

Date: 14 April 2023
Our ref: 427535
Your ref: Air Pollution Evidence Base, Rev B



Combined Partnership Authorities

BY EMAIL ONLY

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Dear Sirs

Planning consultation: Creation of an Air Pollution Evidence Base Brief to Support Local Plan HRA

Location: Staffordshire, Wolverhampton, Walsall, Sandwell and Dudley

Thank you for your consultation on the above report.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

The aim of this report is to present a detailed step by step methodology of how the Local Planning Authorities in the above locations will determine the likely air pollution impacts (via increased traffic generation) on several European sites should emerging local plans be adopted.

The report presents a rationale for why certain European sites can be "screened out" from requiring detailed assessment of air quality impacts. For certain European sites that cannot be screened out it presents a methodology for how air quality impacts from emerging local plans will be assessed.

We have reviewed the report and can confirm that it has been prepared in full accordance with [Natural England's approach to advising competent authorities on the assessment of road traffic emissions under the Habitats Regulations](#). We are therefore able to support the report's methodology and its conclusions.

Should relevant legislation or guidance change the report will need to be reviewed. Should the report itself change please consult us again.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Horswill".

Dr Paul Horswill
Senior Adviser, West Midlands Team