

COUNCIL

26th April 2017

**NOTICE OF MOTION – AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREAS
CONSULTATION**

The following Notice of Motion has been submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 10 by Councillor S. R. Colella:

“Over the last three months barely a week goes by where the standard of the UK’s Air Quality is not under scrutiny; whether it is the Mayor of London increasing the congestion charge for diesel engines, the proposed diesel scrappage scheme or the car emissions scandal. This only receives media attention because it’s London but the fact is that Bromsgrove has more Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) of any District in Worcestershire.

This remains an embarrassment for this Council and puts the health of Bromsgrove residents at serious risk on a daily basis. Each AQMA has been allocated an Air Quality Action Plan which is frankly worthless and has done nothing to reduce the air pollutants in the affected areas. Indeed I don’t think anything from the Action Plans has been implemented. This effectively means air pollutants (both NOX and particulate matter) regularly remain above safe levels yet this Council does nothing but to knowingly allow further development and congestion to increase pollution levels.

Recent guidance by NICE has shown that stop, start, slow moving traffic increases air pollutants of all types. This is common across many parts of Bromsgrove, not only in the AQMAs, many of which are where children have to walk to school.

This has been followed by a recent report that suggests living closest to major highways increases the chance of dementia and along with the car emissions scandal just shows that this Council is happy just to wait and see, kick the can down the road and leave our residents to continue to suffer with ill health and poor air quality related illnesses. It will only get worse and should be tackled as a matter of urgency giving it the utmost priority in the Council’s Corporate Plan.

I ask that the Council support the inclusion of a District Council AQMA Air Quality Action Plan across the District in the forthcoming review of the Corporate Plan when it commences later this year.”