollutants associated with road traffic, it was concluded that there was no need to proceed to a detailed assessment for any pollutants of concern.
<b>Progress Report 2010</b>	This report concluded that no exceedances of the air quality objectives were identified at relevant receptors.
<b>Progress Report 2011</b>	This report concluded that no exceedances of the air quality objectives were identified at relevant receptors.
<b>Updating &amp; Screening Assessment 2012</b>	This report concluded that no exceedances of the air quality objectives were identified at relevant receptors.
<b>Progress Report 2013</b>	This report concluded that no exceedances of the air quality objectives were identified at relevant receptors.
<b>Progress Report 2014</b>	This report concluded that no exceedances of the air quality objectives were identified at relevant receptors.

## **2 New Monitoring Data**

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

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

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirm that there are no automatic monitoring sites in the council area.

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

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirm that there are no non-automatic monitoring sites in the council area.

### **3 Road Traffic Sources**

The proposed Strathroy Link Road will link the existing Derry Road roundabout and the Strathroy Road in order to facilitate traffic accessing the planned Lisanelly Shared Education Campus. Planning permission has been granted for the new link road (K/2011/0258/F) and it is anticipated that the road will be operational by 2019. At the planning stage an air quality screening assessment was undertaken by the consultant to predict the potential impact of the proposed development on local air quality relative to the air quality objective levels. The DMRB screening assessment for the operational phase of the Strathroy Link Road indicated pollutant levels well below air quality objective levels.

The proposed A4 Enniskillen Southern Bypass has progressed to confirming preferred option stage which indicates the carriageway to be constructed around the southern boundary of the town. The project will be subject to a full Environmental Impact Assessment which will include an air quality assessment as recommended by the retained environmental consultants as part of the ongoing planning process. The Environmental Health Department will have opportunity to provide comment upon receipt of the anticipated planning application.

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

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

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

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirm that there are no new/newly identified busy streets where people may spend 1 hour or more close to traffic.

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

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirm that there are no new/newly identified roads with high flows of buses/HGVs.

### **3.4 Junctions**

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirm that there are no new/newly identified busy junctions/busy roads.

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

The previous Air Quality Progress Report in 2014 for Fermanagh District Council identified a new distributor road. The link road became operational in June 2013. This new road source was considered in the report and it was determined that there was no breach of air quality objectives as confirmed in the air quality assessment provided in support of the proposal.

### **3.6 Roads with Significantly Changed Traffic Flows**

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirm that there are no new/newly identified roads with significantly changed traffic flows.

### **3.7 Bus and Coach Stations**

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirm that there are no relevant bus stations in the Local Authority area.

## **4 Other Transport Sources**

### **4.1 Airports**

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirm that there are no relevant airports in the Local Authority area.

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

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirm that there are no railways or stations within the local authority area.

### **4.3 Ports (Shipping)**

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirm that there are no ports or shipping that meets the specified criteria within the Local Authority area.

## **5 Industrial Sources**

### **5.1 Industrial Installations**

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **5.2 Major Fuel (Petrol) Storage Depots**

There are no major fuel (petrol) storage depots within the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area.

### **5.3 Petrol Stations**

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirm that there are no petrol stations meeting the specified criteria.

### **5.4 Poultry Farms**

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirm that there are no poultry farms meeting the specified criteria.

## **6 Commercial and Domestic Sources**

### **6.1 Biomass Combustion – Individual Installations**

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council has assessed the biomass combustion plant associated with L/2013/0619/F, L/2014/0390/F and K/2012/0260/F and concluded that it will not be necessary to proceed to a Detailed Assessment.

### **6.2 Biomass Combustion – Combined Impacts**

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirms that there are no combined biomass combustion plant in the Local Authority area requiring further assessment.

### **6.3 Domestic Solid-Fuel Burning**

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirm that there are no areas of significant domestic fuel use in the Local Authority area.



## 7 Fugitive or Uncontrolled Sources

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirm that there is no new or newly identified development with potential sources of fugitive particulate matter emissions in the Local Authority area.

## **8 Conclusions and Proposed Actions**

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

There has been no new monitoring carried out since the last Progress Report.

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

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council has considered the potential air quality impacts of local developments and has concluded there are no significant new sources requiring further detailed assessment.

### **8.3 Proposed Actions**

The Updating and Screening Assessment for 2015 has confirmed that there is no need to proceed to a detailed assessment for any of the pollutants considered. Consequently the district has not needed to declare an air quality management area. Fermanagh and Omagh District Council will submit a further Progress Report in 2016.

## 9 References

- Defra (2009) Local Air Quality Management, Technical Guidance LAQM.TG (09)
- Defra (2009) Local Air Quality Management, Technical Guidance LAQM.TG (09)
- Omagh District Council Progress Report 2011
- Omagh District Council Updating and Screening Assessment 2012
- Omagh District Council Progress Report 2013
- Omagh District Council Progress Report 2014
- Fermanagh District Council Progress Report 2011
- Fermanagh District Council Updating and Screening Assessment 2012
- Fermanagh District Council Progress Report 2013
- Fermanagh District Council Progress Report 2014



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