

H&WB Board Questions re Air Quality and Health

Stuart North requested :

1. *Can information relating to pollution levels in areas of Bury be shared with the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to help cross reference data and better profile areas of the Borough?*

Bury Council can send the CCG any data they would like from our automatic Air Quality monitoring sites and we should also be able to get GIS layers of our latest AQ modelling which shows modelled predictions re levels of pollution across the borough.

2. *Can the Council supply information to the CCG which could be used in a preventative way – e.g. to alert those who suffer from asthma etc that there are Air Quality (AQ) problems in our borough?*

A no cost option is for residents to visit

<http://www.greatairmanchester.org.uk/default.aspx> which has a general indication of pollution levels across Greater Manchester and an explanation of the levels and associated advice.

Consultants, Ricardo provide a 'Know and Respond' service for Air Quality in Scotland and for Wiltshire Council, this is usually taken out along with air quality websites provided to these customers.

Anyone can sign up to receive public health advice messages via e-mail, text (SMS) to a mobile telephone or a recorded message to a landline. The service sends registered users a message if air quality at their nearest monitoring station reaches the yellow band or above. The messages will give the public health advice as shown in the example table below.

Setting up a Know and Respond system for Bury will cost in the region of approx £7500 with annual costs of £1450. We could get a definite quote if required.

Air Quality Band	Public Health Message (Based on COMEAP advice)
Green	Enjoy your usual outdoor activities.
Yellow	If you experience symptoms consider reducing strenuous physical activity, particularly outdoors.
Amber	Reduce strenuous physical activity, particularly outdoors. Keep reliever inhaler with you. Follow your doctor's usual advice about managing your condition.
Red	Avoid strenuous physical activity, particularly outdoors. Keep reliever inhaler with you. Follow your doctor's usual advice about managing your condition.

Links to the Wiltshire and Scottish websites

<http://www.wiltshireairquality.org.uk/know-and-respond/>

<http://www.scottishairquality.co.uk/know-and-respond/>

For further information please contact Chris Horth c.horth@bury.gov.uk