

Hi Heather

Thanks for giving me the heads up regarding ammonia. We did look into the issue when Perdeep raised it, although as you will be aware this was not raised as an issue by NE during the Regulation 18 Draft consultation, which also included the Air Quality Assessment. We discussed the matter with both our Air Quality (Bureau Veritas) and HRA (LUC) Consultants, as well as with the Council's Environment Health team as at the time we were unclear how this could be, or if it needed to be, addressed.

Bureau Veritas has advised that there is currently no approved methodology for quantifying the impact of this due to the difficulty of defining clear emission rates associated to the release of ammonia from vehicles, and that there are some methodologies available but that these have been queried by NE regarding their accuracy.

The HRA consultants have advised that it is unclear why further information is being requested in relation to ammonia, particularly, given that ammonia largely stems from agricultural sources, albeit it can also come from other sources, such as traffic, and that there seems to currently be little information available outlining agreed methodologies for quantifying the impact of ammonia. They advised they did not therefore consider changes needed to be made at this stage.

The Council's Environmental Health Officer responded to state that ammonia mainly arises from agriculture and that the NE guidance, following publication of the Clean Air Strategy, makes no reference to need to assess ammonia. He suggested some unrelated amendments to the wording of the Policy on Air Quality concerning the adoption of the Kent and Medway Air Quality Partnership Technical Guidance by this Council as SPD when this is updated, which were made.

Should you consider that this issue should be raised in relation to the Regulation 19 Plan, we would therefore require further clarification from NE as to exactly what is required and how the issue can be resolved/addressed. Are there specific sites which are of concern that this may be impacting upon? Does this require us carrying out additional assessments at this stage, or could it be identified as a potential issues to be assessed through AQA for planning applications?

Kind Regards Ashley



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