

The objective of the Scrutiny Review was:

- To provide Scrutiny input into the Action Plan for the Council's Emissions Strategy

Key lines of Inquiry:

- To increase Councillor and public understanding of air quality issues in Northampton
- To understand the causes and impact of air pollution
- To understand the actions being taken to reduce air pollution in Northampton
- To understand the actions being taken by partners to reduce air pollution in Northampton
- To provide recommendations for the production of the Action Plan for the Council's Emissions Strategy, which will identify ways of improving air quality in Northampton
- Examine all current air quality management areas to ensure they are performing.
- To see if they can be improved and consider all other factors and future factors in moving forward

Scrutiny holds a specific and important role in the oversight of significant issues affecting the population and this review was a focussed piece of work that linked to the Council's corporate priorities and examined a range of information.

During its Review the Scrutiny Panel realised that moderate. Air quality is acceptable; however, for some pollutants there may be a moderate health concern for a very small number of people who are unusually sensitive to air pollution.

The recommendations made in this report address a wide range of issues raised throughout the Review, regarding pollution and emissions. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the officers of the Council who attended meetings and gave an informative presentation and provided critical information in response to the core questions of the Panel; and the key Agencies and partners who gave up their time to contribute to this Review in such a meaningful way.

The Scrutiny Panel looked at evidence from Local Authorities noted for best practice. Baseline information was received and desktop research carried out.

The Scrutiny Panel was made up from members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee together with other non- Executives: myself, Councillor Gareth Eales (Deputy Chair); Councillors Rufia Ashraf, Mohammed Aziz, Julie Davenport, Terrie Eales and Brian Sargeant. The Scrutiny Panel benefitted from the experience of two Co- Optees – Patrick Cross, WASPRA, and Graham Croucher of St James Residents' Association.

This review was carried out between October 2016 and April 2017.



Councillor Sam Kilby-Shaw
Chair, Scrutiny Panel 4 – Emissions Strategy (Action Plan)

Acknowledgements to all those who took part in the Review:-

- Councillors Gareth Eales (Deputy Chair); Councillors Rufia Ashraf, Mohammed Aziz, Julie Davenport, Terrie Eales and Brian Sargeant, together with co-optees -
– Patrick Cross, WASPRA, and Graham Croucher of St James Residents' Association.
- who sat with me on this in-depth Scrutiny Review
- Councillor Mike Hallam, Cabinet Member for Environment, NBC, and Neil Polden, Senior Environmental Health Officer, NBC, Dr Peter Barker, Acting Director of Public Health and Stephen Marks, Public Health, Northamptonshire County Council, Chris Wragg and Darren Berwick, Highways, NCC and Director Carbon Management Team, NCC, Andrew Whittles, Director, Low Emissions Strategy Ltd, Mr Todd and Mr Ball, UN, Electric Corby, Mr Miller, Northamptonshire Green Party, Steve Burd, StageCoach (add Parish Councils if applicable).for providing either written or oral evidence to a meeting of the Scrutiny Panel.
- Thomas Appleyard, Brian Hoare, Tony Clarke for taking an interest in this Scrutiny Review, attending and/or addressing a meeting of the Scrutiny Panel