

FOLLOW-UP: MATTERS FOR CLARIFICATION FROM THE LAST MEETING

Contact: Mark Braddock
Statutory Scrutiny Officer
Telephone: 01895 250470

REASON FOR REPORT

To follow-up any clarifications and information requests agreed by the Committee undertaking their role scrutinising the decisions and reports from the last Cabinet meeting. These matters are for noting only and not for call-in. If a particular Member wishes for further clarification on the information provided below, this will be for the Committee to determine.

OPTIONS OPEN TO THE COMMITTEE

That the Committee note the information.

CABINET – 30 MAY 2019

The Committee gave consideration to the reports and the decisions made by Cabinet at this meeting.

On the report relating to the planned new sport and leisure facility in West Drayton, the Committee requested whether an impact assessment would be undertaken on the loss of the youth club, as being part of the plans.

On the report relating to the approval of the new Air Quality Action Plan, the Committee requested more information on the air monitoring stations across the Borough, where they are placed, how their locations are determined.

This information is provided below by Officers.

New sport and leisure facility in West Drayton

Officers advise that should there be a proposed change in service provision an impact assessment will be completed.

Air Quality Action Plan

1 Background

1.1 The current air quality monitoring network has been in place for a number of years, revisions can be considered when new information is made available. The results help inform where pollution levels are highest and where they are the lowest, whether the trends are up, down or static. Depending upon location they can be used to inform whether actions to improve air quality have been successful or whether more action is required. With the updated GLA pollution modelling, the introduction of Air Quality Focus Areas and a new Air

Quality Action Plan 2019-2024 there is a requirement to ensure the monitoring is in the correct locations. With this in mind, the opportunity has been taken to commission an independent review of the monitoring across the Borough.

This information below details the current monitoring and the recommendation for changes to the monitoring network across the Borough.

2 *Resources*

- Automatic stations

2.1 These are specific analysers and data capture units housed in a cabin with the necessary associated electricity supply and air conditioning requirements. Ambient air is pulled through the analysers on a continuous basis. There are specific Quality Control procedures including monthly calibrations, servicing and data ratification. The results from these units can be directly compared to the EU air quality limit values.

Funding for the setting up and running of monitoring stations was originally provided by bids to DEFRA/DfT, this has been discontinued. The continuation of this network for the Hillingdon stations is approximately £35,000 a year.

- Non-automatic monitoring

2.2 Diffusion tubes are small devices mounted on street furniture such as lamp-posts and building facades. They are exposed for a month and sent to an accredited laboratory for analysis. The results are used to obtain an annual figure. The results cannot be used directly compared to the EU air quality limit values but are approved methodology for pollution monitoring and are useful for identification of hotspots, trend analysis and background monitoring.

2.3 Funding for the setting up and running of diffusion tube networks were originally provided by bids to DEFRA and this has been discontinued. The continuation of this network for 40 tube locations is approximately £8,000-10,000 a year.

3 *Current monitoring network*

3.1 There are 10 automatic continuous monitoring sites within Hillingdon, these are identified in Map 1, the mapped concentrations shown are for 2017.

3.2 Passive diffusion tube monitoring of NO₂ is carried out at several locations across the Borough, supplementing the information generated by the more expensive automatic network. These are identified in Map 2, the mapped concentrations shown are for 2017.

3.3 The monitoring report to cover 2018 is currently being prepared for submission to the GLA.

4 *Review of the monitoring network*

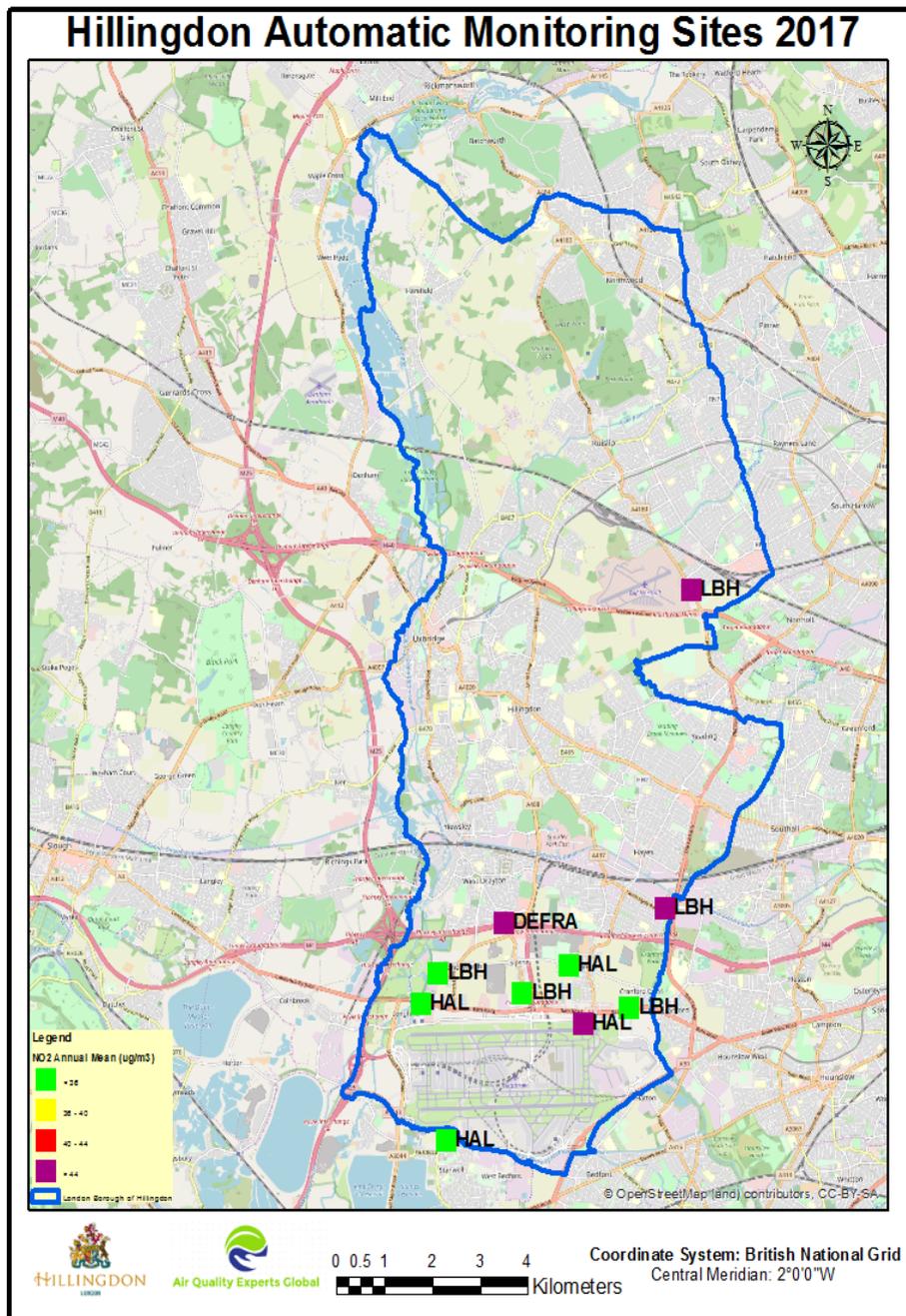
4.1 The RESPOC recommended in their Review of the Air Quality in Hillingdon report that a review of the air quality monitoring networks across the Borough would be useful to ensure there was appropriate coverage particularly in the Air Quality Focus Area.

4.2 This study has been commissioned with the aim to examine whether sites should be retained, whether they could be withdrawn, whether the current locations should be re-considered to ensure it was in the best place for monitoring public exposure. Particular attention was to be given to ensuring the network included relevant coverage in Air Quality Focus Areas.

4.2 The recommendations of the Review are currently being finalised, Map 3 includes the suggested changes to the diffusion tube network, this gives suggested coverage in the areas to the north of the Borough where the pollution maps suggest more investigation on pollution levels would be useful.

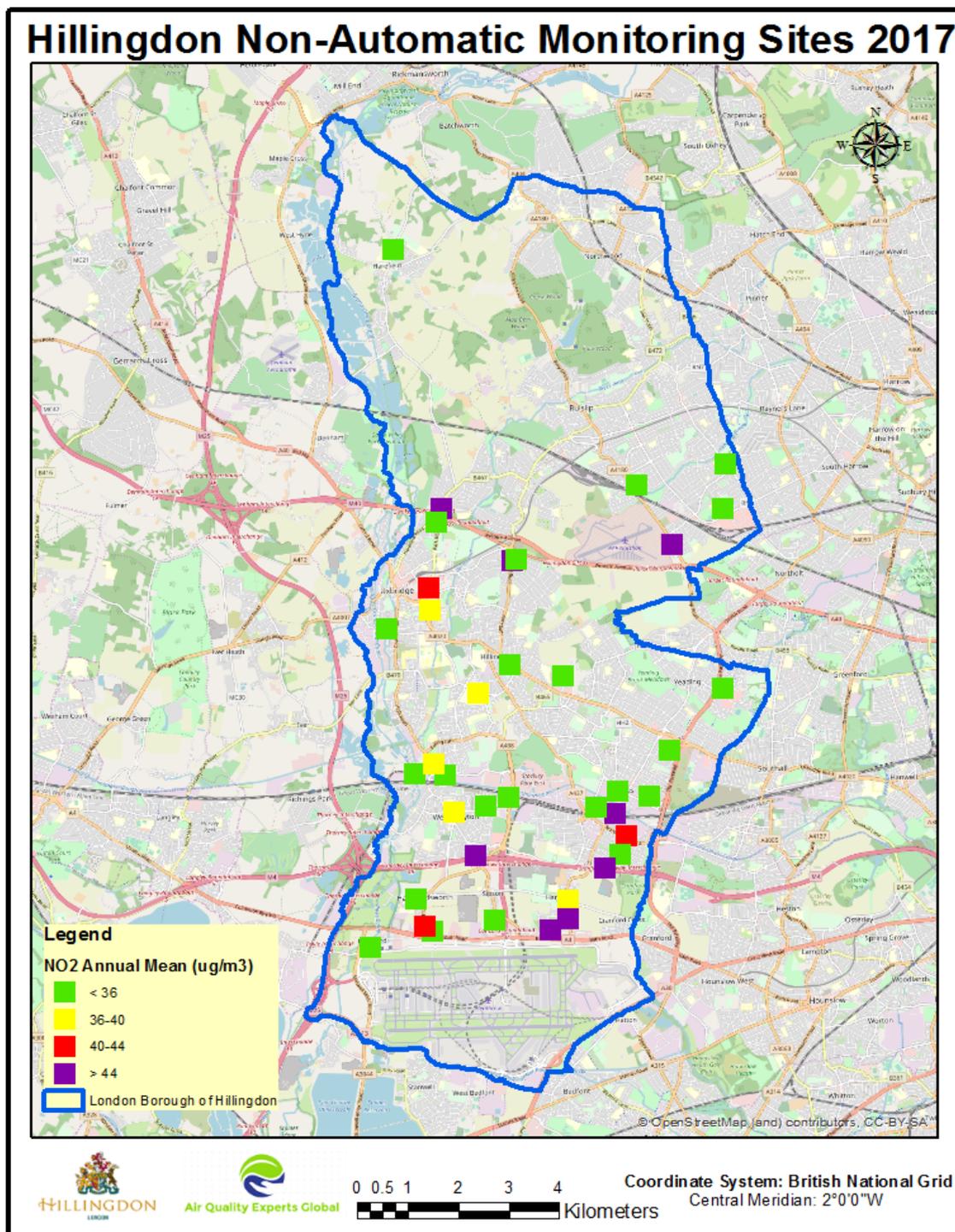
4.3 In addition, a recommendation to move an automatic monitor from the south of the Borough, where the readings have been consistently below the limit, to a hotspot in the north of the Borough will be considered. If this option is taken forward, it will require funding in terms of relocation due to the requirements for hard standing and electrical connections.

Map 1 (green is below the air quality limit, yellow close to the limit, red and purple above the limit)



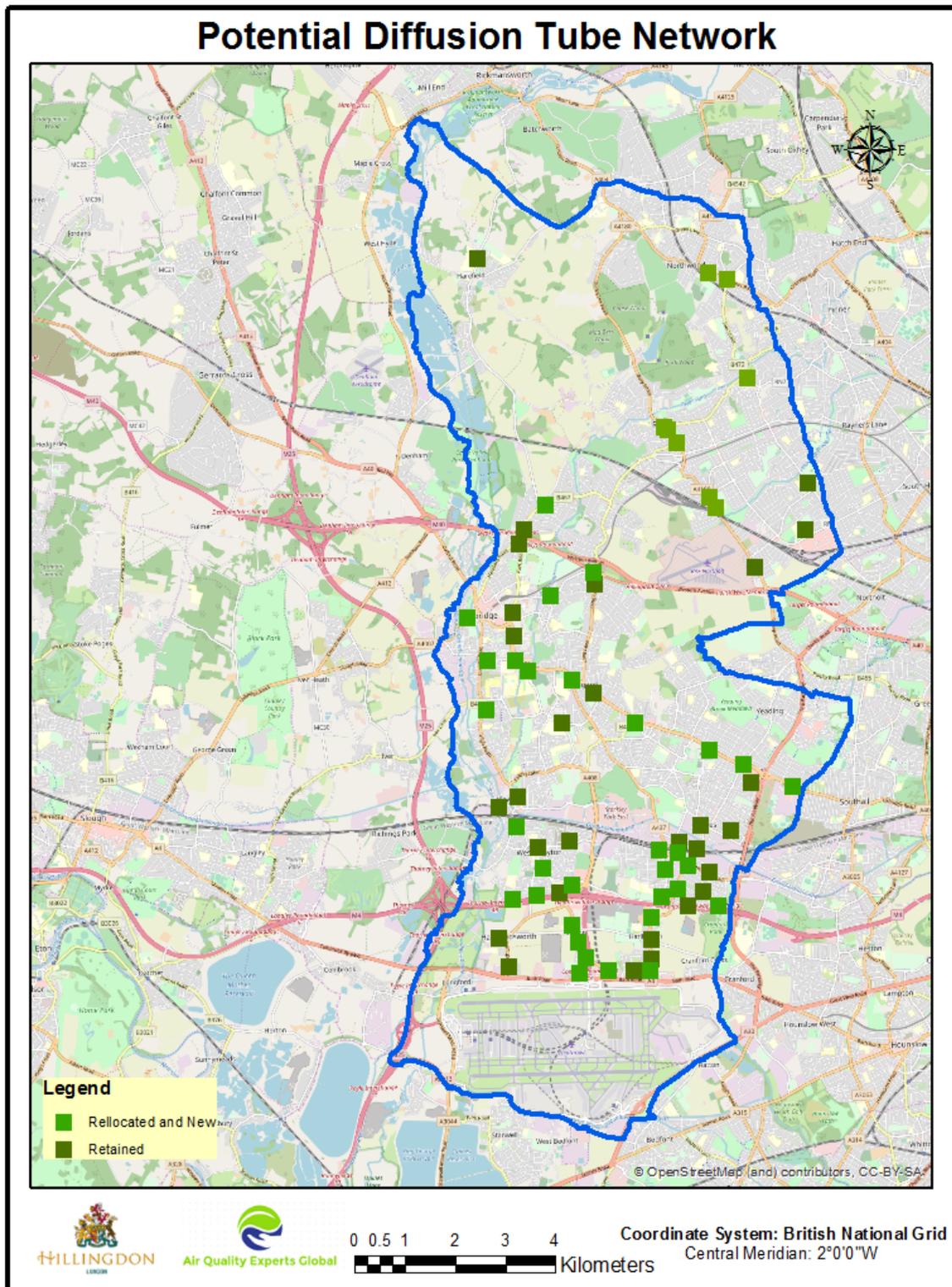
- The LBH monitors in the south were originally sited to monitor the spread of emissions from Heathrow Airport, the monitor in Harmondsworth in relation to the Grundons incinerator, additional sites were added in South Ruislip and Hayes associated with agreements from planning developments.
- DEFRA - the monitor is 30m north of the M4 in West Drayton.
- HAL operated monitoring network - these include an on-airport monitor, one in Longford to the north-west (the south west monitor is in Spelthorne) plus Harlington playing fields as a background site.

Map 2 (green is below the air quality limit, yellow close to the limit, purple above the limit)



The diffusion tubes are cheaper and easier to locate and can therefore provide a larger coverage across the Borough. They are placed in pollution hotspots and also in residential areas to assess the spread of pollution.

Map 3



The review of the diffusion tube network indicates areas where the network could be enhanced. Where potential sites are identified close to each other these will be considered in more detail and the site chosen that is the most appropriate in terms of understanding public exposure. It is anticipated this will be in place by August 2019.