

Annex A: Eligibility and Criteria for Assessment of Applications for Defra's local authority air quality grant programme 2013/14

Eligibility for application

1. The Air Quality Grant Programme is aimed at supporting eligible capital expenditure by English local authorities on their air quality management duties under Part IV of the Environment Act 1995, with regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State for that purpose.
2. The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (July 2007) sets out the UK air quality objectives. The pollutants covered by Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) under Part IV of the Environment Act are set out in the Air Quality (England) Regulations 2000 (SI 2000/928) as amended by the Air Quality (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2002 (SI 2002/3043). For most local authorities, the pollutants of concern in these Regulations are likely to be nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and particulate matter (PM₁₀).
3. Defra assesses air quality in the UK on an annual basis to determine compliance with European legislation for air quality. The Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe is relevant for the pollutants NO₂ and PM₁₀ and sets out limit values for these pollutants. This Directive was transposed into English Law in The Air Quality Standards (England) Regulations 2010.
4. Eligibility for Defra's Local Authority Air Quality Grant Programme for 2013/14 is restricted to English authorities that have exceedances of EU limit values for nitrogen dioxide as determined by Defra's national assessment and/or Air Quality Management Areas for nitrogen dioxide. Air Quality Management Areas must have been declared on or before the 31 March 2013. A full list of eligible local authorities for the 2013/14 programme is included in this document at paragraph 16. Applications will only be accepted for assessment from these local authorities. Local authorities may submit an application in partnership with one or more other eligible authorities. When doing so one authority should be indicated as the lead authority for the project.

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Criteria and Priorities to be applied in the Assessment of Applications

5. Applications will be assessed by Defra or Defra's appointed agents to determine the distribution of grant. Not all applications will be successful or receive the level of funding requested. Priority will be given to those authorities applying for the grant to support the development or implementation of their air quality Action Plans or on other projects to improve local air quality. Applications for capital grant will be considered for the following types of projects:

- Projects that contribute to reductions in emissions and/or concentrations of NO_x, NO₂ and PM₁₀, provided that there are exceedances of NO₂ objectives and/or NO₂ EU limit values within the local authority boundary, in accordance with the eligibility criteria set out in paragraph 4.
- Projects that support work to review and collate research and monitoring evidence that can improve our understanding of the effectiveness of air quality measures and share best practice.
- Projects aimed at achieving improved air quality through, for example, influencing behaviour and/or raising awareness to support public health objectives. This includes projects in partnership with local Directors of Public Health.

6. Applicants should show that they have considered other funding resources (such as Sustainable Transport Funding for Authorities outside London and Section 106 agreements) and should demonstrate an understanding of why the LAQM grant fund is the most appropriate. The applicant must be able to demonstrate that the project provides good value for money. Applicants should also detail what additional funding/match funding has been secured or is being pursued to support the project.

7. Applications will be assessed against:

- Quality of the proposed project.
- Proposals to evaluate the effectiveness of the project.
- The plan to disseminate findings more widely.
- The extent to which the project outcomes are more widely applicable/reproducible.
- The extent to which the project provides value for money.
- The suitability of this funding opportunity for the project.
- Whether or not additional or match funding has been identified for the project and the overall proportion of match-funding available

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Projects which involve multiple partners and/or deliver benefits to or across more than one local authority will also be prioritised in the assessment process.

Proposals by Local Authorities for Assessment of Air Quality

8. As stated above the key focus for the 2013/14 grant will be on supporting action plan measures, especially those targeting NO₂ exceedances. However, that does not preclude monitoring or modelling of air quality where such assessment is necessary to support the evidence base for introducing a particular measure covered by the key criteria or to evaluate the effectiveness of an air quality intervention. An example would be assessment to determine the feasibility of a Low Emission Zone.
9. Proposals which include quantification of the proposed action, either emissions or concentrations, evaluation of the economic and health benefits will be considered favourably. Also of benefit will be proposals which include sharing lessons learned from the measures with other local authorities.
10. Local authorities must accept the conditions of the grant award as contained in the Grant Determination (Annex C), and are expected to comply with the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding (Annex D). The following points should be noted:
 - The local authority **must not** submit commercial-in-confidence quotes as part the application or refer to by name any consultants or other organisations proposed to carry out any aspect of the work.
 - The grant application must be sufficiently detailed to demonstrate the purpose of the project, its objectives, success criteria and the means and extent to which it will achieve air quality benefits. All sections of the application form should be completed and the quality of the project proposal will be taken into account in determining the funding level to award.
 - The application should demonstrate value for money for Defra.

Arrangements for London

11. As with last year, Defra has agreed a coordinated approach with the Greater London Authority (GLA) and Transport for London (TfL). To support efficient allocation of grant funding and to reduce duplication the GLA and TfL will work with boroughs to co-ordinate grant applications in London. There will be a focus on supporting the implementation of measures to improve air quality/reduce exposure, promote the integration of air quality with public health and raising awareness.
12. Funding from the Mayor's Air Quality Fund and Local Implementation Plans (LIPs) is eligible match-funding for the purposes of the Defra bid assessment process. Where projects are to be match-funded the project form should describe

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that part of the project which the air quality grant will fund so that the provision of funding can be properly evaluated and assessed against the Air Quality Grant eligibility criteria. Further guidance is available from Elliot Treharne, GLA Air Quality Manager (Elliot.Treharne@london.gov.uk).

Capital/ Non-Capital Expenditure

13. Under section 16 of the Local Government Act 2003 “capital expenditure” is “expenditure of the local authority which falls to be capitalised in accordance with proper practices”.

14. With regard to the proper accounting treatment of a particular item of expenditure on the activities included in an application for support under the air quality grant programme, authorities should seek advice from their finance department or external auditors. It is a matter for the appropriate Finance Officer of the local authority to determine, subject to the scrutiny of the authority’s auditor, if the expenditure on the proposal can properly be attributed to the authority’s capital account (and therefore eligible for the air quality grant).

15. The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) have published general advice to local authorities on the system Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (ISBN 0852999895). The Code defines capital expenditure as “items capitalised under the SORP” (Statement of Recommended Practice). Definitions in the CIPFA Code are intended to be consistent with UK generally accepted accounting practice as applicable to the public services and embodied in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting (the SORP). Copies of these (priced) Codes may be obtained from the CIPFA bookshop website:

- www.cipfa.org.uk/shop

16. Eligible Local Authorities for 2013/14

The list below identifies those local authorities eligible to apply for grant funding. If it appears that your local authority should have been included but has not, please get in touch for further clarification.

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List of eligible local authorities – 2013/14 air quality grant programme

| A – L | M - Z |
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| Adur District Council | Maidstone Borough Council |
| Ashfield District Council | Manchester City Council |
| Aylesbury Vale District Council | Medway Council |
| Babergh District Council | Mid Devon District Council |
| Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council | Mid Sussex District Council |
| Basildon District Council | Middlesbrough Borough Council |
| Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council | Milton Keynes Borough Council |
| Bath & North East Somerset Council | New Forest District Council |
| Bedford Borough Council | Newcastle City Council |
| Birmingham City Council | Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council |
| Blaby District Council | North Devon District Council |
| Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council | North East Lincolnshire Council |
| Blackpool Borough Council | North Lincolnshire Council |
| Bolsover District Council | North Somerset Council |
| Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council | North Tyneside Council |
| Boston Borough Council | North Warwickshire Borough Council |
| Bournemouth Borough Council | North West Leicestershire District Council |
| Bracknell Forest Borough Council | Northampton Borough Council |
| Bradford City Council | Norwich City Council |
| Brentwood Borough Council | Nottingham City Council |
| Brighton and Hove Council | Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council |
| Bristol City Council | Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council |
| Bromsgrove District Council | Oxford City Council |
| Broxbourne Borough Council | Pendle Borough Council |
| Broxtowe Borough Council | Peterborough Council |
| Burnley Borough Council | Plymouth City Council |
| Bury Metropolitan Borough Council | Poole Borough Council |
| Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council | Portsmouth City Council |
| Cambridge City Council | Preston Borough Council |
| Cannock Chase District Council | Purbeck District Council |
| Canterbury City Council | Reading Borough Council |
| Carlisle City Council | Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council |
| Central Bedfordshire Council | Reigate and Banstead Borough Council |
| Charnwood Borough Council | Ribble Valley Borough Council |
| Chelmsford Borough Council | Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council |
| Cheltenham Borough Council | Rochford District Council |
| Cherwell District Council | Rossendale Borough Council |

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| Cheshire East | Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council |
| Cheshire West and Chester Council | Rugby Borough Council |
| Chesterfield Borough Council | Runnymede Borough Council |
| Chichester District Council | Rushcliffe Borough Council |
| Chiltern District Council | Rushmoor Borough Council |
| Chorley Borough Council | Ryedale District Council |
| Colchester Borough Council | Salford Metropolitan Borough Council |
| Cornwall Council | Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council |
| Corporation of the City of London | Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council |
| Cotswold District Council | Sevenoaks District Council |
| Coventry City Council | Sheffield City Council |
| Crawley Borough Council | Shropshire Council |
| Dacorum Borough Council | Slough Borough Council |
| Darlington Borough Council | Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council |
| Dartford Borough Council | South Bucks District Council |
| Derby City Council | South Cambridgeshire District Council |
| Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council | South Gloucestershire District Council |
| Dover District Council | South Hams District Council |
| Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council | South Kesteven District Council |
| Durham | South Lakeland District Council |
| East Devon District Council | South Northamptonshire Council |
| East Dorset District Council | South Oxfordshire District Council |
| East Hampshire District Council | South Ribble Borough Council |
| East Hertfordshire District Council | South Somerset District Council |
| East Riding of Yorkshire | South Staffordshire District Council |
| East Staffordshire Borough Council | South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council |
| Eastleigh Borough Council | Southampton Council |
| Elmbridge Borough Council | Southend Borough Council |
| Epping Forest District Council | Spelthorne Borough Council |
| Epsom & Ewell Borough Council | St Albans District Council |
| Erewash Borough Council | St Edmundsbury Borough Council |
| Exeter City Council | St Helens Metropolitan Borough Council |
| Fareham Borough Council | Stafford Borough Council |
| Fenland District Council | Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council |
| Forest Heath District Council | Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council |
| Forest of Dean District Council | Stoke-on-Trent City Council |
| Gateshead Metropolitan Borough Council | Stratford on Avon District Council |
| Gedling Borough Council | Suffolk Coastal District Council |
| Gloucester City Council | Sunderland City Council |
| Gravesham Borough Council | Surrey Health District Council |
| Guildford Borough Council | Swale Borough Council |

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| Halton Borough Council | Swindon Borough Council |
| Harborough District Council | Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council |
| Harrogate Borough Council | Taunton Deane Borough Council |
| Hart District Council | Teignbridge District Council |
| Havant Borough Council | Telford & Wrekin Council |
| Herefordshire Council | Test Valley Borough Council |
| Hertsmere Borough Council | Tewkesbury Borough Council |
| Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council | Thanet District Council |
| Horsham District Council | Three Rivers District Council |
| Huntingdonshire District Council | Thurrock Council |
| Ipswich Borough Council | Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council |
| King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council | Torbay Borough Council |
| Kingston-upon-Hull City Council | Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council |
| Kirklees Metropolitan Council | Tunbridge Wells Borough Council |
| Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council | Uttlesford District Council |
| Lancaster City Council | Vale of White Horse District Council |
| Leeds City Council | Wakefield Metropolitan District Council |
| Leicester City Council | Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council |
| Lewes District Council | Warrington Borough Council |
| Lichfield City Council | Warwick District Council |
| Lincoln City Council | Watford Borough Council |
| Liverpool City Council | Waverley Borough Council |
| London Borough of Barking and Dagenham | Welwyn Hatfield District Council |
| London Borough of Barnet | West Berkshire Council |
| London Borough of Bexley | West Dorset District Council |
| London Borough of Brent | West Lancashire District Council |
| London Borough of Bromley Council | West Oxfordshire District Council |
| London Borough of Camden | Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council |
| London Borough of Croydon | Wiltshire Council |
| London Borough of Ealing | Winchester City Council |
| London Borough of Enfield | Windsor & Maidenhead, Royal Borough of |
| London Borough of Greenwich | Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council |
| London Borough of Hackney | Wokingham District Council |
| London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham | Wolverhampton City Council |
| London Borough of Haringey | Worcester City Council |
| London Borough of Harrow | Worthing Borough Council |
| London Borough of Havering | Wychavon District Council |
| London Borough of Hillingdon | Wycombe District Council |
| London Borough of Hounslow | Wyre Borough Council |

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| London Borough of Islington | Wyre Forest District Council |
| London Borough of Kensington & Chelsea | York City Council |
| London Borough of Kingston upon Thames | |
| London Borough of Lambeth | |
| London Borough of Lewisham | |
| London Borough of Merton | |
| London Borough of Newham | |
| London Borough of Redbridge | |
| London Borough of Richmond | |
| London Borough of Southwark | |
| London Borough of Sutton | |
| London Borough of Tower Hamlets | |
| London Borough of Waltham Forest | |
| London Borough of Wandsworth | |
| London Borough of Westminster | |
| Luton Borough Council | |