PRESENT:

Members of the Committee:

Councillors Ms Edwards (Chairman), Mrs Garcia, Gillias, Mistry (substituting for Councillor Mrs O’Rourke), Mrs New, Sandison (substituting for Councillor Keeling) and Mrs Watson

Officers:

David Burrows (Regulatory Services Manager), Debbie Dawson (Scrutiny Officer) and Veronika Beckova (Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer)

In attendance:

Councillor Leigh Hunt (Sustainable Inclusive Communities Portfolio Holder and Chairman of LSP); Claire Claydon (Worker in Charge, Targeted Youth Support, Warwickshire Youth and Community Service) and Chloe Nichols (Rugby Youth Council)

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 April 2012 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 May 2012 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Councillors Francis, Hazelton, Keeling and Mrs O’Rourke.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Leigh Hunt and Mrs New declared a general personal interest by virtue of being Warwickshire County Council employees.
Councillors Mrs New and Sandison declared a general personal interest by virtue of being a member of Fareham Youth Trust.
Councillor Sandison declared a general personal interest by virtue of being a member of Sustainable Rugby.

6. RUGBY YOUTH COUNCIL – STANDING ITEM

Chloe Nichols, a Rugby Youth Council (RYC) member gave a presentation to update the committee on the work of the Youth Council. The presentation is attached at Annex 1.
Further to the presentation, the following comments were made:

- RYC members had recently been attending Community Forum meetings, which they found to be a good opportunity to be listened to and taken seriously.
- The RYC members do not have a fixed term of office.
- The Warwickshire Youth Council (WOX) members and Members of Youth Parliament (MYP) are elected on a yearly basis.
- At the last meeting of the committee on 14 April, the RYC gave a presentation on young people and transport. Since then, the RYC made some connections with Warwickshire County Council where a Local Transport Task Group has been established.

RESOLVED THAT – Chloe Nichols (Rugby Youth Council) and Claire Claydon be thanked for their attendance and the presentation.

7. AIR QUALITY MONITORING

The Committee received an update from the Regulatory Services Manager (Part 1 – agenda item 6) on air quality monitoring. The council had received comments from DEFRA on the Updating and Screening Assessment (USA) and the Air Quality Management Area Action Plan Progress Report the previous day and a copy was tabled at the meeting (Annex 2).

Further to the update, the following comments were made:

- The Regulatory Services Manager briefed the new committee members on the background to air quality management in Rugby, as detailed in the report.
- Progress against the action plan arising from the task group review of air quality monitoring was detailed in appendix 1 of agenda item 9.
- The new air quality monitoring contract (from June 2012) has been split between two companies:
  - AECOM for reporting, 3 year contract
  - EGS to supply diffusion tubes, 2 year contract
- The EGS contract is restricted as there is a need to test the market further, but it was important to maintain consistency by retaining existing monitoring equipment in the short-term, when the air quality monitoring regime was changing significantly.
- The locations of the expanded diffusion tube network were listed in appendix 1 to the report). The diffusion tubes are easy to move and can be relocated at any time.
- Locations 17/18/19 have now changed and will be moved to Leamington, where there is a national air quality monitoring station.
- It had been anticipated that the opening of Rugby Western Relief Road would have a positive impact on air quality in the town. However, the USA concludes that it has not had this impact to date, but a higher amount of data (2/3 years) is required to see the full impact of the road opening.
- All reports on air quality need to be submitted annually to DEFRA.
- DEFRA had noted the:
  - removal of automatic monitoring;
  - increase in diffusion tube sites;
  - opening of Western Relief Road and potential impact; and
  - project to build the new leisure centre, particularly the use of biomass boilers (the issue is under review at the moment).
The action plan progress report is required to be more detailed when submitting to DEFRA.

Officers from Rugby Borough Council and Warwickshire County Council have now set up a working group to review the air quality management area action plan.

The Government will be consulting next April on transferring responsibility for air quality monitoring to the authority with power to influence the main pollutant (ie. the county council). It was agreed that the consultation document would be submitted to the committee for comment at that time.

Monitoring of bioaerosols is undertaken and the cost of this is shared between the council and a major industrial source.

It was not practical to retain the TEOM once it was decommissioned due to the high costs of storage and removal. However, several Turnkey units had been mothballed for potential future use, if required.

Concern was expressed about the small proportion of monitoring undertaken in the rural area. It was explained that this was because traffic-related pollution is higher in the urban area and there are higher population levels.

The task group review last year had delegated responsibility for selection of sites for diffusion tubes to officers. However, the diffusion tubes could be easily moved to respond to local concerns.

Members asked officers to consider undertaking monitoring at the following sites:

- Long Lawford (to monitor the impact of new developments)
- the Sheaf and Sickle junction in Long Lawford
- Brinklow (junction Coventry Road / Brook Street)

Members were reminded that they were able to comment as individuals on the USA and Progress Report as part of the 12 week consultation period.

RESOLVED THAT –

1) the Regulatory Services Manager be thanked for his update;
2) the government consultation on transfer of responsibility for air quality monitoring be included in the committee’s work programme for April 2013; and
3) the Regulatory Services Manager review the diffusion tube locations and consider undertaking monitoring at the sites identified by members.

8. HEALTH AND WELLBEING UPDATE

The committee received an update from Councillor Mrs Watson (Part 1 – agenda item 7) on health and wellbeing.

Further to the update, the following comments were made:

- The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment informs and guides the commissioning of health, wellbeing and social care services within the county. It is now being updated on annual basis.
- The Health and Wellbeing strategy is out for consultation and every councillor will receive a copy. The closing date for comments is 3 September. The council will be making a corporate response but councillors also had the opportunity to comment as individuals.
- The Coventry and Rugby Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) have now officially merged and formed a Coventry and Rugby Combined CCG, following a vote by local GPs.
- There is a board which has overall control over the combined CCG but each CCG is still run with its own identity.
- A report will be submitted to Cabinet to support the GPs’ decision.
The Department of Health has issued guidance on summer heatwave plans. The Affordable Warmth Steering Group is trying to find funds to support this.

Andy Hardy, Chief Executive of University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire, had agreed to attend the committee’s next meeting in September 2012 to present the UHCW Integrated Business Plan. Members suggested that he also be asked to update the committee on the impact of the Birch Ward closure over the winter and plans for the future of St Cross Hospital, as well as transport and parking at UHCW. A member highlighted concerns over discharge of dementia patients into community care, which could also be raised.

An updated health profile for Rugby was due to be published later in the month and would be reported to the committee in September or November. The committee felt it would be helpful if this was presented to them by an officer from Warwickshire Observatory.

RESOLVED THAT –

1) Councillor Mrs Watson be thanked for her update;
2) Warwickshire Observatory be invited to report on the Health Profile of Rugby in September/ November this year; and
3) an item on Healthwatch be scheduled for a date later in the year.

9. HOUSING STOCK AND HOUSING NEED REVIEW REPORT

The committee considered the final report (Part 1 – agenda item 8 – Appendix) of the Housing Stock and Housing Need Task Group from Councillor Mrs Watson (Chairman of the Task Group). The report presented the findings and recommendations of the review.

Following comments were made:

- The report was strong and robust, with a clear action plan based on the six recommendations.
- The outcomes from the action plan would need to be reviewed at a future date, either through a report to Customer and Partnerships Committee or by reconvening the task group.
- Members commented on the sensitivities around redesignation of properties and the importance of careful management and presentation of any changes.
- Members felt that the full names of councillors who took part in the task group should be listed on page 4.

RESOLVED THAT –

1) Councillor Mrs Watson and everyone involved in the review be thanked for their work;
2) the recommendations of the task group be endorsed;
3) and the report and draft action plan of the Housing Stock and Housing Need Task Group be submitted to Cabinet.

10. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINITY REVIEW ACTION PLANS

The committee considered the report on scrutiny review action plans under its remit (Part 1 – Agenda Item 9).
Following comments were made:

- Air quality monitoring action plan
  - Most actions are completed.
- Management of open spaces in improving biodiversity action plan
  - Most actions are completed.
- Involvement of young people action plan
  - Most actions are completed.
- Multi-storey flats action plan
  - Some actions are completed and most actions are in progress. A report on the outcomes of the officer review of heating in the flats would be brought to the next meeting.
- Risk management of play spaces action plan
  - Most actions are completed. Some actions have been delayed due to a vacant Play Development Officer post which has been recently filled.
- Planning for Play Review action plan
  - Most actions are in progress.

**RESOLVED THAT** – the report be noted.

11. **REVIEW OF HOUSING INCOME PROTECTION – DRAFT ONE PAGE STRATEGY**

The committee considered the draft one page strategy (Part 1 – Agenda Item 10 – Appendix 1).

The committee agreed that a member of the Tenant Representative Panel should be co-opted to the group.

**RESOLVED THAT** – the draft one page strategy be approved and members be recruited to the task group.

12. **REVIEW OF INWARD INVESTMENT– DRAFT ONE PAGE STRATEGY**

The committee considered the draft one page strategy (Part 1 – Agenda Item 11 – Appendix 1).

Members suggested that the review should include consideration of use of income from the new homes bonus and the community infrastructure levy.

**RESOLVED THAT** –

1) the draft one page strategy be approved, subject to inclusion of the new homes bonus and community infrastructure levy; and
2) members be recruited to the task group.

13. **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The committee considered a report (Part 1 – Agenda Item 8) concerning updates on the progress of task group reviews and details of the committee’s forward work programme.
3. Other work programme items

Following comments were made:

- Air Quality Monitoring consultation report to be added to the April 2013 agenda.
- A report would be considered by Cabinet the following week on partnership landscapes. The Area Committee has now been disestablished and it was proposed that grant funding would be allocated to each county councillor, though the details were still under discussion. It would be sensible to wait until there was a clearer position on this before undertaking scrutiny of the LSP.
- The council Leader would be invited to report on his role on the LEP Board at a time to suit him.

RESOLVED THAT – the forward work programme for the committee be approved.

CHAIRMAN
Community Forum Update June 2012
Rugby Youth Council

At the youth council we are currently working on 3 strands

• Communication
• Co-ordination
• Consultation
Communication

• We are attending community forums to get the voice of young people actively heard in their areas
• We are launching a Facebook page and email address for easier communication and voicing young peoples concerns
• Working with decision makers on behalf of young people to ensure they are listened too
Co-ordination

• We are organising a youth festival to celebrate the talents of young people across the arts and sports and promote services for young people on:

  *July 7th at Caldecott Park from 11-4 pm*

• We are hoping to work with Rugby FM on a question time type debate on issues affecting young people in our area
Rugby Youth Festival

One of our tasks this last few months has been to organise the inaugural Rugby Youth festival to showcase the talented youth of Rugby and give them an opportunity to break the negative stereotyping of young people today. We have worked under the umbrella of this year’s festival of culture to promote arts and services to young people to ensure more young people access the services and groups that are out there for them.

“Something to do, somewhere to go and someone to listen to me”
Consultation

- We are designing a questionnaire for schools and young people on their issues in Rugby
- We hope to visit school councils to consult on young peoples issues
- We are promoting the Rugby Area Play Partnership questionnaire on what young people want in their parks
Trip To Westminster..

Rugby youth council and Myp member Rebecca Urosevic spent an morning in London with other members of BYC at a meeting with Children’s Minister Tim Laughton and Transport Minister Norman Baker discussing transport for schools and fair fares for young people on public transport. Rebecca said “It was an amazing opportunity to meet people who can really affect changes to the current system and to have our opinions listened to and taken seriously, especially as the campaign I was elected on was transport issues and young people!”
A Typical Youth Council Session

• Small group work, working on the 3 strands of communication, co-ordination and consultation
• One group takes responsibility for cooking the evening meal, whilst another is responsible for washing and clearing up
• Notices and up dates from Youth workers and Vox & Myp on requests for work, consultations and attendance at meetings
• Visits from guest speakers ie Democracy services officer, Bishop of Coventry a local young politician standing at local elections
• Attending training ie stewarding at Torch relay
Contacting us

Web page:
Rugbyyouthcouncil.co.cc

Meetings:
Hill St Youth Centre
Monday 5-7pm

Youth Worker:
annaandrews@warwickshire.gov.uk
01926736504/07584490296
Dear Mr Burrows

LOCAL AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT: 2012 UPDATING AND SCREENING ASSESSMENT

Thank you for consulting the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs on Rugby BC’s Air Quality Updating and Screening Assessment. Please find comments on the report attached.

The report provides update with respect to air quality management in the Borough and outlines the changes in air quality since the 2011 Progress Report was issued. The Council declared an AQMA in 2004 for exceedences of the annual mean NO₂ objective. Results of the screening assessment have found no new significant sources which could give rise to air quality issues in the Borough. The latest monitoring also suggests that exceedence of the annual mean objective continues to occur within the AQMA so the AQMA declaration will be retained. There is also no evidence of exceedences of the objective outside the AQMA. A planning application for the redevelopment of Rugby Leisure Centre which includes the provision of a biomass-fuelled energy centre has been approved subject to an air quality assessment being carried out. The assessment of the leisure centre is expected in June. The findings will be reported in the 2013 Progress Report.

The USA also states that the Rugby Western Relief Road is now complete and the Relief Road is likely to have an impact on the traffic levels in and around the AQMA. The plan to put in place an extended diffusion tube network to monitor the impact of the road is welcome. The conclusions reached in the USA report are accepted.

We look forward to receiving the Council’s 2013 Progress Report by the due date which is the end of April 2013.

Yours sincerely

Tutu Aluko

ATMOSPHERE AND LOCAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
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**Updating and Screening Assessment Appraisal Report**

The Report sets out the Updating and Screening Assessment, which forms part of the Review & Assessment process required under the Environment Act 1995 and subsequent Regulations.

It covers all regulated pollutants, and considers monitoring data, road traffic sources, other transport sources, industrial sources, commercial and domestic sources, fugitive or uncontrolled sources.

On the basis of the evidence provided by the local authority the conclusions reached are **accepted** for all sources and pollutants.

Following the completion of this report, Rugby Borough Council should submit a Progress Report by April 2013.
Commentary

The report is well structured and provides most of the information specified in the Guidance. The following specific items are drawn to the local authority’s attention to help inform future work. It is strongly recommended that the local authority note these items for future reporting purposes:

1. We note that in October 2011 the Cabinet approved the recommendations of Rugby Borough Council’s review of the air quality monitoring network, including to cease all continuous monitoring in the Borough and expand the NO2 diffusion tube monitoring network to 50 sites, and that therefore all continuous monitoring of NO2 and PM10 within the Borough will cease in June 2012.

2. The Rugby Western Relief Road opened in 2011, and is expected to have an impact on traffic levels in and around the AQMA. The report states the Council’s intention to put in place an extended diffusion tube network to monitor the impact of the road and this is welcomed.

3. A planning application for the redevelopment of Rugby Leisure Centre, including the provision of a biomass-fuelled energy centre, has been approved subject to an Air Quality Assessment being carried out. We note that the air quality assessment of the leisure centre redevelopment is expected in June 2012 and the findings of the assessment will be detailed in the 2013 Air Quality Progress Report.

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 Updating and Screening Assessment 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 – or by emailing the form to reportappraisal@itr-ltd.com.

For any other queries please contact the Local Air Quality Management Helpdesk:
Telephone: 0800 0327 953
Email: LAQMHelpdesk@uk.bureauveritas.com
Annex 2

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Appraisal Response Comment Form

Contact Name:

Contact Telephone number:

Contact email address:

Comments on appraisal/Further information:
Action Plan Progress Report Appraisal Report


The original Air Quality Management Area Action Plan Addendum was submitted to and approved by Rugby Borough Council’s Cabinet on 10th March 2008. Warwickshire County Council adopted the Action Plan as an addendum to the 2006 Warwickshire Local Transport Plan. This has subsequently been updated each year with relevant additions made and is incorporated into Local Transport Plan 3 (2011-2026).

The 2012 Action Plan update report has reviewed progress with the implementation of the Action Plan. The report presents progress with each measure over to date, and over the last 12 months, and presents details of estimated completion dates for the actions, target reductions and the indicators to be used to measure progress.

The annual AQAP progress report submitted by Rugby Borough Council is consistent with the guidance contained in LAQM.TG(09), LAQM.PG(09) and presents an update on progress on the implementation of the AQAP.

Following the completion of this report, Rugby Borough Council should submit a Progress Report (including Action Plan progress) by April 2013.
Commentary

The report is well structured, comprehensive and covers all of the minimum requirements specified in the Guidance. The following specific items are drawn to the local authority's attention to help inform future work:

1. The summary table presents details of the indicators to be used to measure progress. It would be useful to set targets for these indicators -- for example where the indicator is "Increase in walking (footfall) as a result of individual scheme implementation" it would be useful to set a target for the % increase in footfall for each scheme.

2. For measures where implementation is complete, or in progress, the Council should include details of the measured indicators. For example, the plan includes an ongoing measure to re-routing traffic via Lorry Route Maps and agreements. The indicator for this is a reduction in complaints and therefore to show the progress with this measure the report should give details of whether there is any evidence of a decline in complaints.

3. Construction of the Western Relief Road is now complete and it would be valuable for RBC to assess the impact of this on air quality in the Borough. We acknowledge that diffusion tube monitoring will be undertaken during 2012 and this issue will be considered further in the 2013 progress report.

4. The report notes that in January 2012 Rugby Borough Council reconvened the Rugby Borough Council Air Quality Management Area Air Quality Action Plan Officer Group with the intention of revising the action plan, including compliance with current guidance. An update of the AQAP, particularly in light of the changes resulting from the relief road, would be welcomed.

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 Progress Report adequately (if required) or in taking forward their Action Plan.

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 -- or by emailing the form to reportappraisal@ttr-ltd.com.

For any other queries please contact the Local Air Quality Management Helpdesk:®
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Action Plan Progress Report Appraisal Report
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Comments on appraisal/Further information: