



**DRAFT**



# The South Tees Clean Air Strategy

# CONTENTS

1. Foreword.....	3
2. Introduction.....	5
3. Local Air Quality.....	7
4. Air Pollution and Health.....	11
5. Achievements to Date.....	15
6. Our Five Workstreams for Sustainable Air Quality Improvements.....	20
7. Progress Checking / Accountability.....	20
8. Performance Measures and Milestones.....	21
9. Key Partners.....	35
10. Appendix / References.....	36

# 1. FOREWORD

**Air quality affects us all and is one of the most challenging public health problems in the 21st century that requires a system-wide, partnership and community response to tackle it.**

Good air quality plays a key role in good health. Poor air quality adversely impacts on our health in a number of ways: the lung development in children, heart disease, stroke, cancer, exacerbation of asthma and increased mortality, amongst other health effects.

Although we all breathe the same air, air pollution affects certain populations disproportionately, such as the very young, older adults, adults with pre-existing lung and heart conditions and disadvantaged communities. So, improving air quality helps to protect our communities, the most vulnerable and also addresses the unfairness in health outcomes experienced in the South Tees.

Individuals have little control over the level of pollution that they and their families breathe. By understanding how air quality impacts on health and what contributes to worsening air quality, we can plan the action we need to take to protect our communities in the South Tees. Working collectively at a local, private sector, public sector, community and individual level we can improve the air we breathe in our own neighbourhoods.

Whilst the Environment Act 2021 placed a duty on local authorities to produce a Clean Air Strategy, in the South Tees we had already started developing our strategy.

This Clean Air Strategy demonstrates that the air quality in the South Tees is good and meets the UK legal standards. However, the World Health Organisation advocate that no level of air pollution is safe, and we should be aiming to improve beyond UK legal standards. We have been monitoring air quality in the South Tees for over 30 years and we have seen significant improvements. Some air pollutants such as sulphur dioxide from coal, and lead from petrol, are fractions of their previous levels. However, to protect the long-term health of our residents in the South Tees we aim to take all available steps to improve air quality further – to make it “as clean as it can be”.

Air pollution includes both indoor and outdoor forms. In relation to outdoor air pollution one of our key challenges is to change our transport systems to reduce local road-related air pollution and adopt new ways of getting about. Improving public transport, creating more green space and increasing walking and cycling as part of our daily lives is a key part of this, and will bring other benefits to both physical and mental health as well as improving air quality. These are all part of our action plan.

Indoor air pollution is becoming an increasing proportion of the problem. Much time is spent indoors whether this is for work, study or leisure. Many indoor spaces are

public spaces, including health facilities, schools, other public buildings, and also shops and workplaces. Just as with outdoor spaces, in public buildings and some residential properties people have little control over their exposure to air pollution. So, we also need to plan how we will improve indoor air quality.

This strategy aims to raise awareness of the importance of air pollution, setting out how each Council will maintain and improve air quality in collaboration with partners and their local communities, working together to improve the air that we breathe and to make it “as clean as it can be”.

Compliance with air quality standards are assessed annually and this strategy will be reviewed annually in accordance with these results.

## 2. INTRODUCTION

Historically the South Tees has a legacy of heavy industrial land use.

During the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Cleveland became a centre of the ironstone mining industry, with this vast supply of raw material Middlesbrough saw the rapid development of its iron and steel industries becoming established as one of the largest ports in Britain. In more recent years the area became known for its petrochemicals sector and the rapid expansion of Teesside. An inevitable legacy of this industrial heritage has been the pollution which accompanied rapid industrial expansion in the years before modern legislative controls. Air and water pollution from industrial installations and smoke pollution from domestic fires have since been brought under control by a variety of national environmental protection and public health legislation, including the Public Health Acts, the Environmental Protection Act and the Clean Air Acts, but pollution of land continues to be a ongoing concern.

Air pollution arises from many sources and can travel over long distances and when pollutants combine with each other they create different pollutants. Emissions from distant and local sources can build up into high local concentrations of pollution<sup>1</sup>.

Poor air quality has the potential to affect the whole population of South Tees, some 280,400 people (Middlesbrough Council 143,900 and Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council 136,500)<sup>2</sup>.

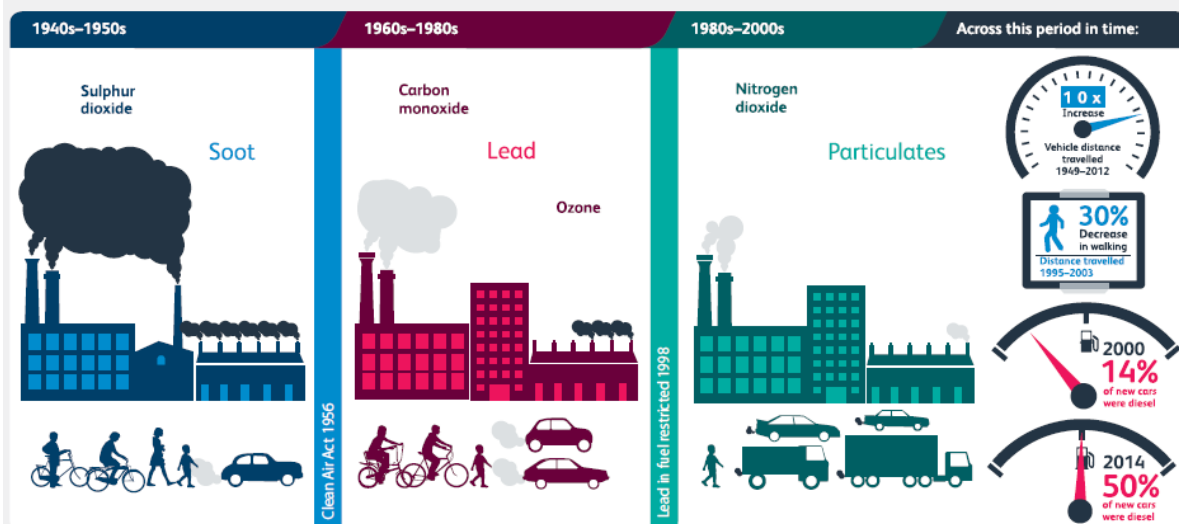
Air quality across South Tees has improved over the last 50 years, however the changing sources of air pollution provide new challenges to tackle, reduce, and eradicate for future generations.

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<sup>1</sup> UK Government Clean Air Strategy, 2019

<sup>2</sup> Census 2021 Data, Census – Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk) visited 25/07/2022

**Figure 1: Exposure to pollutants over time**



Source - Every Breath We Take: The Lifelong Impact Of Air Pollution. RCP, Feb 2016

Improvements to air quality cannot be undertaken as a standalone factor, collaborative working between Local Authority departments, organisations, businesses and residents is essential. Many of the measures which can contribute to improving air quality are linked to regional and local spatial planning and our response to climate change. Therefore, delivered together can have far reaching benefits for South Tees and the wider area. Both authorities have made commitments to climate change, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council (RCBC) through the Climate Change Strategy<sup>3</sup> and Middlesbrough Borough Council's (MBC) Green Strategy<sup>4</sup>

The Environment Act 2021<sup>5</sup> (EA2021) has provided Local Authorities with additional powers to investigate and enforce smoke emissions from domestic heating appliances. Restrictions are now in place to prohibit the sale of the most polluting fuels such as loose coal and bags of wet wood below 2m<sup>3</sup>, for domestic heating appliances.

The development of a voluntary South Tees Clean Air Strategy (CAS) began prior to the pandemic in 2019. The UK Government has recently announced that it will be mandatory for all Local Authorities who have not been required to have an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) in place, to develop an Air Quality Strategy (AQS).

<sup>3</sup> RCBC Climate Change Strategy, <https://greenerfuture.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/>

<sup>4</sup> MC Green Strategy, <https://www.middlesbrough.gov.uk/environment-and-public-protection/green-strategy>

<sup>5</sup> Environment Act 2021 <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/30/contents/enacted>

### 3. LOCAL AIR QUALITY

Since statutory limits were imposed by the Government, over the last three decades, air quality across the South Tees has complied with the legal air quality objectives. However, our aim is to continuously improve air quality beyond compliance, our vision is to make our air, 'as clean as it can be'.

The Annual Status Reports (ASR) of both Authorities, which are submitted to Defra in June each year, can be found for MBC<sup>6</sup> and RCBC<sup>7</sup> on the public website.

The pollutants which are associated nationally with air quality are monitored across the South Tees. These include:

- nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>),
- sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>),
- particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>), and
- ozone (O<sub>3</sub>).

The datasets for MBC are located on the UK-Air website<sup>8</sup> and similarly for RCBC at the Air Quality England website<sup>9</sup>. Both local authorities also have an extensive network of diffusion tubes located across each Borough which are used to monitor NO<sub>2</sub>. Many of these diffusion tubes are focused around schools, the main transport routes, and housing.

The graphs below show the trend data for each Local Authority area since 1998 for the main pollutants, PM<sub>10</sub> PM<sub>2.5</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub>.

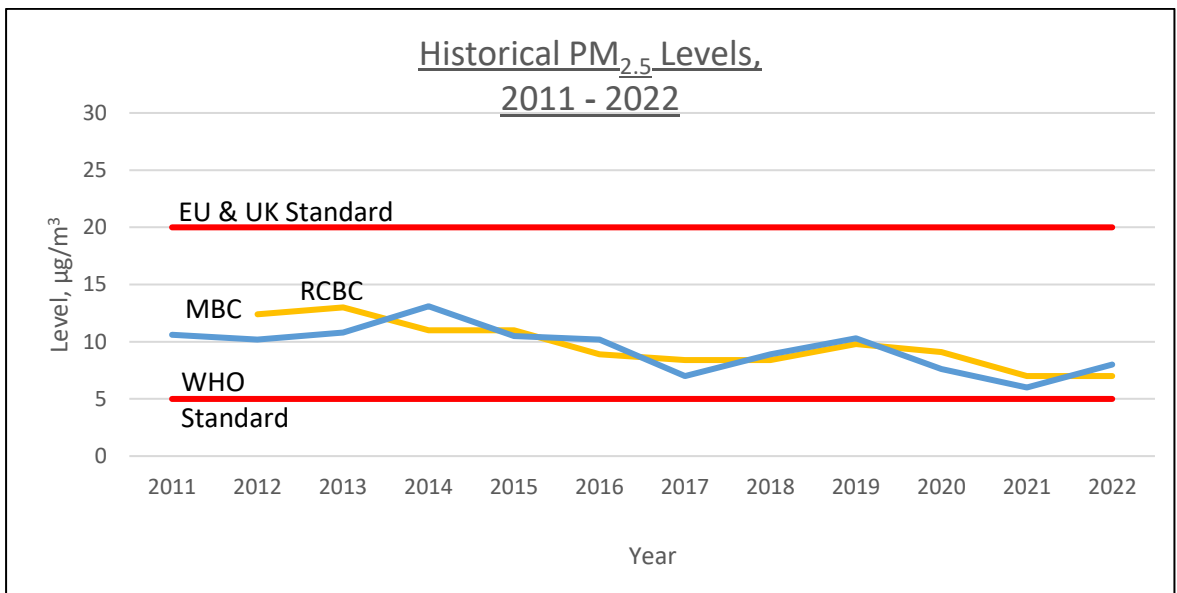
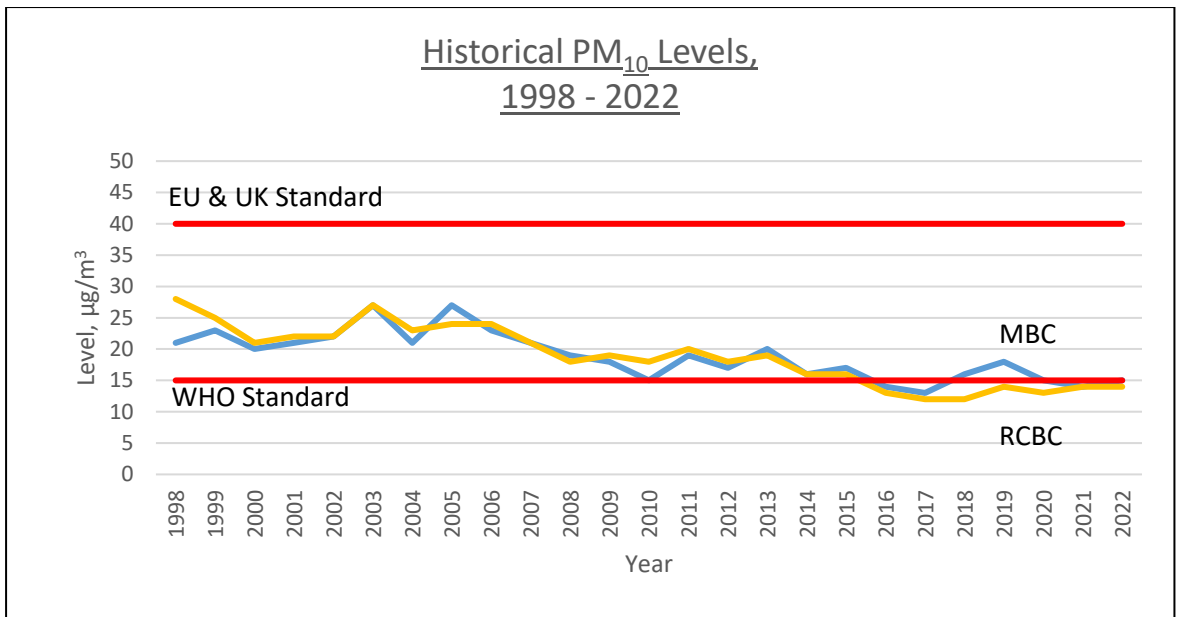
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<sup>6</sup> MBC <https://www.middlesbrough.gov.uk/environment-and-public-protection/advice-and-information/air-quality>

<sup>7</sup> RCBC <https://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/community-safety/environmental-protection-and-sustainability/air-quality>

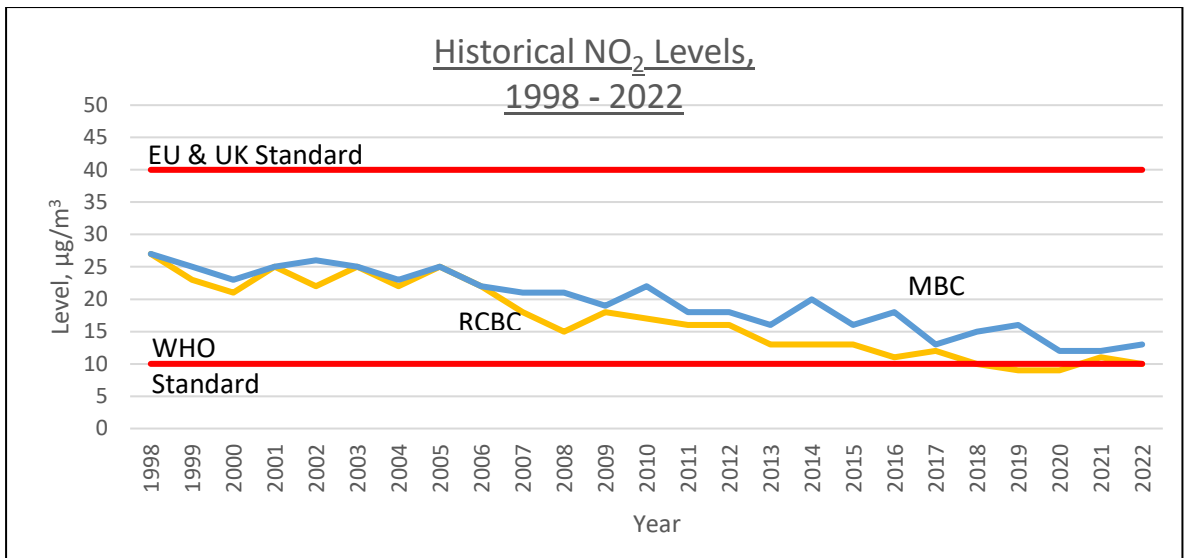
<sup>8</sup> [https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/networks/site-info?site\\_id=MID](https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/networks/site-info?site_id=MID)

<sup>9</sup> [https://www.airqualityengland.co.uk/local-authority/?la\\_id=279](https://www.airqualityengland.co.uk/local-authority/?la_id=279)



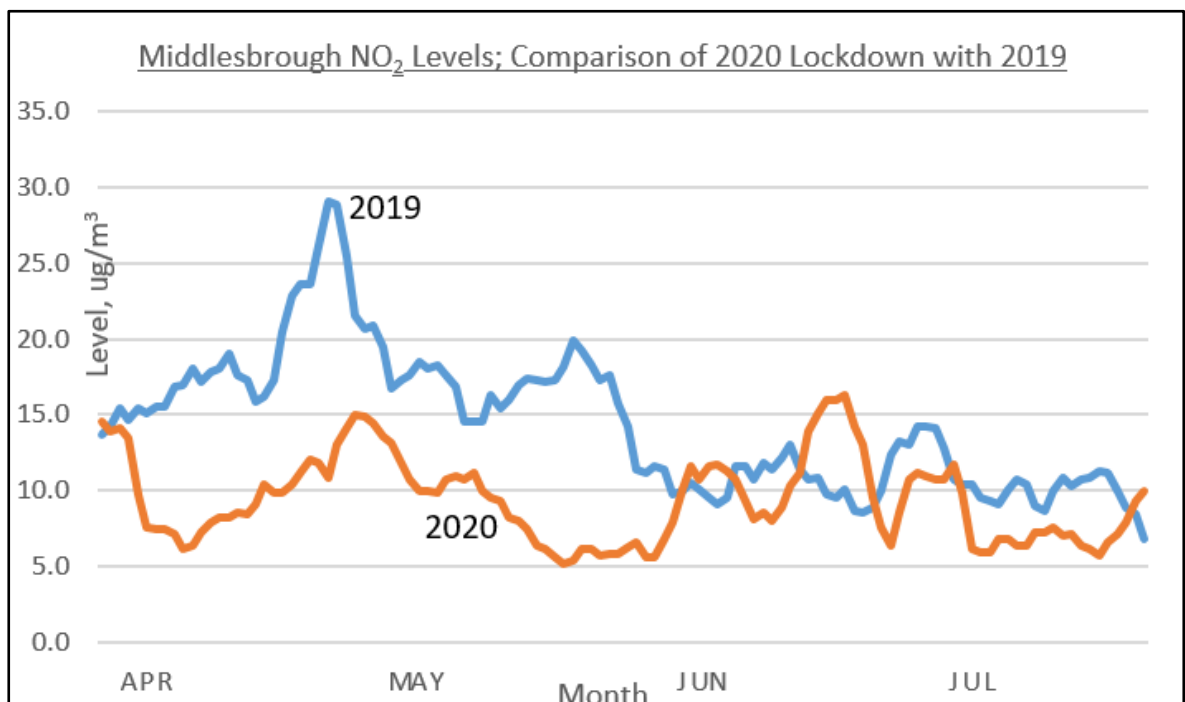
PM<sub>2.5</sub> values for Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council from 2011 until 2020 were calculated from PM<sub>10</sub> data using the recognised method by Defra. Values from 2021 are provided from a dedicated PM<sub>2.5</sub> analyser.





During the Covid-19 pandemic controls were in place to restrict daily activity away from the home to essential travel for key workers and shopping for essential goods. This resulted in a reduction in the number of vehicles on the road and consequently air quality was affected in different ways across South Tees.

In Middlesbrough, the impact of the Covid lockdown was clearly positive for air quality during the months of the initial restriction on non-essential travel. The measurement taken for the graph below came from the Breckon Hill monitoring station, located in a mostly residential area situated in close proximity to what would normally have been a busy urban transport route.

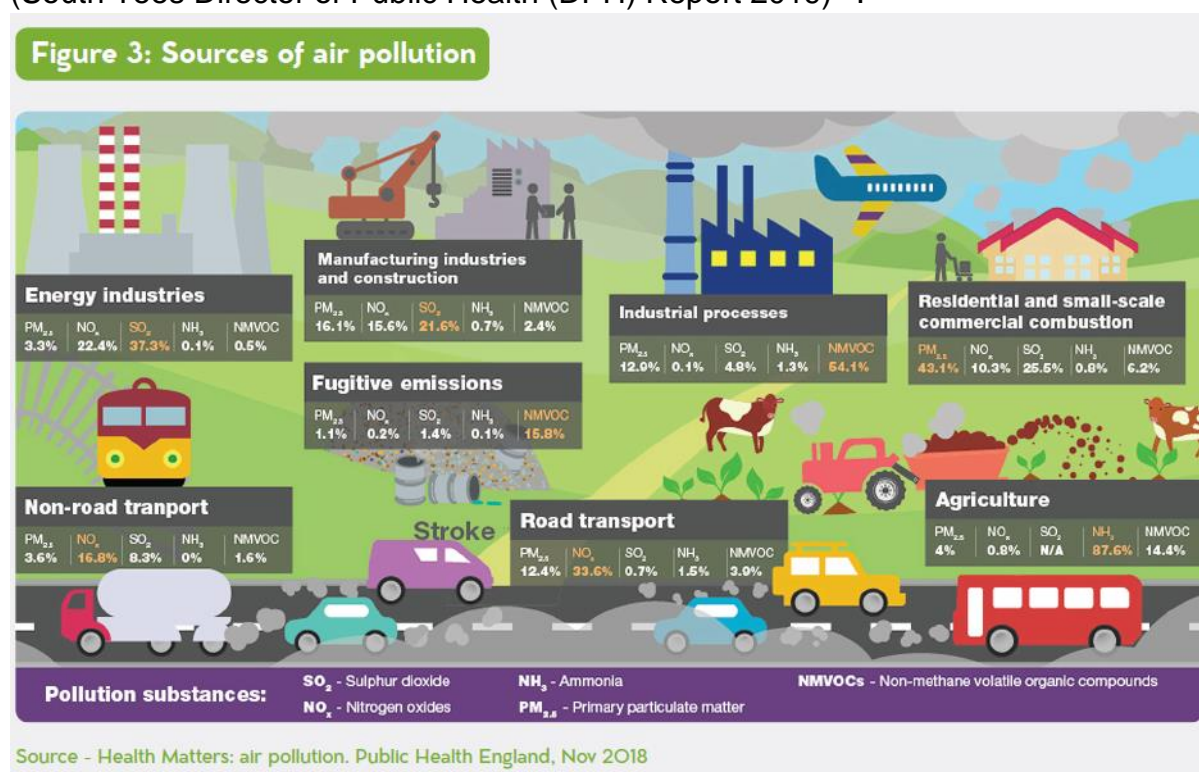


In Redcar and Cleveland, there was no discernible difference in air quality during the lockdown period of the Covid pandemic. Geographically there is less housing located upwind of the monitoring station therefore the impact of reduced vehicle use by households did not impact on the nitrogen dioxide levels recorded. In addition, the diffusion tube located on the A66 / West Lane (RCBC) main arterial route which is influenced by traffic serving the large industrial /chemical complexes also showed no noticeable reduction in nitrogen dioxide levels. This is perhaps not unexpected given this is a main arterial route used by key workers and key industries which continued to operate as normal throughout the Covid pandemic.

## 4. AIR POLLUTION AND HEALTH

In 2022 the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) published new estimates for the burden of long-term exposure to air pollution in 2019 in the UK being an effect equivalent to 29,000 to 43,000 deaths for adults aged 30 and over<sup>10</sup>.

Air quality is the largest environmental health risk in the UK. It shortens lives and contributes to chronic illness. Health can be affected both by short-term, high-pollution episodes and by long-term exposure to lower levels of pollution, (South Tees Director of Public Health (DPH) Report 2019)<sup>11</sup>.

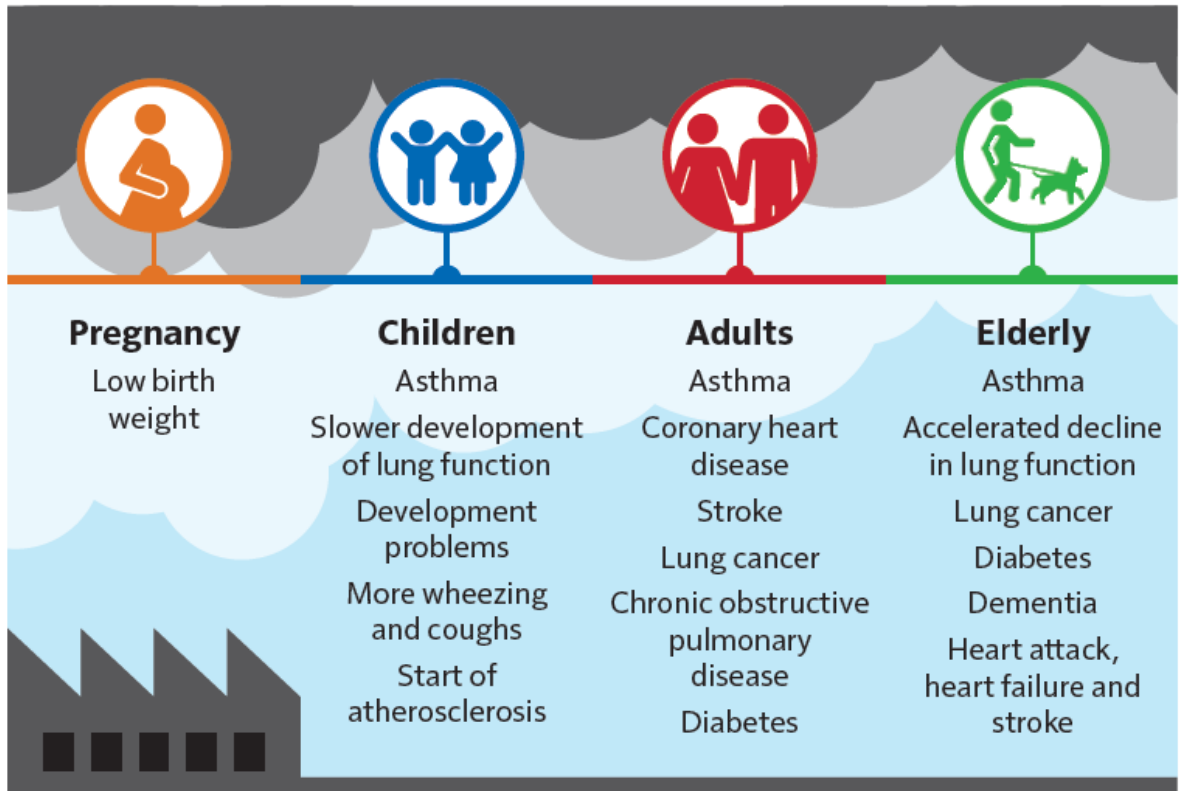


There is currently no clear evidence of a safe level of exposure to air pollution below which there is no risk of adverse health effects. Air pollution affects all people across all life courses from being in the womb to end of life.

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/chemical-hazards-and-poisons-report-issue-28>

<sup>11</sup> South Tees DPH Report 2019,

<https://moderngov.middlesbrough.gov.uk/Data/Executive/202006161300/Agenda/att1018246.pdf>



Source: Adapted from Public Health England (2018)<sup>1</sup>

**Figure 1: Health effects of air pollution throughout life**

12

Tragically, 2020 saw the UK's first cause of death listed as air pollution. Ella Adoo-Kissi-Debrah, aged 9, died in 2013 from an asthma attack. Ella had lived in close proximity to the busy South Circular Road in Lewisham, south-east London. An inquest ruled that air pollution was a material contribution to her death<sup>13</sup>.

NICE guideline [NG70] aims to raise awareness of outdoor air quality and health<sup>14</sup>.

People are also exposed to poor air quality within indoor environments. The following sources are contributors to poor indoor air quality (Health Matters Guidance, November 2018).

- Carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and particulates from domestic appliances (boilers, heaters, fires, stoves and ovens), which burn carbon containing fuels (coal, coke, gas, kerosene and wood).

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/chief-medical-officers-annual-report-2022-air-pollution>

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-responds-to-coroner-after-ella-kissi-debrah-inquest>

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng70>

- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) from cleaning and personal care products, building materials and household consumer products (paints, carpets, laminate furniture, cleaning products, air fresheners, polishing).
- Environmental tobacco smoke and second-hand smoke. Advice and support can be accessed via the South Tees Smoke Free Alliance<sup>15</sup>.
- Radon from naturally occurring radioactive gas that is released from the ground as the earth decays. There is an increased risk of lung cancer if exposed to high levels of radon for a long time, as it is the second highest cause of lung cancer after smoking. It is generally not a problem in outside air but can accumulate in buildings. The areas affected by radon in the Redcar and Cleveland area, and across the UK can be viewed on the UK Radon website<sup>16</sup>. Middlesbrough have no areas identified as radon concern.

Indoor air quality is the only air pollution that individuals have some control over. NICE guideline (NG149) aims to raise awareness of the importance of good air quality in people's homes and how to achieve this<sup>17</sup>.

Although air quality in the South Tees consistently complies with the legal standards, the South Tees Clean Air Strategy, in conjunction with additional cross-cutting policies / guidance, aims to improve air quality even further. Residents' actions and behaviour changes, no matter how big or small are vital to make a difference at the local level.

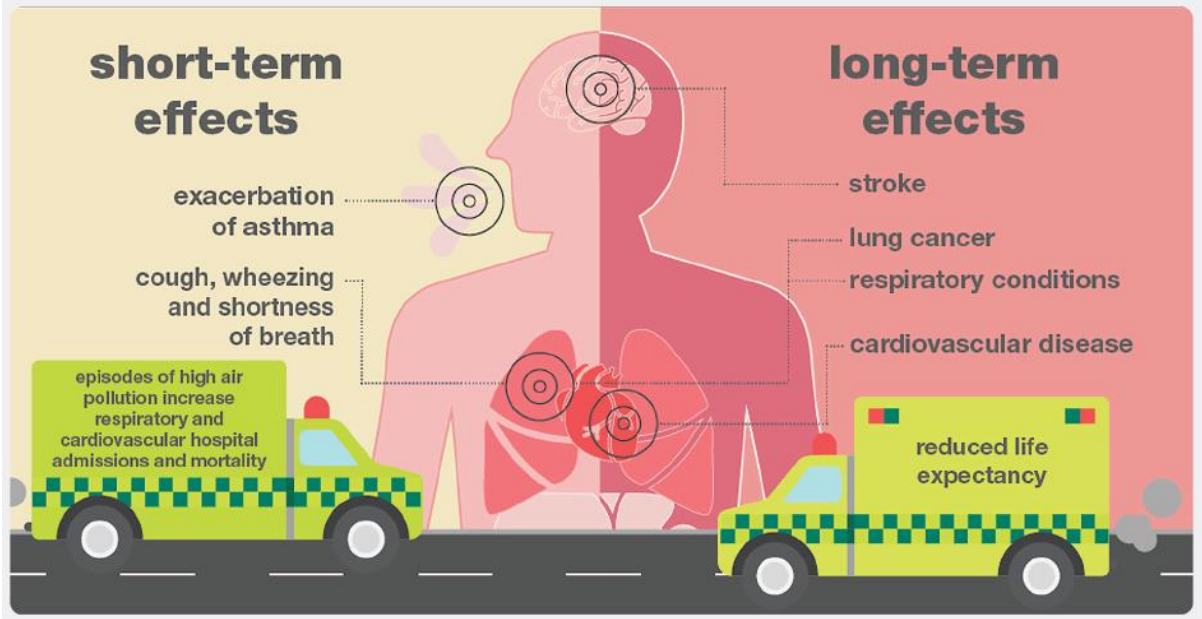
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<sup>15</sup> South Tees Smoke Free Alliance, <https://www.stopsmokingsouthtees.co.uk/>

<sup>16</sup> UK Radon Maps, <https://www.ukradon.org/information/ukmaps>

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng149>

**Figure 5: Health effects of air pollution**



Source - Health Matters: air pollution. PHE, Nov 2018

The measures that improve air quality can also offer wider public health and wellbeing co-benefits, including an improvement in overall environmental quality, increased physical activity, reducing injuries and accidents, preventing social isolation, noise reduction, greater road safety and climate change mitigation, (South Tees DPH Report, 2019).

Local health statistics across the UK are revised regularly and are available via the following link <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles>

## 5. ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

Improving air quality has long been on the agenda for the South Tees area, and many changes have already been implemented which will have contributed to an improvement in air quality.

### Tees Valley Combined Authority (TVCA)

- The Tees Valley Strategic Transport Plan 2020 – 2030 was adopted in January 2020 and provides an investment framework to deliver a world-class transport system. A Transport Investment Prospectus has also been developed setting out a statement of ambition to Government for further devolved transport funding.
- Roll-out of two EV charging projects within RCBC and MBC live from October 2022 in Loftus (12), Redcar (18), Guisborough (12) and in MBC at Binks Street (3), Buxton Street (4), Stewart Park (1), Zetland Multistorey (5) and Captain Cook multistorey (6).
- The Tees Flex service was launched in February 2020, providing an on-demand bus service to areas of the region previously not well served by public transport. The service has been well received and seen strong passenger growth despite the impacts of Covid-19. The three-year trial has now been extended for a further 18 months from February 2023.
- A pipeline of new private sector investment enquiries of more than £5billion, with the potential to create and safeguard more than 7,500 jobs. Of this pipeline several major investments are already well under way such as Anglo American's Woodsmith Mine connection to Wilton International, with some nearing completion, such as MGT's Tees Renewable Energy Plant.
- Net Zero Teesside is the UK's most developed and deliverable carbon capture, utilisation and storage project that aims to make the Tees Valley the world's first decarbonised industrial centre<sup>18</sup>, The multibillion-pound project is being delivered by a consortium of the world's largest oil companies, BP, Equinor, Shell, Total and ENI. Led by BP, the project will be operational by 2030. The process removes CO<sub>2</sub> from heavy industry and powerplants and transports it by pipeline to storage sites located several miles under the North Sea. The scheme plans to capture up to 10M tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions each year, equivalent to the emissions associated with the annual energy use of up to three million UK homes, meaning it will play a huge role in the UK's ambition to be net zero by 2050.
- Introduction of a Local Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP), which sets out the ambition to deliver 92km of new walking

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<sup>18</sup> <https://www.netzeroteesside.co.uk/>

and cycling infrastructure, including several new routes in Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland.

- Completed Middlesbrough, Linthorpe Road Phase 1 scheme provides a brand new, segregated route leading directly into the town centre from Linthorpe Village.
- Working in partnership with Sustrans to provide practical advice and support to people living and working in Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland, through the network of Active Travel Hubs<sup>19</sup>.

### South Tees Development Corporation

- Master Plan 2017 25-year vision for the redevelopment of the former Redcar Steelworks site, introducing 'clean' technology and future carbon capture<sup>20</sup>.

### Highways & Transport

- Redevelopment of Middlesbrough Railway Station, first phase completion December 2021, platform extension of 75m to allow direct trains to London, £34m upgrade, refurbishment of station, £2.67million of DfT funding and £9.65million from the Getting Building Fund was secured for the upgrade of Middlesbrough Station ensuring the full funding package is in place for delivery.
- Improvements to major roads and traffic signalling, 'through-about A66' with removal of Cargo Fleet roundabout, Flatts Lane / Swan's Corner reconfiguration.
- Continued implementation of the Urban Traffic Management System on the A66 to improve traffic management.
- Pedestrianisation of major town centres across the South Tees.
- Procurement of cleaner fleet vehicles across each Borough.
- Car anti-idling signage at the Redcar Central Station Road crossing since July 2021.
- RCBC and MBC introduction of Zapcharged EV chargers since August 2022 within Council operated car parks across the Borough.
- RCBC EV chargers within fleet operated buildings for use by Council vehicles.
- Achieved 18.9% increase in the level of zero emission vehicles in the Council's fleet against target of 20% by March 2023.

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<sup>19</sup> <https://www.letsgotoeesvalley.co.uk/ways-to-travel/cycle/?tab=Active%20Travel%20Hubs&#panel-3>

<sup>20</sup> <https://teesvalley-ca.gov.uk/stdc/>



## Active Travel

- Five Active Travel Hubs commissioned across the Tees Valley including from bases at Middlesbrough and Redcar. The Redcar Hub will carry out outreach work to reach communities throughout the borough. Hubs will offer residents advice and information about walking & cycling, guided walks & bike rides, cycle repairs & training courses and secure cycle storage etc.
- RCBC plans for cycling and walking investment covering 10 proposed schemes across the borough.
- Sustrans grant £665,478 improving a section of The Lines/Black Path from Ormesby High Street to South Bank (part of Teesworks to Nunthorpe active travel route).
- Bikeability cycle training providing children and family with lifeskills to cycle confidently and competently on today's roads.
- Dr Bike sessions in Redcar and Cleveland and Middlesbrough fixing bikes and providing road safety for school children.
- Linthorpe Road cycle investment.
- Promotion of £2 bus fare price cap between January and March 2023.
- Success in receiving funding from the UK Government 'Levelling Up' initiative, January 2023, to receive £20M investment in the Newham Grange highway scheme will unlock 800 homes in Middlesbrough, while new pedestrian and cycle tracks will better connect Guisborough town centre to Teesworks and the North York Moors National Park.
- You've Got This South Tees Delivery Pilot to encourage physical activity.
- Beat the Street game to increase physical activity across South Tees encouraged people to walk and cycle rather than using a car.

**Beat the Street** Redcar and Cleveland

Log in Map Menu

### The game has now finished

**16,852**  
players in Redcar and Cleveland

Explore the game map

**140,775**  
miles covered in Redcar and Cleveland

[Sign up now](#)

[Help](#)

## Middlesbrough Borough Council Final Beat the Streets Game.



### Energy Efficiency of Homes

- Improvements to housing becoming more energy efficient Green Homes Deal (LAD2) RCBC £2million investment covering 258 measures across 195 homes.
- Home Upgrade Grant (HUG1) supported by TVCA, for measures installed in homes across Redcar & Cleveland, Stockton and Darlington. This scheme is currently awaiting agreement for extension until July 2023 and will see improvement to a projected 236 homes across the Tees Valley.
- A further round of Home Upgrade Grant (HUG) funding was announced in November 2022 (HUG2). A consortium bid between Stockton-on-Tees, Hartlepool, Redcar and Cleveland and Darlington Borough Council was submitted at the end of January 2023. The bid for funding has been successful and it is anticipated that 300 homes across the four participating Tees Valley local authority areas will be improved. This scheme begins in Autumn 2023 and will run until March 2025.
- Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES) Regulations, Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) project. RCBC were successful in a bid for £36,610 to support private rented properties being rated an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) of D or above. The project targeted two postcode areas with the greatest proportion of rented properties in EPC category E and below. The project identified 157 properties; 75 properties improved their rating, 64 were found to be no longer subject to MEES Regulations and 18 properties were subject to proportionate enforcement action.

- Middlesbrough identified 84 Properties that had a registered EPC rating of F or G meaning they were substandard. The properties were upgraded to have an EPC rating of A to E, which brought them into compliance with the laws on minimum energy standards in rented accommodation.

### Community & Council Initiatives

- Safe /Green alley spaces in South Bank as part of You've Got This 'Growing Active Partnership' to encourage local residents to take part in physical activity by taking control of green spaces and making alleyways safer using Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Safer Streets initiative to provide local residents with key access to alleyways.
- Installation of electric charging points in Council Car Parks and fleet depots across South Tees.
- Publicity campaign relating to efficient and compliant use of wood burning stoves (RCBC).
- Replacement of existing street lighting with LED across South Tees.
- Electricity supplies from renewable sources.
- Separation of waste streams.
- Regulation of businesses who hold an Environmental Permit to release pollutants to the atmosphere.
- Smoke Control Areas across the South Tees<sup>21</sup>.
- MBC salary sacrifice scheme has resulted in over 70 EV vehicles being purchased by staff.
- RCBC salary sacrifice scheme has resulted in 12 electric vehicle and 11 hybrid vehicle purchases by staff since the scheme started in 2012.
- The Covid-19 pandemic provided opportunities for instigating new ways of working, post Covid South Tees has achieved extensive hybrid working.
- Both RCBC and MBC provided feedback in April 2023 on the consultation regarding Defra's National Draft Air Quality Strategy.
- Smarter working practices utilised within the South Tees Authorities including hybrid working opportunities and consolidation of office space.
- Between April 2022 and December 2024 Northern Gas Networks undertook survey work in preparation for a potential domestic hydrogen fuel trial within the Redcar area. Should the project have been approved this would have resulted in creating the UK first hydrogen village. The Government decided in December 2023 to not support the proposed pilot project.

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<sup>21</sup> Smoke Control Maps UK, <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/data/sca/>

This is just the beginning of the story; the South Tees vision is to realise continuous improvement to air quality for the benefit of everyone.

## **6. OUR FIVE WORKSTREAMS FOR SUSTAINABLE AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS**

1. Planning for cleaner air (data & intelligence).
2. Reduce vehicle emissions and promotion of active travel (alternative fuel/modal shift).
3. Raise awareness of air quality (communications/engagement and awareness raising).
4. Educate to improve indoor air quality.
5. Enforcement.

## **7. PROGRESS CHECKING / ACCOUNTABILITY**

Through this dynamic strategy work will be regularly reviewed with partners (Section 9) to ensure that it remains relevant to the delivery of the South Tees Strategy. Implementation and progress with the South Tees Clean Air Strategy requires collaborative working with internal teams and external organisations to improve the air for all within the South Tees area. Progress reporting for the strategy will be undertaken by MBC and RCBC via the annual statutory air quality report to Defra submitted in June.

The current economic environment and associated budget constraints may result in changes in the delivery of local services, local and national policies, and these would require changes to action plans.

At a local level topic-based task groups will provide operational delivery of the five priority areas, comprising cross-departmental local authority teams across the South Tees and willing partners in the public, private and voluntary sectors.

Engagement with community leaders, businesses, local communities, and schools is paramount to the delivery of this strategy. Information will be shared using social media platforms and established community groups.

## 8 PERFORMANCE MEASURES & MILESTONES

South Tees aims to make continuous improvements to air quality. This will be addressed with the following performance measures action plan.

Reference	Detail	Start Date (if relevant)	Finish Date (if relevant)	Actioned By	Update frequency
<b>DATA &amp; INTELLIGENCE</b>					
DI01	School Air Quality Zones Contract – Redcar & Eston School Sports Partnership Community Interest Company (CIC), included installation of air quality monitoring devices outside schools and is now implemented and incorporated into the Creating Active Schools Framework.	Ongoing	Ongoing	Public Health Teams, Middlesbrough Environment City (MEC), Groundworks Northeast	April annually
DI02	Utilisation of Public Health England's Outcome Framework Data in the planning, monitoring and	Ongoing	N/A	STPH Public Health Intelligence Specialist	April annually

	reporting process, fingertips data.				
DI03	Submit Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) annual status report to Defra.	Ongoing	N/A	MBC & RCBC Environmental Protection Teams	June annually
DI04	Provide statutory update on progress with the South Tees Clean Air Strategy to Defra.	Annual	N/A	MBC & RCBC Environmental Protection Teams	June annually
DI05	Update through South Tees Public Health topic area (Ill Health Prevention)	Annual	N/A	STPH Advanced Public Health Practitioner	Quarterly
DI06	Air Pollution and Carbon Emissions Net Zero Project (APACE Net Zero)	Ongoing	N/A	TVCA	Quarterly
DI07	Collaborating with registered providers to gather data to demonstrate meeting of carbon targets and net zero.	Ongoing	Annual review	Middlesbrough Environment City (MEC) RCBC Housing Standards Team Thirteen and Beyond	May annually

DI08	Update on Bikeability and Dr Bike statistics.	Ongoing	Annual review	Sustrans RESSP MBC Environment City	May annually
DI09	<p>Promotion of affordable warmth schemes across the South Tees area.</p> <p>Ongoing regional collaboration to secure funding to implement schemes.</p> <p>RCBC:- Ecoflex4, HUG2, Boiler upgrade scheme, Great British Insulation Scheme</p> <p>MBC: - Promotion of Ecoflex schemes to deliver on cavity wall insulation, loft insulation, inefficient heating replacements and solid wall insulation</p>	Ongoing	Annual review	Middlesbrough Environment City (MEC) RCBC Housing Standards Team (Affordable Warmth) Regeneration Team, MBC	Quarterly

	for eligible properties. Home Improvement Loans through the promotion of the Staying Put Agency that provides money to help older and vulnerable people living in Middlesbrough, whose property falls below the Decent Homes standard.				
<b>ALTERNATIVE FUEL / MODAL SHIFT</b>					
AF01	Partnership with TVCA to offer free travel for school aged children during school holidays (TVCA Kids go free by bus this summer).	Ongoing	Annual review	TVCA	April annually
AF02	Proposed trial for 50 on-street electric vehicle charging points with Ubitricity.	Ongoing	N/A	MBC Environment and Community Services	June annually



AF03	Increase the level of zero emission vehicles in the Council's fleet to 20% by 2024 (RCBC)	Ongoing	N/A	RCBC Climate Change, Growth, Enterprise and Environment	June annually
	To replace the Council's Fleet with zero emission vehicles by 2029 (MBC)	Ongoing	2029	MBC Environment Services	
AF04	Redcar & Cleveland to be carbon neutral by 2030.	Ongoing	2030	RCBC Climate Change, Growth, Enterprise and Environment	June annually
AF05	Redcar and Cleveland to become 100% clean energy supply by 2050.	Ongoing	2050	RCBC Climate Change, Growth, Enterprise and Environment	June annually
	Purchase energy from green or renewable fuel sources to be carbon neutral by 2030.	Ongoing	2030	MBC Environment Services	
AF06	New waste facility at South Bank	Ongoing	NA	TVCA and Circular Fuels Ltd.	June annually

	operational from 2025, which will explore carbon capture technology.				
AF07	Explore transport infrastructure improvements that work to reduce pollution.	Ongoing	2030	RCBC Transport, Growth, Enterprise and Environment, MBC Economic Growth and Infrastructure	June annually
AF08	<p>Involvement with Teesside University Hydrogen Hub trials.</p> <p>Redcar &amp; Cleveland Borough Council were part of two bids into Innovate UK for the Tees Valley Hydrogen Transport Hub. The bids were not successful but an additional vehicle from a different successful bid is to be trialled within the borough.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>June 2025</p>	<p>MBC Economic Growth and Infrastructure</p> <p>RCBC Climate Change, Growth, Enterprise and Environment</p>	June annually
AF09	Trial large hydrogen vehicles	Ongoing	June 2025	RCBC Climate Change, Growth,	June annually

	as part of the Tees Valley Hydrogen Transport Hub			Enterprise and Environment	
AF10	Employ sustainable transport initiatives through City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) and Local Implementation Plan for Transport in conjunction with TVCA.	Ongoing	2027	MBC Economic Growth and Infrastructure, RCBC Growth Enterprise and Environment	June annually
AF11	Promote the implementation of an ultra-low emission vehicle infrastructure across the South Tees.	Ongoing	N/A	RCBC Transport, Growth, Enterprise and Environment, MBC Economic Growth and Infrastructure	June annually
AF12	Explore opportunities with organisations to encourage the use of cleaner commercial vehicles.	Ongoing	N/A	TVCA	June annually
AF13	Create environments	Ongoing	2025	You've Got This (South Tees Initiative)	June annually

	which encourage physical activity.				
AF14	Explore opportunities with APACE NETZERO to understand the influence of maritime operations on air pollution in South Tees.	Ongoing	N/A	TVCA RCBC and MBC Environmental Protection Teams	March 2025
AF15	Explore opportunities with APACE Net Zero regarding access to their unique solution for acquiring local emissions inventories (resolution 100m) that can serve as the baseline for monitoring and validating the impact of decarbonization measures.	Ongoing	N/A	TVCA RCBC Climate Change, Growth, Enterprise and Environment	March 2025
<b>COMMUNICATION / ENGAGEMENT &amp; AWARENESS RAISING</b>					
CE01	Introducing 'clean air awareness' around schools on a targeted basis	Ongoing	N/A	STPH	May annually

	and introducing materials on air quality to link to the national curriculum. The intention is to test whether the materials and overall approach are acceptable and engaging for pupils, schools and communities with a view to wider scale roll out in future years. Part of the Creating Active Schools Framework				
CE02	Identify and promote funding streams that are available to everyone to improve air quality.	Ongoing	N/A	STPH Empowering Communities Team	June annually
CE03	Public engagement events across the South Tees area to raise awareness of air quality related issues including in support of annual	Ongoing	N/A	MBC & RCBC Environmental Protection Teams	June annually

	Clean Air Day / Car Free Day.				
CE04	<p>Identify hotspot areas for targeted action and make this data central and accessible to other stakeholders within the private and public sector. – Air quality data is available to all stakeholders using the following link <a href="https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/">https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/</a>. In addition data including previous Annual Status reports are available using the following link, MBC <a href="https://middlesbrough-council-middlesbrough.opendata.arcgis.com/search?sort=name&amp;tags=air%20quality">https://middlesbrough-council-middlesbrough.opendata.arcgis.com/search?sort=name&amp;tags=air%20quality</a> and RCBC <a href="https://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/co">https://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/co</a></p>	Ongoing	N/A	MBC & RCBC Environmental Protection Teams	Ongoing

	<a href="#">community-safety/environmental-protection-and-sustainability/air-quality</a>				
CE05	Promoting positive messages to raise awareness of outdoor air pollution	Ongoing	N/A	MBC & RCBC Environmental Protection Teams	June annually
<b>ENFORCEMENT (proportionate in accordance with local enforcement policies)</b>					
ENF01	Applicable planning applications to include an air quality assessment in line with the NPPF.	Ongoing	N/A	MBC and RCBC Development Control and TVCA planning applications.	June annually
ENF02	Enforce the new provisions within the Environment Act 2021 with regards to Smoke Control Areas, wood burning stoves and domestic chimneys.	Ongoing	N/A	MBC & RCBC Environmental Protection Teams	April annually
ENF03	Enforce statutory nuisance provisions within the Environmental	Ongoing	N/A	MBC & RCBC Environmental Protection Teams	April annually

	Protection Act 1990 with regards to bonfires.				
ENF04	Enforce the provisions of the Clean Air Act 1990 with respect to dark smoke.	Ongoing	N/A	MBC & RCBC Environmental Protection Teams	April annually
ENF05	Engage with businesses that hold Environmental Permits to ensure they comply with emission limits and where necessary undertake enforcement action for non-compliance.	Ongoing	N/A	MBC & RCBC Environmental Protection Teams	April annually
ENF06	Provide and maintain an effective air quality monitoring network.	Ongoing	N/A	MBC & RCBC Environmental Protection Teams	April annually
ENF07	Provide advice and data to the public with concerns about their local air quality.	Ongoing	N/A	MBC & RCBC Environmental Protection Teams	April annually
<b>EDUCATE IMPROVING INDOOR AIR QUALITY</b>					
IAQ01	Communications campaign to increase	Ongoing	N/A	STPH / Smoke Free Alliance	Quarterly updates



	awareness of sources of indoor air pollution and maximising Making Every Contact Count (MECC).				
IAQ02	Encourage people to give up smoking (Smoking Cessation Service, South Tees Smoke Free Action Alliance).	Ongoing	N/A	STPH	Annual updates
IAQ03	Working with registered providers to communicate with residents and to raise awareness of indoor air pollution.	Ongoing	N/A	MBC & RCBC Housing Teams Smoke Free Alliance	June annually

## 9 KEY PARTNERS

Environment Agency	
Tees Valley Combined Authority	
Net Zero Teesside	
Sustrans	
Let's Go Tees Valley	
South Tees Development Corporation	
Circular Fuels Ltd	
Northern Gas Networks	

## 10. APPENDIX / REFERENCES

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