

Report of the Chief Executive

AIR QUALITY ANNUAL STATUS REPORT 20201. Purpose of report

To advise members of the response from the Department of Food Environment and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) on this authority's latest Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR).

2. Detail

At the meeting of this committee on 15 June 2020, members approved the Air Quality Annual Status Report 2020 for submission to DEFRA.

DEFRA requires all local authorities in England to produce an Annual Status Report in respect of air quality. The production of an ASR is intended to aid local transparency, increase accessibility of air quality to the wider public audience and encourage buy-in to delivering air quality improvement measures by those best placed to assist (e.g. directors of public health, transport managers etc.).

The Council has now received a response from DEFRA which is shown in the appendix. The response is very positive and recognises elements of good practice, including what it describes as *the Council's active engagement in monitoring air quality within the borough*.

The response concludes by stating:

Overall the report is detailed, concise, satisfies the criteria of relevant standards and continues to be an example of good practice. The Council should continue their good work and submit an Annual Status Report in 2021.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to NOTE the response from DEFRA in respect of the 2020 Air Quality Annual Status Report.

Background papers

Nil