



Updating and Screening Assessment 2018 Fermanagh District Council

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

November 2018

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

Local Authority Officer	David Gillis
Department	Environmental Health Service
Address	Lisnamallard House Old Mountfield Road Omagh
Telephone	0300 303 1777
e-mail	eh@fermanaghomagh.com
Report Reference number	USA/FODC/2018
Date	November 2018

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(16).

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 Report is provided for Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area. The 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. The district has a border with four councils in the Republic of Ireland namely Donegal, Leitrim, Cavan and Monaghan. 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. It has a population of approximately 116,000 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 (NISRA population estimate 2016). 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.

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 Updating and Screening Assessment 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, 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 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 mg/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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Particles (PM₁₀) (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	35µg/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

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

Stage 1 Review and Assessment 2001	The first stage assessment identified three pollutants of concern namely nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide and particulate matter at risk of exceeding the strategy objectives.
Stage 2/3 Review and Assessment 2004	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.
Progress Report 2005	This report concluded that no exceedances of the air quality objectives were identified at relevant receptors.
Updating & Screening Assessment 2006	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.
Progress Report 2007	The monitoring for nitrogen dioxide in Omagh continued for the period of this report. This report concluded that there were no exceedances of the air quality objectives for the remaining pollutant objective levels.

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Progress Report 2008	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.
Updating & Screening Assessment 2009	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.
Progress Report 2010	This report concluded that no exceedances of the air quality objectives were identified at relevant receptors.
Progress Report 2011	This report concluded that no exceedances of the air quality objectives were identified at relevant receptors.
Updating & Screening Assessment 2012	This report concluded that no exceedances of the air quality objectives were identified at relevant receptors.
Progress Report 2013	This report concluded that no exceedances of the air quality objectives were identified at relevant receptors.
Progress Report 2014	This report concluded that no exceedances of the air quality objectives were identified at relevant receptors.
Updating & Screening Assessment 2015	This report concluded that no exceedances of the air quality objectives were identified at relevant receptors.
Progress Report 2016	This report concluded that no exceedances of the air quality objectives were identified at relevant receptors.
Progress Report 2017	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

There are no automatic monitoring sites operated by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council within the district. However, the Environment Agency who manage the UK National Air Quality Monitoring Network on behalf of DEFRA maintain an automatic monitor at Lough Navar in Co. Fermanagh. This rural upland site provides background air quality readings for ozone, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}. No exceedances of the air quality standards for these pollutants were observed during the period.

2.1.2 Non-Automatic Monitoring Sites

There are no non-automatic monitoring sites in the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area.

3 Road Traffic Sources

LA10/2017/0485/F – A new post primary college has commenced construction on a new site at Tempo Road, Enniskillen. An air quality assessment was undertaken to determine the potential impact of road traffic emissions associated with the proposal. The assessment used the DMRB Screening Assessment Tool to estimate future levels of air pollutants and the relative impact on sensitive receptors. The assessment concluded that the proposed development will have no significant impact on air quality.

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 confirms 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 confirms that there are no new/newly identified roads with high flows of buses/HGVs.

3.4 Junctions

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirms 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

K/2011/0258/F- A proposed link road to connect two arterial routes to the north of Omagh Town Centre is progressing and anticipated to open during 2019. The potential air quality impact presented by this development has been subject to assessment by virtue of the planning process. The DMRB Assessment has indicated a slight increase in levels of certain pollutants at closest receptors but all well below the air quality objective levels.

At the time of writing this report, the proposed by-pass to Enniskillen town centre has not progressed to planning application stage. An Environmental Screening exercise is being prepared which will include assessment of emissions from road traffic.

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council has assessed new/proposed roads meeting the criteria in Table 7.1 of Chapter 7 of LAQM.TG16 and concluded that it will not be necessary to proceed to a Detailed Assessment.

3.6 Roads with Significantly Changed Traffic Flows

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

3.7 Bus and Coach Stations

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

4 Other Transport Sources

4.1 Airports

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

4.2 Railways (Diesel and Steam Trains)

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirms that there are no locations where diesel or steam trains are regularly stationary for periods of 15 minutes or more, with potential for relevant exposure within 15m.

4.2.1 Moving Trains

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirms that there are no locations with a large number of movements of diesel locomotives, and potential long-term relevant exposure within 30m.

4.3 Ports (Shipping)

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirms that there are no ports or shipping that meet 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

LA10/2017/1193/F-This application proposes the development of a 500kW Anaerobic Digestion Plant located within an industrial zone on the periphery of Omagh town. The feedstock for the proposed digester is agricultural waste such as grass silage, cattle slurry and energy crops. The potential impact arising from the proposal was assessed using the LAQM CHP screening tool. The assessment concluded that no exceedances of air quality objective levels for the pollutant of concern were predicted.

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council has assessed new/proposed industrial installations, and concluded that it will not be necessary to proceed to a Detailed Assessment.

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 confirms that there are no petrol stations meeting the specified criteria.

5.4 Poultry Farms

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

6 Commercial and Domestic Sources

K/2013/0332/RM- The proposed multi-use retail development has commenced construction. The project represents a large scale out of town retail park which was supported at planning stage with an air quality impact assessment. This report concluded that pollutant levels attributable to road traffic will substantially meet the Air Quality Strategy objective levels.

LA10/2017/0593/F-This application proposed a 1 No. 500kW combined heat and power generator and received planning approval on 18th July 2017. The EHS has undertaken an assessment using the CHP screening tool. The assessment concluded that no exceedances of air quality objective levels for the pollutant of concern were predicted.

6.1 Biomass Combustion – Individual Installations

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirms that there are no new biomass combustion plant in the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area.

6.2 Biomass Combustion – Combined Impacts

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirms that there are no new biomass combustion plant in the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area.

6.3 Domestic Solid-Fuel Burning

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

7 Fugitive or Uncontrolled Sources

LA10/2017/0348/F-This application represents an extension to an existing concrete products plant located within Enniskillen town. The planning application has been accompanied with an air quality assessment to include impact from potential fugitive emissions. The report concludes that no exceedances of the air quality objectives for PM₁₀ are predicted.

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirms that there are no relevant 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 2018 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 2019.

9 References

- Defra (2016) Local Air Quality Management, Technical Guidance LAQM.TG (16)
- Biomass and Air Quality Guidance for Local Authorities LACORS/EPUK (2009)
- Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Updating and Screening Assessment 2015
- Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Progress Report 2016.
- Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Progress Report 2017.