

Date: 14 December 2018

Subject: GM Clean Air Plan Update

Report of: Cllr Alexander Ganotis, Portfolio Lead for Greater Manchester Green City Region

---

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to set out the structure of the GMCA / District Council report and the nature of the socio-economic impact information that will accompany the OBC.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Members are recommended to:

- (i) note and comment as appropriate on the report.

**CONTACT OFFICERS:**

Simon Warburton

0161 244 1427

[Simon.Warburton@tfgm.com](mailto:Simon.Warburton@tfgm.com)

Comments and/or recommendation from the relevant Overview & Scrutiny Committee

N/A

Risk Management – N/A

Legal Considerations – Note Sections 1.1 – 1.6 in the report

Financial Consequences – Revenue – N/A

Financial Consequences – N/A

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

- 30 November 2018, report to GMCA: Clean Air Plan Update
- 26 October 2018, report to GMCA: GM Clean Air Plan Update on Local Air Quality Monitoring
- 15 November 2018, report to HPEOS Committee: Clean Air Update
- 16 August 2018, report to HPEOS Committee: GM Clean Air Plan Update
- ‘UK plan for tackling roadside nitrogen dioxide concentrations’, Defra and DfT, 2017;

<b>TRACKING/PROCESS</b>		
Does this report relate to a major strategic decision, as set out in the GMCA Constitution		No
<b>EXEMPTION FROM CALL IN</b>		
Are there any aspects in this report which means it should be considered to be exempt from call in by the AGMA Scrutiny Pool on the grounds of urgency?		No
TfGMC	Overview & Scrutiny Committee	
N/A	N/A	

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 As has been previously reported to GMCA, the 'UK Plan for tackling roadside nitrogen dioxide concentrations' (DEFRA, July 2017) identified seven Greater Manchester (GM) authorities with areas likely to exceed the statutory nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) annual mean EU Limit Value of 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (the EU Limit Value) beyond 2020, and who were subsequently directed to develop plans to deliver compliance with the EU Limit Value in the 'shortest possible time'. In March 2018, 33 more local authorities, including Oldham, were defined as having "shorter-term NO<sub>2</sub> problems", and required to assess options for bringing compliance forward.
- 1.2 Furthermore, the local air quality monitoring completed as part of 'Initial Evidence' and 'Target Determination' has now identified exceedances in all ten GM local authorities.
- 1.3 Local authorities with NO<sub>2</sub> exceedances are compelled to follow a specific process set out in Government guidance to develop their Clean Air Plan.
- 1.4 TfGM has been coordinating the preparation of a GM feasibility study into the options available to address the exceedances, directed by a GM Steering Group that includes representatives from the GMCA and the ten GM local authorities, who remain legally responsible for undertaking a feasibility study and identifying measures which achieve compliance in the shortest possible time.
- 1.5 The next step in the process is to submit an Outline Business Case (OBC) to Government, which assesses the options for achieving compliance in GM and identifies a 'preferred option', being the proposed package of measures which achieves compliance in the shortest possible time, in accordance with the GM authorities legal duties and public law principles. The OBC will be assessed by Government, who will confirm whether the proposals are accepted.

## **2. OUTLINE BUSINESS CASE REPORT STRUCTURE**

- 2.1 The OBC report that will be prepared for GMCA and for the Districts will share the same basic structure.
- 2.2 The key difference between the District and the GMCA report will be in the nature of the recommendations, insofar as legal advice confirms that Districts have the primary legal responsibility for approving the OBC at this stage, in compliance with the ministerial direction.
- 2.3 The remainder of the report will largely be common, and will begin by setting out the background legal and Government policy framework which has largely dictated the pace and nature of the programme to develop an Outline Business Case.

2.4 The structure will be as follows:

- Background: legal and policy framework; the impact of poor air quality; existing air quality action;
- The feasibility study: how a range of options were developed and assessed;
- The preferred option for achieving compliance in the required 'shortest possible time';
- Initial analysis of the potential impact of the preferred option (air quality, transport, health, environment, public sector costs, and socio-economic impact);
- Legal compliance and implications (NO<sub>2</sub> compliance, other relevant duties and responsibilities);
- Commercial, financial and management implications, including an outline funding request from Government;
- High-level benefits, risks, contingencies and constraints;
- Consistency with other GM policies, plans and strategies (including Greater Manchester Spatial Framework);
- Next steps to developing the Full Business Case, including plans for a public conversation in the period February to March; and
- Appendices: web-link to the full OBC documents and public conversation materials.

### **3. SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT**

3.1 As part of the development of the OBC, socio-economic impact information will be provided. This will form part of the economic case, the purpose of which is to describe the costs and benefits of any the proposals to clean Greater Manchester's air, and to identify the possible impacts on the people, businesses and economy.

3.2 The analysis will be at a GM-level. As such, the economic information presented in the OBC will act as an indication of the benefits of action, and highlight issues that Greater Manchester will need to address in the development of the Full Business Case (FBC).

3.3 Further disaggregated analysis will be commissioned in early 2019 to complement the findings of the non-statutory public conversation that will follow the completion of the OBC.

3.4 This public conversation will seek wide-ranging feedback on the options for achieving compliance in GM and the identified 'preferred option' whilst this is at a formative stage.

3.5 The outputs from this initial engagement activity will be used to inform the ongoing detailed design of any scheme, and build understanding around the potential impacts of the 'preferred option' from a public and stakeholder perspective.

3.6 The socio-economic impact information that will be provided in the OBC report will include:

- A baseline report summarising the context: population and economy;
- 'Case study' analysis for particular groups and places of interest;
- A supporting map book (to visualise); and
- Scope of further impact analysis needed in the development of the FBC.

#### **4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.1 Members are recommended to:

- (i) note and comment as appropriate on the report.

**Councillor Alex Ganotis**

**Greater Manchester Green City Region**

