

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.

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 of 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
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	

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