

Appendix 3 – Themed Responses to the Consultation

| Comment | Theme | Comment |
|---|-----------|---|
| Electric Vehicles | Transport | We agree that promoting use of electric vehicles is important. In addition to the actions already included for this element we have added another to ensure that MBC has a long term strategy for EV infrastructure. |
| Cycling | Transport | We agree that cycling and other modal shift projects are important. However there are several other plans/strategies devoted to this which we will compliment but not duplicate |
| Agricultural Pollution, Bonfires etc | Other | While these issues are important we are focussing at for now on the areas that carry most public health significance. However a section has been added to the strategy highlighting future work areas. |
| Lacks ambition – doesn't go far enough, should have been out long ago, vague, should have been out at planning stage. | Other | Disagree that the action plan lacks ambition. MBC has had and air quality action plan with the majority of actins now complete. This updates and replaces that plan. |
| The scale of new development and the resulting congestion | Planning | There has been a lot of development in recent years. It is acknowledged that the previous local plan did not allow the council as much influence on these developments as it wanted. This has been addressed by the new local plan. |
| Road closures at peak times | Transport | This would have the effect of pushing air pollution to other areas. MBC is also not responsible for traffic management. |
| Solar energy/renewable energy in new developments | Planning | This is something that we will take into consideration in developing the Development Plan Document specifically addressing air quality. |
| Building relief roads especially Leeds Langley bypass | Transport | This is not something that the LES can address. |
| MBC should be fined if they breach the strategy | Other | MBC cannot fine itself. |

Appendix 3 – Themed Responses to the Consultation

| | | |
|---|-----------|--|
| | | However progress on the strategy will be reported annually and services failing to progress their actions can be called to account. |
| Commitment to partnership working / stake holder engagement, especially with KCC | Other | We agree that working in partnership is essential to deliver the most important actions in the strategy. We will do this. |
| Lack of AQ monitoring | Other | MBC has been monitoring air quality for many years and has an extensive network of monitoring locations. We have included an action to undertake a review of our monitoring network. |
| The school run | Transport | We have an action to work with schools and other partners to educate and raise awareness. MBC does not have direct influence over this. |
| Replace Park and Ride | Transport | A review of Park and Ride is currently under way. |
| Stop out of town development | Planning | We are committed to developing a planning DPD which will address AQ issues in development. However we are unlikely to be able to stop out of town development |
| Electric trains | Transport | MBC does not have control of the rail network. |
| Size of the AQMA should be increased | Other | The proposed smaller AQMA will allow us to target our resources where they are most needed |
| Action on engine idling. | Transport | We agree that this is important and have changed the action relating to this to include potential use of enforcement powers as well as promotion and education. |
| Encouraging people to use public transport, in particular, sparse services and expensive fares. | Transport | A review of bus provision, routing and the bus station is already started. |
| Vehicle Emission should be at a National Level | Transport | MBC does not have control of this government policy. |
| Congestion (road works, time of day, etc) | Transport | The main purpose of the LES which is aimed at cleaning up the vehicle fleet. However we will support any initiative to |

Appendix 3 – Themed Responses to the Consultation

| | | |
|---|-------------------|--|
| | | improve congestion. |
| Noise Pollution | Other | Not relevant to a Low Emission Strategy |
| Trees (plant more) | Other/Planning | We will consider planting and amenity areas as part of the DPD |
| Highway Pollution | Transport | We have several actions aimed at vehicle emissions. |
| Smart City Status/Government Schemes | Other | We will investigate such schemes |
| Crematorium | Carbon Management | Work on energy saving is ongoing. Emissions are controlled through the Environmental Permitting regime. |
| Enforcement Action (congestion charges, Parking Charges, Charges for public hire vehicles and HGVs going through town | Transport | See engine idling above. We will also investigate a low emission or clean air zone.. |
| Speed Limit Changes | Transport | MBC does not control speed limits. It would be more beneficial to have smoother traffic flow than slower traffic. |
| Human Health | Public Health | Air pollution is important in relation to human health. We will work with colleagues in public health to raise awareness and promote AQ on the public health agenda. |
| Bridges | Transport | MBC does not have control of bridges. |
| Change Vehicles (public and as a council) | Transport | We have actions to look at council vehicles. |
| Improve Traffic Flow | Transport | We will support any initiative to improve traffic flows. |
| Bus, Commercial, Diesel, and other vehicles which are high polluting | Transport | This is where many of our actions will focus |
| Increased public awareness/training | Public Health | See above |
| Inappropriate Parking in Town | Transport | Parking enforcement is already in place. |
| Planning application/planning and building control/planning policies/ DM/ Procurement | Planning | Planning DPD already under development |
| Budgets | Other | MBC has limited budget capacity, we will seek grant funding and private sector funding for some more expensive actions. |
| Street Cleansing | Other | No applicable to the LES |
| More publication of monitoring data to show changes as measure are implemented | Public health | All monitoring data is published annually. It is also available on the Kent Air website. We will increase |

Appendix 3 – Themed Responses to the Consultation

| | | |
|---|---------------|--|
| | | awareness of this. |
| Parking charges should be increased to discourage parking in town | Transport | An action for a review of parking strategy is included. |
| Need to do more in Modal Shift | Transport | There are several strategies and initiatives aimed at modal shift. The low emission strategy will compliment but not duplicate them. |
| Developments round town increase traffic | Planning | See above. |
| Raise Awareness of AQ problems with alert scheme | Public Health | See above.. |