

## **REGENERATION, CULTURE, ENVIRONMENT & TRANSFORMATION**

### **FINDINGS OF THE DECLARATION OF FOUR ELMS HILL AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA CONSULTATION 2017**

## **INTRODUCTION**

It was agreed at Council on 9<sup>th</sup> May that there was a need to declare a new Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) at Four Elms Hill and that a consultation should be undertaken on the proposal prior to the formal declaration of the AQMA by legal order.

This report provides analysis of the consultation results that took place between 23<sup>rd</sup> May and 28<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Seven responses were received to the consultation, 4 from local residents, 2 from statutory consultees (Public Health England and Natural England) and 1 response from a local authority.

In general the local residents who responded to the consultation:

- acknowledged the high level of traffic on Four Elms Hill and the impact it has on the air quality and their properties.
- They welcomed the development of an Air Quality Action Plan and suggested that this should include alternative means of travel.
- concerns were raised about the proposed new residential developments on the peninsula and the potential impact this could have on the local air quality.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The consultation period was for 5 weeks and commenced on 23 May 2017 and ended on 28 June 2017.

## **LETTERS/EMAILS**

Open letters were sent to residents, businesses, schools and medical practices within the proposed AQMA and within the surrounding area (120 letters were sent), asking for comments and questions on the proposed AQMA. The letter directed people to the council websites which provided further information and the Detailed Assessment.

Emails were also sent to statutory consultees, local parish councils and other interested parties (100 emails were sent), asking for comments and questions on the proposed AQMA. The e-mail directed people to the council websites which provided further information and the Detailed Assessment.

## **WEBSITE**

The consultation was promoted on the council website.

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### OBSERVATIONS

Seven responses were received to the consultation, 4 from local residents, 2 from statutory consultees (Public Health England and Natural England) and 1 response from a local authority.

### FINDINGS

All of the local residents (4 consultees) who commented on the consultation, confirmed that they were aware of the air quality issues on Four Elms Hill and that it was associated with road traffic. Local residents (2 consultees) also raised concerns about the impact the poor air quality has on their properties. Concerns were also raised regarding future development on the peninsula and the impact this may have on the local air quality (2 consultees). The development of an Air Quality Action Plan was welcomed and it was suggested that this should include alternative means of travel (2 consultees).

### LIST OF CONSULTEES

Defra/Secretary of State  
Environment Agency  
Highways Agency  
Natural England  
Chamber of Commerce  
Breathe Easy Medway  
Medway Asthma  
Ashford Borough Council  
Canterbury City Council  
Dartford Borough Council  
Dover District Council  
Gravesham Borough Council  
Maidstone Borough Council  
Sevenoaks District Council  
Shepway District Council  
Swale Borough Council  
Thanet District Council  
Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council  
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council  
Kent County Council  
Allhallows Parish Council  
Cliffe and Cliffe Woods Parish Councils  
Cooling Parish Council  
Cuxton Parish Council  
Frindsbury Extra Parish Council

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CONSULTATION 2017

Halling Parish Council  
High Halstow Parish Council  
Hoo St Werburgh Parish Council  
St James Isle of Grain Parish Council  
St Mary Hoo Parish Council  
Stoke Parish Council  
Allhallows Primary Academy  
Chattenden Primary School  
High Halstow Primary School  
Hoo St Werburgh Primary School and Marlborough Centre  
St Helen's CEP School  
St James Church of England Primary Academy  
Stoke Community School  
The Hundred of Hoo Academy  
St Werburgh Medical Practice, Stoke Village Hall, Mallard Way, Lower Stoke, Rochester,  
Kent Me3 9ST  
St Werburgh Medical Practice, 98 Bells Lane, Hoo, Rochester, Kent Me3 9HH  
The Elms Medical Centre, Hoo, Rochester, Kent Me3 9AE