



Data Protection Officer
Freedom of Information
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Date: 24 November 2020

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 1351

I write further to your emails dated 27 October 2020.

Your request has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), explained on our [freedom of information](#) page.

Your requests:

Under FOI rules I would like to request all the information leading to the closing down of the Broom Leys chemiluminescent monitor. This request to include all investigation into the units history & fitness for purpose. Details of its setup, servicing & calibration. Who is qualified to setup Air Quality measuring equipment at NWLDC.

The automatic monitor at Broom Leys Road was decommissioned in September 2018 after it had been installed for 9 years. This was because the monitor recorded no exceedances of the hourly mean objective for 8 years which provided sufficient evidence to show that the hourly mean Air Quality Objective (AQO) has been met. An amendment to the AQMA to remove the exceedance of the hourly mean AQO was agreed by DEFRA and the following Cabinet report details this:

<https://minutes-1.nwleics.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=126&Mid=2039&Ver=4>

The data relied on to recommend the amendment to the AQMA is contained in the 2019 ASR
https://www.nwleics.gov.uk/files/documents/2019_air_quality_annual_status_report/ASR_Template_England%202019_v2.pdf

The monitoring unit was leased from, installed, calibrated, and maintained by TRL, <https://trl.co.uk/>

As this unit is fundamental to the accuracy of the Diffusion Tube measurements taken, then what consideration has been investigated as to ensuring the accuracy of the Broom Leys AQMA.

The chemiluminescence analyser has not been used for local bias adjustment of diffusion tubes and the council uses the national bias adjustment factor. Therefore the removal of the analyser does not affect the accuracy of diffusion tube monitoring.

Also who authorised these changes ?

The changes were authorised by senior management on the grounds that no exceedances of the Hourly Mean Air Quality Objective for Nitrogen Dioxide had been detected in 8 years and officers recommended to amend the AQMA to reflect this.

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GOING FORWARD

If you are dissatisfied with the information supplied please feel free to contact me on the number above for any queries in relation to this response. Please note that in responding to further enquiries I can only comment on the information contained within this correspondence and cannot provide any further information that may pertain to an additional FOIA request.

Please remember to quote the Authority's four digit reference number given at the top of this email in any future communications.

If you remain dissatisfied following the conclusion of the above informal review, you have the right to ask for an internal review. A request for a review whether formal or informal should be submitted within two calendar months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be sent to DPO@NWLeicestershire.gov.uk or the address above.

Further details on our appeals and complaints procedure can be found on our website [here](#).

If you remain dissatisfied following the conclusion of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at accessicoinformation@ico.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mackenzie Keatley
Information Governance Officer