

<b>Authority:</b>	<b>Richmondshire District Council</b>
<b>Reference:</b>	<b>ASR20-0453</b>
<b>Date of Issue:</b>	<b>June 2020</b>

## **Annual Status Report**

The Report sets out the Annual Status Report, which forms part of the Review & Assessment process required under the Environment Act 1995 and subsequent regulations.

Richmondshire District Council does not have any declared air quality management areas (AQMAs). As such there is no formal requirement to develop and publish an air quality action plan (AQAP). However, the Council provide a discussion on the measures they are implementing to improve air quality in the area.

During 2019, the Council only monitored for NO<sub>2</sub>, via a network of 15 passive diffusion tubes; no other pollutants were measured. There were no exceedances of the NO<sub>2</sub> annual mean objective in 2019 and an overall downward trend in NO<sub>2</sub> concentration is seen.

QA/QC procedures have been applied for bias adjustment (using a national factor). No distance correction or annualisation were required. The Council have provided a discussion of local PM<sub>2.5</sub> issues and made links to the Public Health Outcome Framework.

On the basis of the evidence provided by the local authority the conclusions reached are acceptable for all sources and pollutants, with the provisos listed in the commentary below. The Council should continue to implement their air quality strategy, and continue monitoring. Following the completion of this report, Richmondshire District Council should submit an Annual Status Report in 2021.

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## Commentary

The report is well structured, detailed, and provides all the information specified in the Guidance. The following comments are designed to help inform future reports.

1. In light of the downward trend in NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations across the district, the Council may wish to relocate monitoring locations to new areas around the district. For example, deploying diffusion tubes to areas that may be affected by the new developments occurring on the western and eastern side of the district.
2. The Council have provided minimal information of key performance indicators with regards to their measures. It would be beneficial for the Council to include key performance indicators as a means of tracking the progress of their measures.
3. Overall the report is detailed, concise and satisfies the criteria of relevant standards. The Council should continue their good work and submit an Annual Status Report in 2021.

This commentary is not designed to deal with every aspect of the report. It highlights a number of issues that should help the local authority either in completing the Annual Status Report adequately (if required) or in carrying out future Review & Assessment work.

**Issues specifically related to this appraisal can be followed up by returning the attached comment form to Defra, Welsh Assembly Government, Scottish Government or DOE, as appropriate**

For any other queries please contact the Local Air Quality Management Helpdesk:

Telephone: 0800 0327 953

Email: [LAQMHelpdesk@uk.bureauveritas.com](mailto:LAQMHelpdesk@uk.bureauveritas.com)

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## **Appraisal Response Comment Form**

Contact Name:	
Contact Telephone number:	
Contact email address:	UKLAQMAppraisals@aecom.com

**Comments on appraisal/Further information:**