



Gladman Developments Limited

Proposed Residential Development at Land off Cunnery Close, Barlestone

Air Quality Assessment

Report No: 446530-01 (01)

FEBRUARY 2026

RSK GENERAL NOTES

Report No.: 446530-01(01)

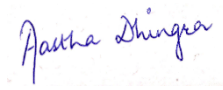
Title: Air Quality Assessment - Proposed Residential Development at Land off Cunnery Close, Barlestone

Client: Gladman Developments Limited

Date: 24th February 2026

Office: Hemel Hempstead

Status: Final

Author	<u>Phoebe Chan Senior Air Quality Consultant</u>	Technical reviewer	<u>Aastha Dhingra Senior Air Quality Consultant</u>
Signature		Signature	
Date:	<u>24th February 2026</u>	Date:	<u>24th February 2026</u>

RSK Environment Ltd (RSK) has prepared this report for the sole use of the client, showing reasonable skill and care, for the intended purposes as stated in the agreement under which this work was completed. The report may not be relied upon by any other party without the express agreement of the client and RSK. No other warranty, expressed or implied, is made as to the professional advice included in this report.

Where any data supplied by the client or from other sources have been used, it has been assumed that the information is correct. No responsibility can be accepted by RSK for inaccuracies in the data supplied by any other party. The conclusions and recommendations in this report are based on the assumption that all relevant information has been supplied by those bodies from whom it was requested.

No part of this report may be copied or duplicated without the express permission of RSK and the party for whom it was prepared.

Where field investigations have been carried out, these have been restricted to a level of detail required to achieve the stated objectives of the work.

This work has been undertaken in accordance with the quality management system of RSK Group plc.

Abbreviations

AADT	Annual Average Daily Traffic
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area
AQO	Air Quality Objective
AQS	Air Quality Standard
ASR	Annual Status Report
CHP	Combined Heat and Power
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DMP	Dust Management Plan
DPD	Development Plan Document
EIP	Environmental Improvement Plan
EPUK	Environmental Protection UK
EU	European Union
HBBC	Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
HDV	Heavy Duty Vehicle
IAQM	Institute of Air Quality Management
LAQM	Local Air Quality Management
LDV	Light Duty Vehicle
MHCLG	Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government
NAQS	National Air Quality Strategy
NO ₂	Nitrogen Dioxide
NO _x	Oxides of nitrogen
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NWLDC	North West Leicestershire District Council
PM _{2.5}	Particulate matter of size fraction approximating to <2.5µm diameter
PM ₁₀	Particulate matter of size fraction approximating to <10µm diameter
RSK	RSK Environment Limited
VOC	Volatile Organic Compounds

CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	6
1.1	Background	6
2	LEGISLATION, PLANNING POLICY & GUIDANCE	7
2.1	Key Legislation	7
2.1.1	Air Quality Strategy	7
2.1.2	The Clean Air Strategy 2019	7
2.1.3	Air Quality Standards	7
2.1.4	The Environment Act, 2021	8
2.1.5	The Environmental Improvement Plan (EIP), 2025	8
2.2	Planning Policy	8
2.2.1	National Planning Policy Framework	9
2.2.2	Local Planning Policy	9
2.3	Best Practice Guidance	10
2.3.1	Guidance on the Assessment of Dust from Demolition and Construction	10
2.3.2	Local Air Quality Management Review and Assessment Technical Guidance	10
2.3.3	Land-Use Planning & Development Control: Planning for Air Quality	10
2.3.4	Interim Planning Guidance on the consideration of the Environment Act PM _{2.5} targets in planning decisions (2024)	10
3	ASSESSMENT SCOPE	12
3.1	Overall Approach	12
3.2	Baseline Characterisation	12
3.3	Construction Phase Assessment	12
3.3.1	Construction Dust and Particulate Matter	12
3.3.2	Emissions to Air from Construction Traffic and Plant	13
3.4	Operational Phase Impact Assessment	13
3.4.1	Emissions to Air from Operational Traffic	13
3.4.2	Emissions to Air from Operational Phase Combustion Plant	14
3.4.3	Exposure of Future Users to Air Pollution	14
4	BASELINE AIR QUALITY CHARACTERISATION	15
4.1	Emissions Sources and Key Air Pollutants	15
4.2	Presence of AQMAs	15
4.3	Baseline Monitoring Data	15
4.4	LAQM Background Data	17
4.5	Background Air Quality at the Proposed Development Site	18
5	ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS	19
5.1	Construction Phase	19
5.1.1	Exhaust Emissions from Plant and Vehicles	19
5.1.2	Construction Dust and Particulate Matter Emissions	19
5.1.3	Potential Dust Emission Magnitude	20
5.1.4	Sensitivity of the Area	21
5.1.5	Risk of Impacts	23
5.2	Operational Phase	23
5.2.1	Emissions to Air from Operational Phase	23

6	MITIGATION MEASURES	27
6.1	Construction Phase Mitigation.....	27
6.2	Operational Phase Mitigation	28
6.3	PM _{2.5} Targets	28
7	CONCLUSIONS	29
8	REFERENCES	30
 APPENDIX		
	APPENDIX A CONSTRUCTION DUST ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY	32
	APPENDIX B SITE-SPECIFIC MITIGATION MEASURES	37

1 INTRODUCTION

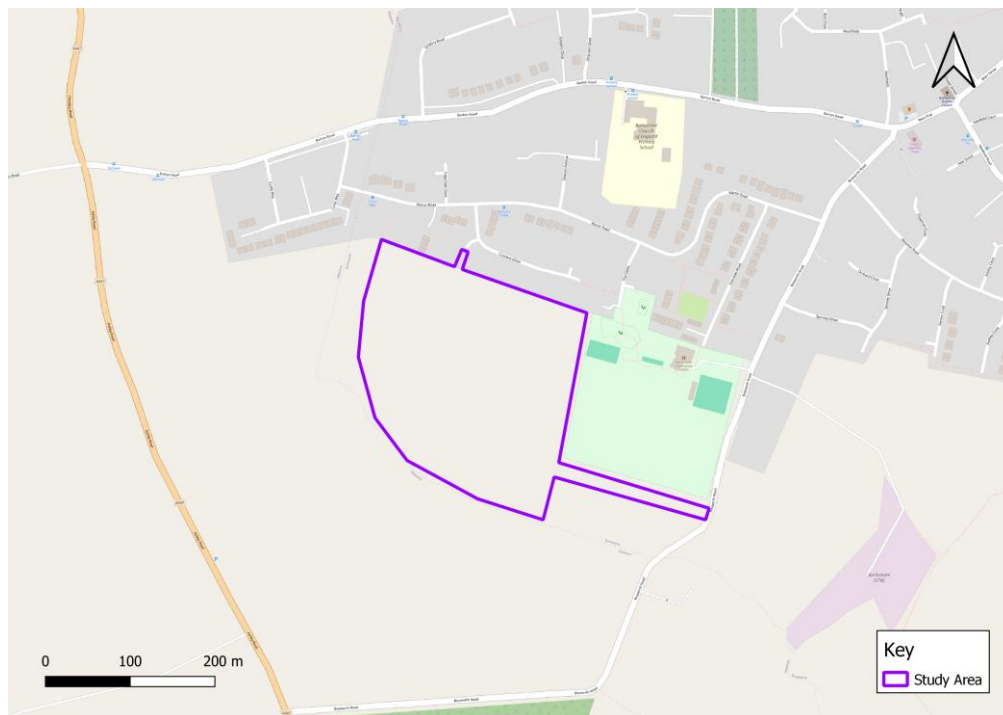
1.1 Background

RSK Environment Ltd (RSK) was commissioned to prepare an assessment of the potential air quality impacts associated with the proposed residential development at Land off Cunnery Close, Barlestone.

The proposed development comprises of up to 158 dwellings. The approximate centre of the site is 442218, 305393 and it is located within the administrative area of Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council (HBBC). Figure 1.1 shows the study area.

This report presents the findings of an assessment of existing baseline air quality conditions, the potential air quality impacts during the construction and operational phases.

Figure 1.1: Study Area



@OpenStreetMap contributors, available under the Open Database Licence

2 LEGISLATION, PLANNING POLICY & GUIDANCE

2.1 Key Legislation

2.1.1 Air Quality Strategy

UK air quality policy is published under the umbrella of the Environment Act 1995, Part IV and specifically Section 80, the National Air Quality Strategy (His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1995). The latest *Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland – Working Together for Clean Air*, published in July 2007 sets air quality standards and objectives for ten key air pollutants to be achieved between 2003 and 2020 (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), 2007). It furthermore describes the role of local authorities in carrying out their duties under the Environment Act 1995 (i.e. the Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) regime) (His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1995).

The latest 2023 air quality strategy: Air quality Strategy: framework for local authority delivery, which supersedes the 2007 air quality strategy (in England only), retains the majority of the 2007 strategy but further sets out the actions that Defra expects local authorities to take in support of their long-term air quality goals, including the new PM_{2.5} targets (Defra, 2023).

2.1.2 The Clean Air Strategy 2019

The Clean Air Strategy 2019 sets out ways that the UK government will seek to tackle major sources of pollution (Defra, 2019). This latest strategy aims to have a more joined-up approach, outlining actions the Government plans to take to reduce emissions from transport, homes, agriculture and industry.

2.1.3 Air Quality Standards

The air quality standards (AQSs) in the United Kingdom are derived from European Commission (EC) directives and are adopted into English law via the Air Quality (England) Regulations 2000 (His Majesty's Stationery Office, 2000) and Air Quality (England) Amendment Regulations 2002 (His Majesty's Stationery Office, 2002). EU Directives 2008/50/EC and 2004/107/EC set limits values and was translated into English law in 2010 via the Air Quality Standards Regulations 2010 (His Majesty's Stationery Office, 2010).

The relevant¹ AQSs to England and Wales to protect human health are summarised in Table 2.1.

¹ Relevance, in this case, is defined by the scope of the assessment.

Table 2.1: Air Quality Standards (AQs) Relevant to the Proposed Redevelopment

Substance	Averaging period	Exceedances allowed per year	Ground level concentration limit ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)
Nitrogen dioxide (NO_2)	1 calendar year	-	40
	1 hour	18	200
Fine particles (PM_{10})	1 calendar year	-	40
	24 hours	35	50
Fine particles ($\text{PM}_{2.5}$)	1 calendar year	-	20

2.1.4 The Environment Act, 2021

The Environment Act 2021 (His Majesty's Stationery Office, 2021) amends the Environment Act 1995 (His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1995) to establish the use of local air quality management framework, in order to encourage cooperation at the local level and broaden the range of organisations that play a role in improving local air quality. Part 1 of The Environment Act requires targets to be set for fine particulate matter $\text{PM}_{2.5}$, and these were introduced in The Environmental Targets (Fine Particulate Matter) (England) Regulations 2023 as follows (His Majesty's Stationery Office, 2023):

- $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentration interim target, annual mean of $12\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ by 2028;
- $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ exposure reduction interim target of 22% reduction compared to 2018 by 2028;
- $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentration binding target of annual mean of $10\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ by 2040;
- $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ exposure reduction binding target of 35% reduction compared to 2018 by 2040.

2.1.5 The Environmental Improvement Plan (EIP), 2025

In the EIP, interim targets have been set to keep on track to meet the statutory long-term targets (Defra, 2025). Existing interim Environment Act targets have been revised and two new interim targets have been introduced, as follow:

- an annual mean concentration target of $10\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ to be achieved by December 2030;
- a population exposure reduction target of 30% compared to 2018 to be achieved by December 2030.

2.2 Planning Policy

The land use planning process is a key means of improving air quality, particularly in the long term, through the strategic location and design of new developments. Any air quality concern that relates to land use and its development can, depending on the details of the proposed development, be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.

2.2.1 National Planning Policy Framework

In December 2024, the revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published, superseding the previous December 2023 NPPF with immediate effect (Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), 2024). The NPPF includes a presumption in favour of sustainable development.

Section 15 of the NPPF deals with Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment, and states that the intention is that the planning system should prevent “*new and existing development from contributing to, or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. Development should wherever possible, help to improve local environmental conditions such as air and water quality, taking into account relevant information such as river basin management plans.*”

With specific regard to air quality, paragraph 187 of the NPPF states that:

“Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:

.... e) preventing new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. Development should, wherever possible, help to improve local environmental conditions such as air and water quality, taking into account relevant information such as river basin management plans....”

Furthermore, paragraph 199 of the NPPF states that: *“Planning policies and decisions should sustain and contribute towards compliance with relevant limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and Clean Air Zones, and the cumulative impacts from individual sites in local areas. Opportunities to improve air quality or mitigate impacts should be identified, such as through traffic and travel management, and green infrastructure provision and enhancement. So far as possible these opportunities should be considered at the plan-making stage, to ensure a strategic approach and limit the need for issues to be reconsidered when determining individual applications. Planning decisions should ensure that any new development in Air Quality Management Areas and Clean Air Zones is consistent with the local air quality action plan.”*

2.2.2 Local Planning Policy

Hinckley and Bosworth Core Strategy (December 2009)

The Core Strategy is the key Development Plan Document (DPD) in the Local Plan 2006 to 2026 (HBBC, 2009). The Core Strategy was adopted in 2009, and sets out the overarching strategy and core policies to guide the future development of the borough up to 2026.

2.3 Best Practice Guidance

2.3.1 Guidance on the Assessment of Dust from Demolition and Construction

The Institute of Air Quality Management (IAQM) published a guidance document on the assessment of construction phase impacts (herein the 'IAQM construction dust guidance') (IAQM, 2024). The guidance was produced to provide advice to developers, consultants and environmental health officers on how to assess the impacts arising from construction activities. The emphasis of the methodology is on classifying sites according to the risk of impacts (in terms of dust nuisance, PM₁₀ impacts on public exposure and impact upon sensitive ecological receptors) and to identify mitigation measure appropriate to the level of risk identified.

2.3.2 Local Air Quality Management Review and Assessment Technical Guidance

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has published technical guidance for use by local authorities in their air quality review and assessment work. This guidance, referred to in this document as the Local Air Quality Management Technical Guidance ('LAQM TG22') (Defra, 2022).

2.3.3 Land-Use Planning & Development Control: Planning for Air Quality

Environmental Protection UK's (EPUK) and the IAQM jointly published a revised version of the guidance note 'Land-Use Planning & Development Control: Planning for Air Quality' in 2017 (herein the 'EPUK-IAQM guidance') to facilitate consideration of air quality within local development control processes (EPUK-IAQM, 2017). It provides a framework for air quality considerations, promoting a consistent approach to the treatment of air quality issues within development control decisions.

The guidance includes methods for undertaken an air quality assessment and an approach for assessing the significance of effects. The guidance note is widely accepted as an appropriate reference method for this purpose.

2.3.4 Interim Planning Guidance on the consideration of the Environment Act PM_{2.5} targets in planning decisions (2024)

Defra is developing guidance for applicants and Planning Authorities in England to demonstrate that they have appropriately considered the PM_{2.5} targets when making planning applications and planning decisions (Defra 2024).

The following questions are designed to be used as prompts to support the interim process, but applicants are welcome to consider measures in addition to those listed below:

1. How has exposure to PM_{2.5} been considered when selecting the development site?

Applicants are advised to consider the following in their application:

- Site proximity to people (particularly large populations and/or vulnerable groups, e.g. schools, hospitals, care homes, areas of deprivation) and the impact of the development on these,
- Site proximity to pollution sources and the impact of these on users of the development,
- Exposure and emissions during both construction and in-use.

2. What actions and/or mitigations have been considered to reduce PM_{2.5} exposure for development users and nearby receptors (houses, hospitals, schools etc.) and to reduce emissions of PM_{2.5} and its precursors?

Applicants are advised to explain (with evidence where possible) why each measure was implemented. Or, if no mitigation measures have been implemented, why this was not proposed. Actions can refer to, but are not limited to, the following:

- Site layout,
- The development's design,
- Technology used in the construction or installed for use in the development,
- Construction and future use of the development.

3 ASSESSMENT SCOPE

3.1 Overall Approach

The approach taken for assessing the potential air quality impacts of the proposed redevelopment may be summarised as follows:

- Baseline characterisation of local air quality;
- Qualitative impact assessment of the construction phase of the development using the 2024 IAQM construction dust guidance (IAQM, 2024);
- Qualitative assessment of the operational phase of the development, with reference to the 2017 EPUK-IAQM guidance (EPUK-IAQM, 2017); and
- Recommendation of mitigation measures, where appropriate, to ensure any adverse effects on air quality are minimised.

3.2 Baseline Characterisation

Existing or baseline air quality refers to the concentrations of relevant substances that are already present in ambient air. These substances are emitted by various sources, including road traffic, industrial, domestic, agricultural and natural sources.

A desk-based study has been undertaken including a review of monitoring data available from HBBC and the estimated background data from the LAQM Support website maintained by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). Consideration has also been given to potential sources of air pollution and the presence of AQMAs.

3.3 Construction Phase Assessment

3.3.1 Construction Dust and Particulate Matter

Construction works for the proposed redevelopment have the potential to lead to the release of fugitive dust and particulate matter. An assessment of the likely significant effects of construction phase dust and particulate matter at sensitive receptors has therefore been undertaken following the IAQM construction dust guidance (IAQM, 2024).

Three separate dust impacts were considered:

- Disamenity due to dust soiling;
- The risk of health effects due to an increase in exposure to PM₁₀; and
- Harm to ecological receptors.

In order to assess the potential impacts of construction, activities are divided into three types:

- Earthworks;
- Construction; and
- Trackout².

The risk of dust and PM₁₀ arising to cause disamenity and/or health or ecological impacts was based on an assessment of likely emissions magnitude and the sensitivity of the surrounding environment. The risk category may be different for each of the three 'construction' activities.

Appendix A sets out the construction dust assessment methodology in detail as per IAQM construction dust guidance. Once the level of risk has been determined, then site specific mitigation proportionate to the level of risk can be identified (as detailed in Appendix B).

The Magic Map application available online by Defra (Defra, 2026) was used to identify statutory ecological receptors near the proposed redevelopment site.

3.3.2 Emissions to Air from Construction Traffic and Plant

Exhaust emissions from construction phase vehicles and plant may have an impact on local air quality adjacent to the routes used by these vehicles to access the proposed development site and in the vicinity of the proposed development site itself. Detailed information on the number of vehicles and plant associated with the construction phase is not available at this stage (and would not be until after appointment of the main construction contractors). Therefore, a qualitative impact assessment has been undertaken based on professional judgement and considering the following factors:

- The likely duration of the construction phase;
- The potential number and type of construction traffic and plant that could be required; and
- The number and proximity of sensitive receptors to the proposed redevelopment site and along the likely construction vehicle routes.

3.4 Operational Phase Impact Assessment

3.4.1 Emissions to Air from Operational Traffic

The EPUK-IAQM guidance (EPUK-IAQM, 2017) provides indicative criteria for when an air quality assessment is likely to be required. If none of the criteria are exceeded, it is considered unlikely that there will be any significant impacts on air quality during the

² Trackout is defined as the transport of dust and dirt from the construction / demolition sites onto public road network, where it may be deposited and then re-suspended by vehicles using the network.

operational phase. A screening level assessment against these criteria has been undertaken in Section 5 of this report.

3.4.2 Emissions to Air from Operational Phase Combustion Plant

It is understood that no significant combustion sources such as combined heat and power (CHP) plant or biomass boilers are proposed as part of the scheme. Therefore, this report has not considered emission related to energy generation any further.

3.4.3 Exposure of Future Users to Air Pollution

The potential exposure of future users of the proposed redevelopment has been considered by reviewing the baseline conditions (Section 4) and the locations of sensitive receptors within the proposed development, as well as considering the EPUK-IAQM guidance (EPUK-IAQM, 2017).

4 BASELINE AIR QUALITY CHARACTERISATION

Existing or baseline air quality refers to the concentrations of relevant substances that are already present in ambient air. These substances are emitted by various sources, including road traffic, industrial, domestic, agricultural and natural sources. Baseline air quality data employed in this study have been obtained from monitoring stations maintained by HBBC and the LAQM Support website operated by Defra.

4.1 Emissions Sources and Key Air Pollutants

The proposed development site is located east of A447 and west of Bosworth Road. The proposed development site is surrounded by residential areas to the north.

The principal pollutants relevant to this assessment are considered to be NO₂, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}, generally regarded as the most significant air pollutants released by vehicular combustion processes, or subsequently generated by vehicle emissions in the atmosphere through chemical reactions.

4.2 Presence of AQMAs

HBBC currently does not have any declared Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs). Therefore, the proposed development is not located within or close to an AQMA.

4.3 Baseline Monitoring Data

HBBC 2023 Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR) is the latest report publicly available (HBBC, 2023). According to HBBC 2023 ASR, there was a network of 16 nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) diffusion tubes monitoring locations and no automatic monitoring station in Hinckley and Bosworth in 2022.

The closest NO₂ diffusion tube to the proposed development site is a suburban diffusion tube monitoring station (HBBC ref: 5), which is located approximately 6.5km southeast of the proposed development site. The monitoring data from this site are reproduced in Table 4.1 below. The data from this tube show that there was no exceedance of the annual mean NO₂ AQO at this diffusion tube site between 2021 and 2022.

Table 4.1: Annual Mean NO₂ Concentrations at Diffusion Tube 5

Site ID	Location	Site Type	Approximate Distance from Site (km)	Annual Mean Concentration (µg/m ³)				
				2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
5	Peckleton Lane Desford	Suburban	6.5	-	-	-	10.9	12.4
AQO				40 µg/m ³				

Furthermore, according to North West Leicestershire District Council (NWLDC) 2025 ASR, there are three NO₂ diffusion tube monitoring locations operated by NWLDC, which are located within 6km of the proposed development site (NWLDC, 2025). Table 4.2 presents the available monitoring data for NO₂ at these locations for years 2020-2024. The monitoring data shows that there was no exceedance of the annual mean NO₂ AQO between 2022 and 2024 except at diffusion tube 65N in 2022. It should be noted that, diffusion tube 65N is located adjacent to Melbourne Road, whilst the proposed development site is located further away from roads. Therefore, pollutant concentrations at the proposed development site can be expected to be lower than the monitored concentrations at diffusion tube 65N.

Table 4.2: Annual Mean NO₂ Concentrations at Diffusion Tubes within 6.5km of the Proposed Development Site

Site ID	Location	Site Type	Approximate Distance from Site (km)	Annual Mean Concentration (µg/m ³)				
				2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
67N	Chippy 76 Melbourne Road Ibstock	Roadside	4.9	-	-	11.9	16.3	15.5
68N	125 Melbourne Road Ibstock	Roadside	5.1	-	-	14.2	12.6	13.7
65N	School Melbourne Road Ibstock	Roadside	5.2	-	-	41.0	12.8	12.5
AQO				40 µg/m ³				

Note: Results in **bold** exceed air quality objective.

Particulate matter monitoring data is not available in the vicinity (i.e. 3km) of the proposed development site.

Figure 4.1 shows all four monitoring locations within 6.5km of the proposed development site.

Figure 4.1 Monitoring Locations within 6.5km of the Proposed Development Site



@OpenStreetMap contributors, available under the Open Database Licence

4.4 LAQM Background Data

In addition to the local monitoring data, estimated background air quality data available from the Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) website operated by Defra, may also be used to establish likely background air quality conditions at the proposed redevelopment site (Defra, 2026).

This website provides estimated annual average background concentrations of NO₂, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} on a 1km² grid basis. Table 4.3 identifies estimated annual average background concentrations for the grid square containing the proposed redevelopment site for years from 2026 to 2028. No exceedances of the NO₂, PM₁₀ or PM_{2.5} AQs are predicted. As background concentrations are predicted to fall with time, background concentrations in future years would not be expected to exceed their respective AQs.

Table 4.3: Estimated Background Annual Average NO₂, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} Concentrations at Proposed Development Site (from 2021 base map)

Assessment Year	Estimated Annual Average Pollutant Concentrations Derived from the LAQM Website (µg/m ³)		
	NO ₂	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
2026	6.1	11.9	6.8

2027	5.9	11.8	6.7
2028	5.8	11.8	6.7
AQS	40	40	20

Note: Presented concentrations for 1 km² grid centred on 442500, 305500; approximate centre of development site is 442218, 305393.

4.5 Background Air Quality at the Proposed Development Site

Based on the local monitoring data and the estimated background concentrations from Defra, the annual mean NO₂, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} AQOs are considered unlikely to be exceeded at the proposed development site.

The 2017 EPUK-IAQM guidance indicates that the annual mean PM₁₀ concentrations tend to be greater than ~32µg/m³ for an exceedance of the daily mean PM₁₀ AQS to be likely (EPUK-IAQM, 2017). LAQM TG22 indicates that the annual mean NO₂ concentrations tend to be greater than 60µg/m³ for an exceedance of the hourly mean NO₂ AQS to be likely (Defra, 2025). Based on the monitoring data available, the estimated background concentrations and the predicted ground level concentrations of NO₂ and PM₁₀, it is considered unlikely that short-term NO₂ and PM₁₀ AQSs would be exceeded at or in close proximity to the proposed development site.

Overall, exceedances of any of the relevant AQSs are not anticipated at the proposed development site; therefore, no significant air quality impacts are considered to be likely at the proposed development site.

5 ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS

5.1 Construction Phase

Atmospheric emissions from construction activities will depend on a combination of the potential for emissions (the type of activity and prevailing conditions) and the effectiveness of control measures. In general terms, there are two sources of emissions that will need to be controlled to minimise the potential for adverse environmental effects:

- exhaust emissions from site plant, equipment and vehicles; and
- fugitive dust emissions from site activities.

5.1.1 Exhaust Emissions from Plant and Vehicles

The operation of vehicles and equipment powered by internal combustion engines results in the emission of exhaust gases containing the pollutants NO_x, PM₁₀, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and carbon monoxide (CO). The quantities emitted depend on factors such as engine type, service history, pattern of usage and fuel composition.

Construction traffic will comprise haulage/construction vehicles and vehicles used for workers' trips to and from the application site. The greatest impact on air quality due to emission from construction phase vehicles will be in areas adjacent to the application site access and nearby road network. At this stage, detailed information regarding construction phase traffic flow is not available, however considering the size of the development, it is estimated that there will be less than 20 heavy duty vehicle (HDV) outward movements per day, which is considered unlikely to cause a significant impact on local air quality, in accordance with the IAQM guidance (IAQM, 2024).

The operation of site equipment and machinery will result in emissions to atmosphere of exhaust gases, but with suitable controls and site management such emissions are unlikely to be significant (as per LAQM.TG22) (Defra, 2025).

5.1.2 Construction Dust and Particulate Matter Emissions

Fugitive dust emissions arising from construction activities are likely to be variable in nature and will depend upon the type and extent of the activity, soil type and moisture content, road surface conditions and weather conditions. Periods of dry weather combined with higher than average wind speeds have the potential to generate more dust.

The construction activities anticipated as part of the proposed development that are often the most significant potential sources of fugitive dust emissions are:

- Earthworks comprising of levelling, construction of foundations, haulage, tipping, stockpiling, landscaping and tree removal;
- Construction of proposed development and hard landscaped areas; and

- Trackout, involving the movement of vehicles over surfaces where muddy materials have been transferred off-site (for example, on to public highways).

Fugitive dust arising from construction and demolition activities is mainly of a particle size greater than the PM₁₀ fraction (that which can potentially impact upon human health). However, it is noted that demolition and construction activities may contribute to local PM₁₀ concentrations. Appropriate dust control measures can be highly effective for controlling emissions from potentially dust generating activities identified above, and adverse effects can be greatly reduced or eliminated.

See Appendix A for further explanation of the tendency of dust to remain airborne.

5.1.3 Potential Dust Emission Magnitude

With reference to the IAQM guidance criteria outlined in Appendix A, the dust emissions magnitude for earthworks, construction and trackout activities are summarised in Tables 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3 (IAQM, 2024). There is no demolition proposed, hence the assessment for demolition is not included. Risk categories for the construction activities are summarised in Table 5.4.

Worst-case assumptions have been made, where information is not currently available, for a conservative assessment.

Table 5.1: Summary of Dust Emissions Magnitude of Earthworks Activities (Before mitigation)

Earthworks Criteria	Dust Emissions Class	Evaluation of the Effects
Total site area	Medium	18,000-110,000 m ²
Earth moving vehicles at any one time	Small	<5 vehicles
Height of bunds	Small	<3m
Overall Rating	Small	

Table 5.2: Summary of Dust Emissions Magnitude of Construction Activities (Before mitigation)

Construction Criteria	Dust Emissions Class	Evaluation of the Effects
Total building volume	Medium	12,000-75,000 m ³
On-site concrete batching or sandblasting proposed	Small	No
Dust potential of construction materials	Medium	Yes
Overall Rating	Medium	

Table 5.3: Summary of Dust Emissions Magnitude of Trackout Activities (Before mitigation)

Trackout Criteria	Dust Emissions Class	Evaluation of the Effects
Number of HDV>3.5t per day	Small	<20
Length of unpaved road	Small	<50m
Overall Rating	Small	

Table 5.4: Summary of Dust Emission Magnitude of the Site (Before mitigation)

Construction Activities	Dust Emissions Class
Earthworks	Small
Construction	Medium
Trackout	Small

5.1.4 Sensitivity of the Area

As per the IAQM construction dust guidance, the sensitivity of the area takes into account a number of factors, including (IAQM, 2024):

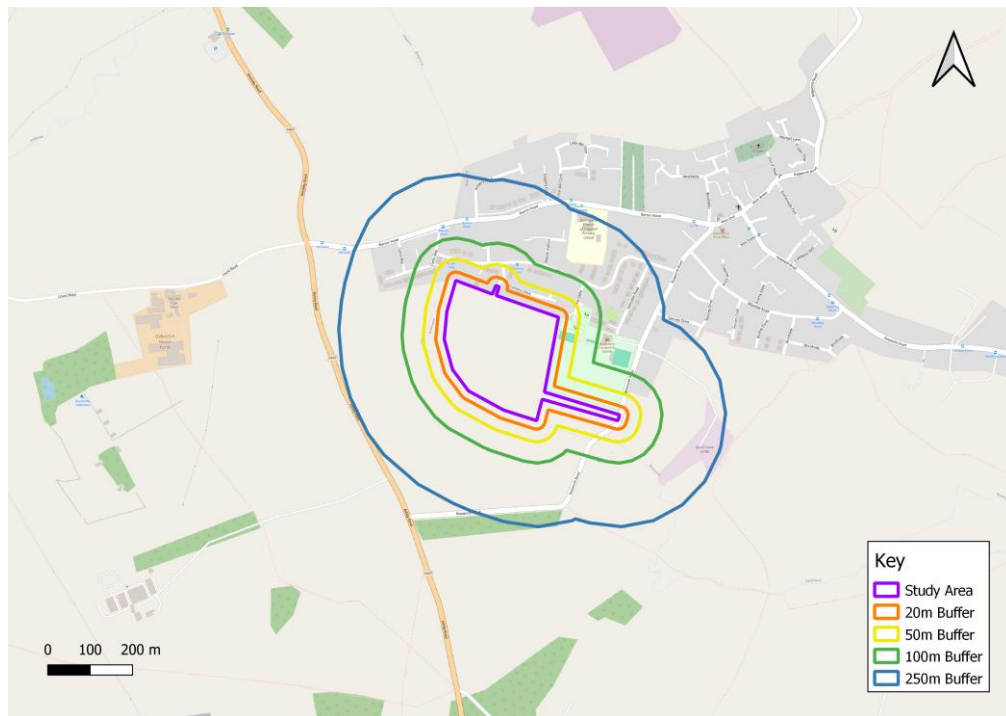
- The specific sensitivities of receptors in the area;
- The proximity and number of those receptors;
- In the case of PM₁₀, the local background concentration; and
- Site specific factors, such as whether there are natural shelters, such as trees, to reduce the risk of wind-blown dust.

Consideration is given to human and ecological receptors, distances are calculated from the construction site boundary and the trackout route proposed. Where necessary, for example, if the trackout route is not yet known, a conservative view on the likely route has been taken.

Figures 5.1 and 5.2 show maps indicating the earthworks/construction and trackout buffers, respectively, for identifying the sensitivity of the area. Table 5.5 presents the determined sensitivity of the area. Construction activities are relevant up to 250m from the proposed development site boundary whereas trackout activities are only considered relevant up to 50m from the edge of the road, as per the IAQM construction dust guidance (IAQM, 2024).

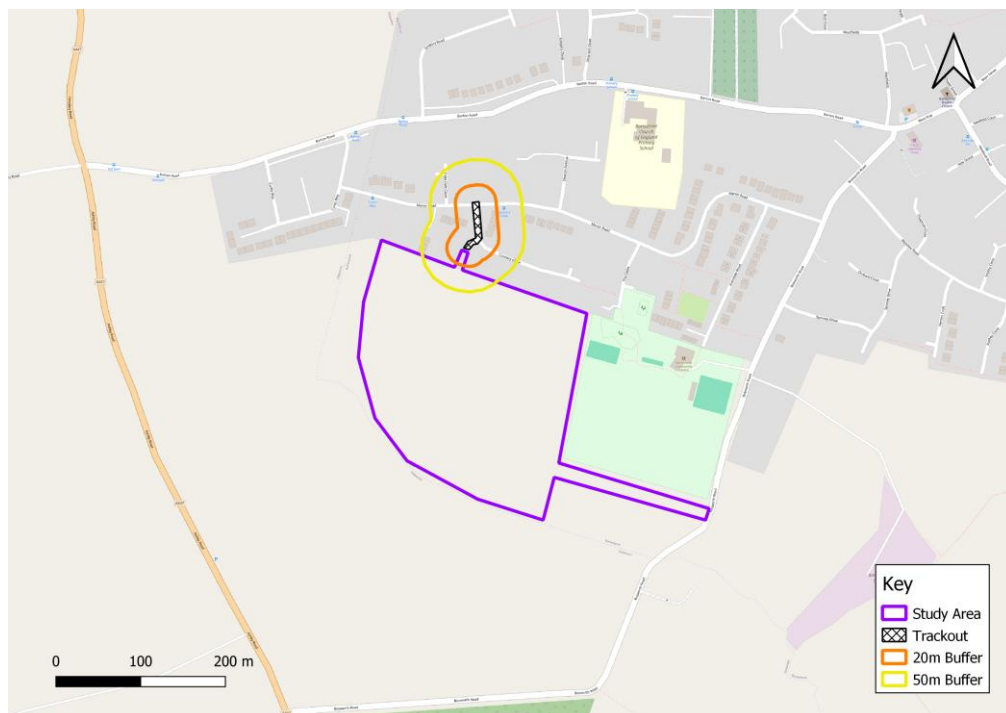
No designated ecological receptors have been identified within 50m of the proposed development site boundary or the anticipated trackout route, therefore following the IAQM construction dust guidance, ecological receptors have been screened out of the assessment and are not considered further (IAQM 2024).

Figure 5.1: Earthworks/Construction Activities Buffer Map



© OpenStreetMap contributors, available under the Open Database Licence

Figure 5.2: Trackout Activities Buffer Map



© OpenStreetMap contributors, available under the Open Database Licence

Table 5.5: Sensitivity of the area

Potential Impact		Sensitivity of the surrounding area		
		Earthworks	Construction	Trackout
Dust soiling	Receptor sensitivity	High	High	High
	Number of receptors	10-100	10-100	10-100
	Distance from the source	<20m	<20m	<20m
	Sensitivity of the area	High	High	High
Human health	Receptor sensitivity	High	High	High
	Annual mean PM ₁₀ concentration	<24µg/m ³	<24µg/m ³	<24µg/m ³
	Number of receptors	10-100	10-100	10-100
	Distance from the source	<20m	<20m	<20m
	Sensitivity of the area	Low	Low	Low

5.1.5 Risk of Impacts

The dust emission magnitude is combined with the sensitivity of the area to determine the risk of impacts of construction activities before mitigation; these are evaluated based on risk categories of each activity in Appendix A. The risk of dust impacts from construction activities is identified in Table 5.6.

Site specific mitigation measures to reduce construction phase impacts are defined based on this assessment in Section 6 and Appendix B.

Table 5.6: Summary of the Dust Risk from Construction Activities

Potential Impact	Dust Risk Impact		
	Earthworks	Construction	Trackout
Dust soiling	Low Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Human health	Negligible	Low Risk	Negligible

5.2 Operational Phase

5.2.1 Emissions to Air from Operational Phase

No significant combustion sources such as combined heat and power (CHP) plant or biomass boilers are proposed as part of the scheme.

The principal operational phase air quality impact is likely to be associated with traffic emissions as a result of any changes in traffic flows or flow composition the redevelopment may bring.

Table 5.7 presents the 2017 EPUK-IAQM guidance screening criteria for when an detailed air quality assessment might be required (EPUK-IAQM, 2017).

Based on the traffic data provided by the project transport consultants, Prime Transport Planning, it is understood that the proposed development is expected to generate an additional 886 Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) of light duty vehicle (LDV) movements. Whilst the increase in LDV slightly exceeded the EPUK-IAQM criteria on the site access road (Cunnery Close), the site access road is the only road link that will experience traffic slightly exceeded the EPUK-IAQM criterion; the traffic distribution split at Manor Road/Cunnery Close junction will be 50% / 50% (i.e. 443 AADT / 443 AADT), which is below the EPUK-IAQM criterion (EPUK-IAQM, 2017). As per the review of baseline conditions in Section 4, the annual mean NO₂ concentration at the proposed development site is expected to be well below the AQS. It should be also noted that the proposed development is not predicted to cause an increase of more than 500 AADT of LDVs or 100 AADT of heavy duty vehicles (HDVs), on any other off-site roads and none of the other EPUK-IAQM criteria are exceeded (EPUK-IAQM, 2017).

Based on the above, it is considered unlikely that the proposed development will have a significant impact on local air quality and nearby human receptors, and further assessment of the operational phase traffic is not considered to be required.

Table 5.7: Air Quality Screening Criteria from EPUK-IAQM 2017 Guidance

The Development will	Indicative Criteria to Proceed to an Air Quality Assessment	Is the Indicative Criteria Exceeded?
Cause a significant change in Light Duty Vehicle (LDV) traffic flows on local roads with relevant receptors.	A change of LDV flows of: - more than 100 AADT within or adjacent to an AQMA - more than 500 AADT elsewhere.	Criterion is exceeded. Additional traffic is estimated to be more than 500 AADT on site access road (Cunnery Close). However, the site access road is the only road link that will experience traffic slightly exceeded the EPUK-IAQM criteria; the traffic distribution split at Manor Road/Cunnery Close junction will be 50% / 50% (i.e. 443 AADT / 443 AADT). The proposed development is not predicted to cause an increase of more than 500 AADT of LDVs, on any other off-site roads.
Cause a significant change in Heavy Duty Vehicle (HDV) flows on local roads with relevant receptors.	A Change of HDV flows of: - more than 25 AADT within or adjacent to an AQMA - more than 100AADT elsewhere.	Criterion not exceeded. The proposed development is not expected to generate additional HDV movements above the screening criterion of 100 AADT (outside an AQMA).
Realign roads, i.e. changing the proximity of receptors to traffic lanes.	Where the change is 5m or more and the road is within an AQMA	Criterion not exceeded. Road realignment is not proposed.
Introduce a new junction or remove an existing junction near to relevant receptors.	Applies to junctions that cause traffic to significantly change vehicle accelerate/decelerate, e.g. traffic lights, or roundabouts.	Criterion not exceeded. New junction and new traffic system are not proposed.
Introduce or change a bus station.	Where bus flows will change by: - more than 25 AADT within or adjacent to an AQMA - more than 100AADT elsewhere.	Criterion not exceeded. None proposed.
Have an underground car park with extraction system.	The ventilation extract for the car park will be within 20m of a relevant receptor. Coupled with the car park having more than 100 movements per day (total in and out).	Criterion not exceeded. None proposed.

Have one or more substantial combustion processes, where there is a risk of impacts at relevant receptors.	Typically, any combustion plant where the single or combined NO_x emission rate is less than 5 mg/sec is unlikely to give rise to impacts, provided that the emissions are released from a vent or stack in a location and at a height that provides adequate dispersion. In situations where the emissions are released close to buildings with relevant receptors, or where the dispersion of the plume may be adversely affected by the size and/or height of adjacent buildings (including situations where the stack height is lower than the receptor) then consideration will need to be given to potential impacts at much lower emission rates. Conversely, where existing nitrogen dioxide concentrations are low, and where the dispersion conditions are favourable, a much higher emission rate may be acceptable.	Criterion not exceeded. None proposed at the time of writing this report.
---	---	---

6 MITIGATION MEASURES

6.1 Construction Phase Mitigation

The dust emitting activities outlined in Section 5.1 can be effectively controlled by appropriate dust control measures and any adverse effects can be greatly reduced or eliminated.

It is recommended that a dust management plan (DMP, which may be as part of a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)) for the construction phase should be prepared and agreed with the Local Authority to ensure that the potential for adverse environmental effects on local receptors is minimised. The DMP should include *inter alia*, measures for controlling dust and general pollution from site construction operations and include details of any monitoring scheme, if appropriate. Controls should be applied throughout the construction period to ensure that emissions are mitigated.

The dust risk categories identified have been used to define appropriate, site-specific mitigation measures, which are divided into general measures and measures specific to earthworks, construction and trackout. Depending on the level of risk, different mitigation measures are assigned, in accordance with the IAQM construction dust guidance (IAQM, 2024). For general mitigation measures, the highest risk assessed has been applied. More detailed, site-specific mitigation measures are contained in Appendix B.

The road traffic effects of the proposed development during the construction phase will be limited to a relatively short period and will be along traffic routes employed by haulage/construction vehicles and workers. Any effects on air quality will be temporary i.e. during the construction period only, and can be suitably controlled by the employment of mitigation measures (described in Appendix B).

Any emissions from construction plant (i.e. non-road mobile machinery (NRMM)) can be reduced by ensuring that any plant used on-site comply with the NO_x, particulate matter and carbon monoxide emissions standards specified in the Regulation (EU) 2016/1628 of the European Parliament and of the Council (as amended) as a minimum, where they have net power of between 37kW and 560kW (His Majesty's Stationery Office, 2016). The emissions standards vary depending on the net power the engine produces. The emissions controls will be outlined in the CEMP.

With implementation of the proposed construction phase mitigation measures (detailed in Appendix B), the residual impacts are considered to be negligible.

6.2 Operational Phase Mitigation

No significant operational phase impacts are anticipated in relation to the traffic generated by the proposed development once operational. Nevertheless, best practice mitigation measures should be considered to further reduce any residual effects on air quality, which could include but are not limited to:

- Installation of electric vehicle charging points;
- Implementation of a travel plan; and
- A Welcome Pack available to all new residents online and as a booklet, containing information and incentives to encourage the use of sustainable transport modes from new occupiers.

6.3 PM_{2.5} Targets

In addition, when considering the new PM_{2.5} targets set out in the Environmental Targets (Fine Particulate Matter) (England) Regulations 2023 (His Majesty's Stationery Office, 2023) and the EIP (Defra, 2025), as referenced in sections 2.1.4 and 2.1.5, the above construction and operational mitigation measures have looked to reduce the main sources of PM_{2.5} emissions as much as is practically possible. The location of the development is judged to be suitable, with respect to the new targets.

7 CONCLUSIONS

An air quality assessment for the proposed residential development at Land off Cunnery Close, Barlestone, has been prepared with reference to existing air quality in the area and relevant air quality legislation, policy and guidance.

An assessment of construction phase impacts has been undertaken following the IAQM construction dust guidance (IAMQ, 2024). Mitigation measures are recommended to reduce the risk of dust and particulate matter being generated and re-suspended. With implementation of the appropriate measures, no significant impacts are anticipated during the construction phase.

A qualitative assessment of the operational impacts has been undertaken by comparing the traffic data of the proposed development against the screening criteria outlined in the EPUK-IAQM guidance (EPUK-IAQM, 2017). Based on the traffic data provided by the project transport consultants, it is considered unlikely that the proposed development will have a significant impact on local air quality. Furthermore, a review of baseline conditions found that the proposed development would not introduce future sensitive receptors into an area of known poor air quality. Therefore, the overall air quality impact of the development is considered to be 'not significant'.

Based on the results of the assessment, it is judged that with appropriate mitigation, the proposed development complies with relevant national and local planning policies and that there are no air quality constraints for the development proposal.

8 REFERENCES

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2019. The Clean Air Strategy 2019. [online] Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/clean-air-strategy-2019> [Accessed February 2026].

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2007. The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (Volume 1), London: The Stationary Office.

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2007. The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (Volume 2), London: The Stationary Office.

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2014. LAQM Support [online] Available at: <http://laqm.defra.gov.uk/> [Accessed February 2026].

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2023. Air quality strategy: framework for local authority delivery.

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2026. *MAGIC Map* [online] Available at: <http://magic.defra.gov.uk/> [Accessed February 2026].

Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2021. Background Mapping Data for Local Authorities-2021. [online] Available at <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/data/laqm-background-maps?year=2021> [Assessed February 2026].

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2025. Part IV of the Environment Act 1995 as amended by the Environment Act 2021, Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002 Part III: Local Air Quality Management: Technical Guidance LAQM.TG22.

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2024. Interim Planning Guidance on the consideration of the Environment Act PM_{2.5} targets in planning decisions. [online] Available at: <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/pm25targets/planning> [Accessed February 2026].

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2025. Environmental Improvement Plan (EIP) 2025. [online] Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environmental-improvement-plan-2025/environmental-improvement-plan-eip-2025#annex-2-full-list-of-revised-eip-interim-targets> [Accessed February 2026].

Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, 2009. Local Development Framework Core Strategy. [online] Available at: https://www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/info/856/local_plan_2006_-_2026/101/local_plan_2006_-_2026_documents [Accessed February 2026].

Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, 2003. 2023 Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR). [online] Available at: https://www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/downloads/file/8134/air_quality_report_2023 [Accessed February 2026].

His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1995. Environmental Act 1995. [online] Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1995/25/contents> [Accessed February 2026].

His Majesty's Stationery Office, 2000. Air Quality (England) Regulations 2000, 928. [online] Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2000/928/contents/made> [Accessed February 2026].

His Majesty's Stationery Office, 2002. Air Quality (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2002, 3043. [online] Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2002/3043/contents/made> [Accessed February 2026].

His Majesty's Stationery Office, 2003. Air Quality Limit Values Regulations 2003. [online] Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2003/2121/made> [Accessed February 2026].

His Majesty's Stationery Office, 2008. Directive 2008/50/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21st May 2008 on Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe. [online] Available online: <https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/eur80016.pdf> [Accessed February 2026]

His Majesty's Stationery Office, 2010. Environmental Protection: The Air Quality Standards Regulations 2010, [online] Available at: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2010/1001/pdfs/uksi_20101001_en.pdf. [Accessed February 2026].

His Majesty's Stationery Office, 2016. Environmental Protection: The Air Quality Standards (Amendment) Regulations 2016, [online] Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2016/1184/contents/made>. [Accessed February 2026].

His Majesty's Stationery Office, 2016. Regulation (EU) 2016/1628 of the European Parliament and of the Council. [online] Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/eur/2016/1628/article/4> [Accessed February 2026].

Institute of Air Quality Management, 2024. Guidance of the Assessment of dust from demolition and construction v2.2.

Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government, 2024. National Planning Policy Framework: Crown.

Moorcroft et al. 2017. Land-Use Planning & Development Control: Planning for Air Quality. Environmental Protection UK and Institute of Air Quality Management, London.

North West Leicestershire District Council, 2025. 2025 Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR). [online] Available at: https://www.nwleics.gov.uk/files/documents/nwldc_asr_template_england_2025_v10/NWLDC_ASR_Template_England_2025_v1.0%20-%20%2C.pdf [Accessed February 2026].

APPENDIX A

CONSTRUCTION DUST ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

This appendix contains the construction dust assessment methodology used in the assessment.

To assess the potential impacts, construction activities are divided into demolition, earthworks, construction and trackout. The descriptors included in this section are based upon the IAQM construction dust guidance. The assessment follows the steps recommended in the guidance.

Step 1: Screen the requirement for assessment

The first step is to screen out the requirement for a construction dust assessment, this is usually a somewhat conservative level of screening. An assessment is usually required where there is:

- a 'human receptor' within:
 - 250m of the boundary of the site; or
 - 50m of the route used by construction vehicles on the public highway, up to 250m from the site entrance(s).
- an 'ecological receptor':
 - 50m of the boundary of the site; or
 - 50m of the route(s) used by construction vehicles on the public highway, up to 250m from the site entrance(s).

Step 2A: Defining the Potential Dust Emission Magnitude

Demolition

The dust emission magnitude category for demolition is varied for each site in terms of timing, building type, duration and scale. Examples of the potential dust emission classes are provided in the guidance as follows:

- **Large:** Total building volume >75,000m³, potentially dusty construction material, on-site crushing and screening, demolition activities >12m above ground level;
- **Medium:** Total building volume 12,000m³ – 75,000m³, potentially dusty construction material, demolition activities 6m – 12m above ground level; and
- **Small:** Total building volume <12,000m³, construction material with low potential for dust release, demolition activities <6m above ground, demolition during wetter months.

Earthworks

The dust emission magnitude category for earthworks is varied for each site in terms of timing, geology, topography and duration. Examples of the potential dust emission classes are provided in the guidance as follows:

- **Large:** Total site area >110,000m², potentially dusty soil type (e.g. clay), >10 heavy earth moving vehicles active at any one time, formation of bunds >6m in height;

- **Medium:** Total site area 18,000 – 110,000m², moderately dusty soil type (e.g. silt), 5 – 10 heavy earth moving vehicles active at any one time, formation of bunds 3 – 6m in height; and
- **Small:** Total site area < 18,000m², soil type with large grain size (e.g. sand), <5 heavy earth moving vehicles active at any one time, formation of bunds <3m in height.

Construction

The dust emission magnitude category for construction is varied for each site in terms of timing, building type, duration, and scale. Examples of the potential dust emissions classes are provided in the guidance as follows:

- **Large:** Total building volume >75,000m³, on site concrete batching, sandblasting;
- **Medium:** Total building volume 12,000 – 75,000m³, potentially dusty construction material (e.g. concrete), on site concrete batching; and
- **Small:** Total building volume <12,000m³, construction material with low potential for dust release (e.g. metal cladding or timber).

Trackout

Factors which determine the dust emission magnitude class of trackout activities are vehicle size, vehicle speed, vehicle number, geology and duration. Examples of the potential dust emissions classes are provided in the guidance as follows:

- **Large:** >50 HDV (>3.5t) trips in any one day, potentially dusty surface material (e.g. high clay content), unpaved road length >100m;
- **Medium:** 20 – 50 HDV (>3.5t) trips in any one day, moderately dusty surface material (e.g. high clay content), unpaved road length 50 – 100m; and
- **Small:** <20 HDV (>3.5t) trips in any one day, surface material with low potential for dust release, unpaved road length <50m.

Step 2B: Defining the Sensitivity of the Area

The sensitivity of the area is defined for dust soiling, human health and ecosystems. The sensitivity of the area takes into account the following factors:

- The specific sensitivities of receptors in the area;
- The proximity and number of those receptors;
- In the case of PM₁₀, the local background concentration; and
- Site-specific factors, such as whether there are natural shelters such as trees, to reduce the risk of wind-blown dust.

Table A1 has been used to define the sensitivity of different types of receptors to dust soiling, health effects and ecological effects.

Table A1: Sensitivity of the Area Surrounding the Site

Sensitivity of Area	Dust Soiling	Human Receptors	Ecological Receptors
High	- Users can reasonably expect enjoyment of a high level of amenity. - The appearance, aesthetics or value of their property would be diminished by soiling. - The people or property would reasonably be expected to be present continuously, or at least regularly for extended periods, as part of the normal pattern of use of the land. - Examples include dwellings, museums and other culturally important collections, medium and long term car parks and car showrooms.	- Locations where members of the public are exposed over a time period relevant to the air quality objective for PM₁₀ (in the case of the 24-hour objectives, a relevant location would be one where individuals may be exposed for eight hours or more in a day) - Examples include residential properties, hospitals, schools and residential care homes should also be considered as having equal sensitivity to residential areas for the purposes of this assessment.	- Locations with an international or national designation <i>and</i> the designated features may be affected by dust soiling. - Locations where there is a community of a particularly dust sensitive species such as vascular species included in the Red Data List For Great Britain. - Examples include a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) designated for acid heathlands or a local site designated for lichens adjacent to the demolition of a large site containing concrete (alkali) buildings.
Medium	- Users would expect to enjoy a reasonable level of amenity, but would not reasonably expect to enjoy the same level of amenity as in their home. - The appearance, aesthetics or value of their property could be diminished by soiling. - The people or property wouldn't reasonably be expected to be present here continuously or regularly for extended periods as part of the normal pattern of use of the land. - Examples include parks and places of work.	- Locations where the people exposed are workers and exposure is over a time period relevant to the air quality objective for PM₁₀ (in the case of the 24-hour objectives, a relevant location would be one where individuals may be exposed for eight hours or more in a day). - Examples include office and shop workers, but will generally not include workers occupationally exposed to PM₁₀, as protection is covered by Health and Safety at Work legislation.	- Locations where there is a particularly important plant species, where its dust sensitivity is uncertain or unknown. - Locations with a national designation where the features may be affected by dust deposition. - Example is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) with dust sensitive features.
Low	- The enjoyment of amenity would not reasonably be expected. - Property would not reasonably be expected to be diminished in appearance, aesthetics or value by soiling. - There is transient exposure, where the people or property would reasonably be expected to be present only for limited periods of time as part of the normal pattern of use of the land. - Examples include playing fields, farmland (unless commercially-sensitive horticultural), footpaths, short term car parks and roads.	- Locations where human exposure is transient. - Indicative examples include public footpaths, playing fields, parks and shopping streets.	- Locations with a local designation where the features may be affected by dust deposition. - Example is a local Nature Reserve with dust sensitive features.

Based on the sensitivities assigned of the different types of receptors surrounding the site and numbers of receptors within certain distances of the site, a sensitivity classification for the area can be defined for each. **Tables A2 to A4** indicate the method used to determine the sensitivity of the area for dust soiling, human health and ecological impacts, respectively.

For trackout, as per the IAQM construction dust guidance, it is only considered necessary to consider trackout impacts up to 50m from the edge of the road.

Table A2: Sensitivity of the area to dust soiling effects on people and property

Receptor Sensitivity	Number of Receptors	Distances from the Source (m)			
		<20	<50	<100	<250
High	>100	High	High	Medium	Low
	10-100	High	Medium	Low	Low
	1-10	Medium	Low	Low	Low
Medium	>1	Medium	Low	Low	Low
Low	>1	Low	Low	Low	Low

Table A3: Sensitivity of the area to Human Health Impacts

Receptor Sensitivity	Annual Mean PM ₁₀ Conc.	Number of Receptors	Distances from the Source (m)			
			<20	<50	<100	<250
High	>32µg/m ³	>100	High	High	High	Medium
		10-100	High	High	Medium	Low
		1-10	High	Medium	Low	Low
	28-32µg/m ³	>100	High	High	Medium	Low
		10-100	High	Medium	Low	Low
		1-10	High	Medium	Low	Low
	24-28µg/m ³	>100	High	Medium	Low	Low
		10-100	High	Medium	Low	Low
		1-10	Medium	Low	Low	Low
	<24 µg/m ³	>100	Medium	Low	Low	Low
		10-100	Low	Low	Low	Low
		1-10	Low	Low	Low	Low
Medium	>32µg/m ³	>10	High	Medium	Low	Low
		1-10	Medium	Low	Low	Low
	28-32µg/m ³	>10	Medium	Low	Low	Low
		1-10	Low	Low	Low	Low
	24-28µg/m ³	>10	Low	Low	Low	Low
		1-10	Low	Low	Low	Low
	<24 µg/m ³	>10	Low	Low	Low	Low
		1-10	Low	Low	Low	Low
Low	-	>1	Low	Low	Low	Low

Table A4: Sensitivity of the area to Ecological Impacts

Receptor Sensitivity	Distances from the Source (m)	
	<20	<50
High	High	Medium
Medium	Medium	Low
Low	Low	Low

Step 2C: Defining the Risk of Impacts

The final step is to use both the dust emission magnitude classification with the sensitivity of the area, to determine a potential risk of impacts for each construction activity, before the application of mitigation. **Tables A5 to A8** indicate the method used to assign the level of risk for each construction activity.

Table A5: Risk of Dust Impacts from Demolition

Sensitivity of Area	Dust Emission Magnitude		
	Large	Medium	Small
High	High Risk	Medium Risk	Medium Risk
Medium	High Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Low	Medium Risk	Low Risk	Negligible

Table A6: Risk of Dust Impacts from Earthworks

Sensitivity of Area	Dust Emission Magnitude		
	Large	Medium	Small
High	High Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Medium	Medium Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Low	Low Risk	Low Risk	Negligible

Table A7: Risk of Dust Impacts from Construction

Sensitivity of Area	Dust Emission Magnitude		
	Large	Medium	Small
High	High Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Medium	Medium Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Low	Low Risk	Low Risk	Negligible

Table A8: Risk of Dust Impacts from Trackout

Sensitivity of Area	Dust Emission Magnitude		
	Large	Medium	Small
High	High Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Medium	Medium Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Low	Low Risk	Low Risk	Negligible

APPENDIX B

SITE-SPECIFIC MITIGATION MEASURES

Site-specific mitigation measures are divided into general measures, applicable to all sites and measures specific to earthworks, construction and trackout. Depending on the level of risk assigned to each site, different mitigation is assigned. The method of assigning mitigation measures as detailed in the IAQM construction dust guidance has been used.

For those mitigation measures that are general, the highest risk has been applied. In this case, the '**medium risk**' site mitigation measures have been applied, as determined by the dust risk assessment in Section 5. There are two categories of mitigation measure – 'highly recommended' and 'desirable', which are indicated according to the dust risk level identified in Table 5.6. Desirable measures are presented in *italics*.

Communications

- Develop and implement a stakeholder communications plan that includes community engagement before work commences on site.
- Display the name and contact details of person(s) accountable for air quality and dust issues on the site boundary.
- Display the head or regional office contact information.

Dust Management

- Develop and implement a DMP, which may include measures to control other emissions, approved by the Local Authority. The level of detail will depend on the risk, and should include as a minimum the highly recommended measures. The desirable measures should be included as appropriate for the site. The DMP may include monitoring of dust deposition, dust flux, real-time PM₁₀ continuous monitoring and/ or visual inspections.

Site Management

- Record all dust and air quality complaints, identify cause(s), take appropriate measures to reduce emissions in a timely manner, and record the measures taken.
- Make the complaints log available to the local authority when asked.
- Record any exceptional incidents that cause dust and/or air emissions, either on- or off-site and the action taken to resolve the situation in the log book.

Monitoring

- *Undertake daily on-site and off-site inspection, where receptors (including roads) are nearby, to monitor dust, record inspection results, and make the log available to the local authority when asked. This should include regular dust soiling checks of surfaces such as street furniture, cars and window sills within 100m of site boundary, with cleaning to be provided if necessary.*

- Carry out regular site inspections to monitor compliance with the dust management plan, record inspection results, and make an inspection log available to the local authority when asked.
- Increase the frequency of site inspections by the person accountable for air quality and dust issues on site when activities with a high potential to produce dust are being carried out and during prolonged dry or windy conditions.
- Agree dust deposition, dust flux, or real-time PM₁₀ continuous monitoring locations with the Local Authority. Where possible commence baseline monitoring at least three months before work commences on site.

Preparing and maintaining the site

- Plan site layout so that machinery and dust causing activities are located away from receptors, as far as is possible.
- Erect solid screens or barriers around dusty activities or the site boundary that are at least as high as any stockpiles on site.
- Fully enclose site or specific operations where there is a high potential for dust production and the site is active for an extensive period.
- Avoid site runoff of water or mud.
- Keep site fencing, barriers and scaffolding clean using wet methods.
- Remove materials that have a potential to produce dust from site as soon as possible, unless being re-used on site. If they are being re-used on-site cover as described below.
- Cover, seed or fence stockpiles to prevent wind whipping.

Operating Vehicles/Machinery and Sustainable Travel

- Ensure all vehicles switch off engines when stationary - no idling vehicles.
- Avoid the use of diesel or petrol powered generators and use mains electricity or battery powered equipment where practicable.
- *Impose and signpost a maximum-speed-limit of 15mph on surfaced and 10mph on unsurfaced haul roads and work areas.*
- *Implement a Travel Plan that supports and encourages sustainable travel (public transport, cycling, walking and car-sharing).*

Operations

- Only use cutting, grinding or sawing equipment fitted or in conjunction with suitable dust suppression techniques such as water sprays or local extraction, e.g. suitable local exhaust ventilation systems.
- Ensure an adequate water supply on the site for effective dust/particulate matter suppression/mitigation, using non-potable water where possible and appropriate.
- Use enclosed chutes and conveyors and covered skips.
- Minimise drop heights from conveyors, loading shovels, hoppers and other loading or handling equipment and use fine water sprays on such equipment wherever appropriate.
- Ensure equipment is readily available on site to clean any dry spillages, and clean up spillages as soon as reasonably practicable after the event using wet cleaning methods.

Waste Management

- Avoid bonfires or burning of waste material.

Specific to Earthworks

There are no dust mitigation measures for low risk earthworks activities.

Specific to Construction

- *Avoid scabbling (roughening of concrete surfaces) if possible.*
- Ensure sand and other aggregates are stored in bunded areas and are not allowed to dry out, unless this is required for a particular process, in which case ensure that appropriate additional control measures are in place.
- *Ensure bulk cement and other fine powder materials are delivered in enclosed tankers and stored in silos with suitable emission control systems to prevent scape of material and overfilling during delivery.*
- *For smaller supplies of fine powder materials ensure bags are sealed after use and stored appropriately to prevent dust.*

Specific to Trackout

- *Use water-assisted dust sweeper(s) on the access and local roads, to remove, as necessary, any material tracked out of the site. This may require the sweeper being continuously in use.*
- *Avoid any dry sweeping of large areas.*
- *Ensure vehicles entering and leaving sites are covered to prevent escape of materials during transport.*
- *Record all inspections of haul routes and any subsequent action in a site log book.*
- *Implement a wheel washing system (with rumble grids to dislodge accumulated dust and mud prior to leaving the site where reasonably practicable).*