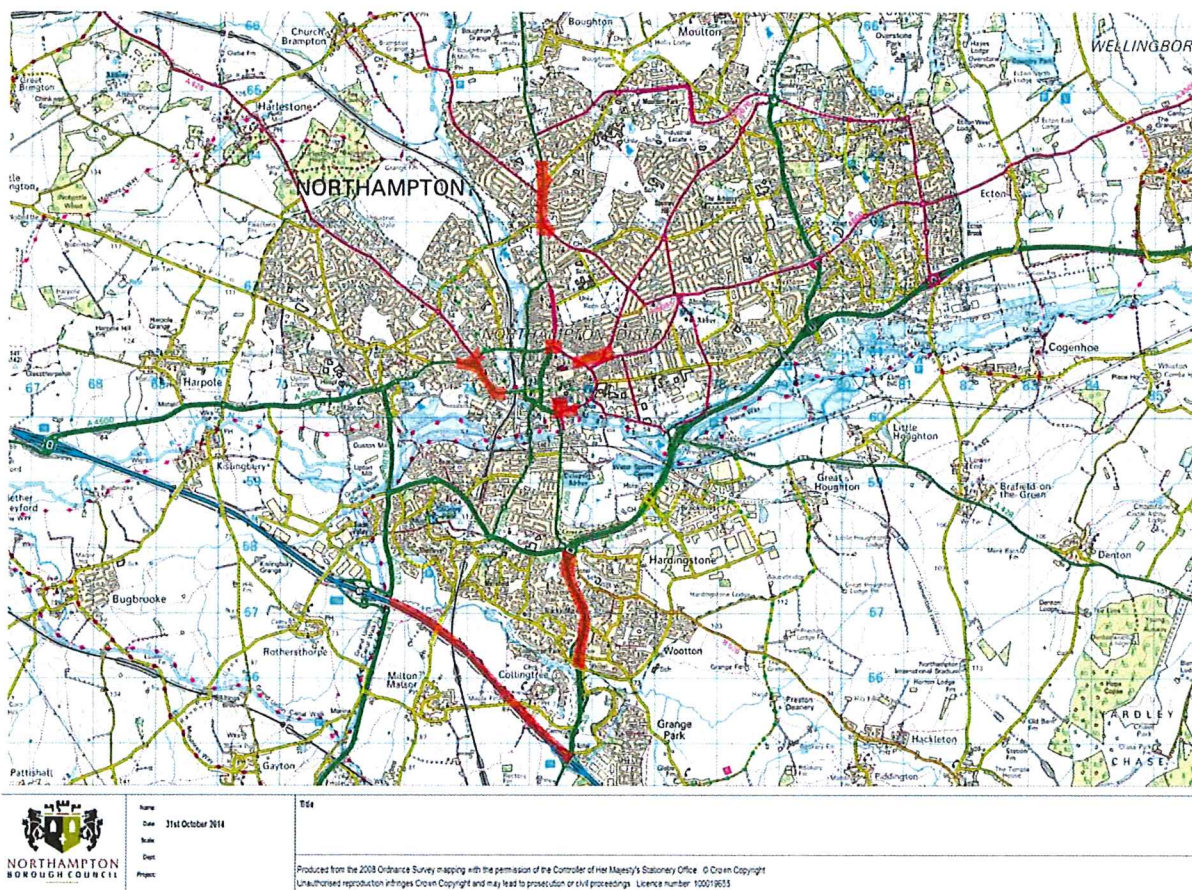


6. Theme 1 – Evidence for Change: Where is Air Quality a Problem?

6.1 Northampton Borough Council has designated 7 Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) due to elevated concentrations of NO_2 – see Figure 5. The predominant cause of these elevated levels is road transport emissions. While NBC are reviewing the status of 2 AQMA designations, levels of NO_2 in the other AQMAs remain stubbornly elevated, with the possibility that further AQMA may be designated. The emissions of NO_x (the pre-cursor for NO_2) from different vehicle types have a varying significance, depending on location. For example, buses are a significant contributor in the inner urban area and on arterial routes, while heavy and light goods vehicles are a significant contributor on trunk roads. Passenger cars, particularly diesel, play a significant role in all areas.

Further information on air quality, including the Air Quality Further Assessment 2011 and monitoring data can be found on the NBC website¹⁹

Figure 4 – Northampton Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA)



¹⁹ <http://www.northampton.gov.uk/info/200075/pollution/1083/air-quality-review>