



<b>Subject:</b>	Response received from DAERA re Detailed Assessment Report
<b>Date:</b>	12th September, 2023
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Sara Steele, Democratic Services Officer

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</b>	
<b>After Committee Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>After Council Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Some time in the future</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Never</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Call-in</b>	
<b>Is the decision eligible for Call-in?</b>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	To note the correspondence received from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA).
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Note the correspondence as set out in the report and that the Air Quality officer will look at the program of monitoring in year and update members in a future report.</li></ul>

<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
	<p data-bbox="272 226 427 255"><b><u>Key Issues</u></b></p> <p data-bbox="165 275 1458 405">3.1 The Committee will recall that, at the July meeting of Council, it was agreed that a letter be forwarded to DAERA seeking Air Quality Monitoring stations to be erected around Primary Schools.</p> <p data-bbox="165 477 1458 562">3.2 The Committee is advised that a response had been received from Ms. Amy Holmes, Head of Air and Environmental Quality.</p> <p data-bbox="165 633 1458 864">3.3 In her response, she advises that the Air and Environmental Quality (AEQ) Unit have considered the Council's request for funding support for a dedicated ambient air quality monitoring programme to be implemented outside of schools as part of the councils 2023/24 LAQM Grant application. It fully recognised the importance of monitoring, and indeed this had been reflected in the revised priorities for the new grant.</p> <p data-bbox="165 936 1458 1115">3.4 She goes onto refer to the increased rates of funding available for some aspects of the grant which had been determined in an effort to assist all Councils as much as possible, at this time of both financial and funding pressures and within the correspondence she sets out, in detail, the priorities for this year's grant, which included the following measures:</p> <ul data-bbox="325 1182 919 1373" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance of existing monitoring;</li> <li>• Staff costs;</li> <li>• Expansion of monitoring; and</li> <li>• Behavioural change/education campaigns</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="165 1440 1458 1626">3.5 The correspondence concludes by stating that she hopes that the funding offered this year, in particular for the Schools 'idling vehicle' air pollution monitoring, and awareness raising project, would go some way to help obtain a better understanding of ambient air quality in the vicinity of schools and to assess the beneficial impacts of mitigation measures.</p> <p data-bbox="272 1693 786 1722"><b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b></p> <p data-bbox="165 1742 703 1771">3.6 None associated with this report.</p> <p data-bbox="272 1843 1197 1872"><b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></b></p> <p data-bbox="165 1892 703 1921">3.7 None associated with this report.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
	Appendix 1 – Response from DAERA.