

Options – Part 2

Option #1 Business As Usual with limited changes

- Retain separate local air quality regulations .
- Maintain review and assessment reporting cycle, but remove the need to carry out Further Assessments.
- Review the need for continued assessment and reporting on objectives that have been met.

Option #2 Concentration on Action Planning and focused reporting

- All of option 1
- Change focus from review and assessment to action planning.
- Reduced and more focused reporting

Option #3 Alignment with EU requirements to meet air quality limit values

- All of Option 2 plus Local authorities no longer required to carry out detailed assessments or to make/amend AQMAs.
- Consolidate and amend Air Quality (England) and Air Quality Standards Regulations so that local authorities work towards compliance with EU air quality limit values and targets where there is scope for action at the local level.
- No reporting requirements on local hotspots outside of the national assessment of EU air quality standards but a stronger interest and reporting on local measures which help to improve air quality and bring us closer to compliance with EU air quality standards.
- Local authorities to focus on action planning and public health and report on measures taken to improve air quality and these are included in reports to EU on compliance where quantified.

Option #4 Separate local air quality management duties do not exist

- No separate LAQM duties but local authorities would still have to take account of air quality when appraising transport and development proposals and policies.
- Provisions for LAQM in the Environment Act would be repealed along with Air Quality England Regulations.
- Air Quality Standards Regulations amended as per Option 3.
- No specific duties on local authorities to assess or report on air quality locally – greater reliance on national assessment.