



Central Swindon South Parish Council

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Response to Swindon Borough Council Air Quality Action Plan

The Parish Council has reviewed the Swindon Borough Council Air Quality Action Plan and discussed this at its Planning & Environment Committee meeting on 22nd January 2019. The collated response follows below –

The Council's Priority 1 should be amended to read "To investigate sustainable options for reducing emissions from traffic flow on Kingshill Road, particularly in the uphill, South East direction.

The council were pleased to see some the Borough Fleet Actions including the commitment to improve their own fleet of vehicles by prioritising clean fuelled vehicles wherever possible and changing the schedule for recycling and waste collection to out of peak times.

Other suggestions included signposting to direct traffic towards Redposts Drive, Peglars Way and the routes beyond should be improved and this route not be converted into a bus only route as originally proposed.

A congestion charge scheme should be considered, and the council notes that stated concerns around GDPR compliance for such a scheme have been overcome by other local authorities.

SBC should explore the On Street Residential Chargepoint Scheme in order to put electric vehicle charging into residential areas in the Town Centre, Old Town and Eastcott area that don't have driveways or garages.

More should be done to encourage cycling and speed up construction of cycle path from Royal Wootton Bassett to Swindon. The cycle route along the Old Railway Line between Old Town and West Swindon could be improved to encourage use.

Councillors remarked that there are no bus routes through the Kingshill area and current bus routes do not follow traffic flows which implies that routes aren't going where people actually want to go.

The long proposed tunnel under the M4 to connect Wichelstowe traffic could help ease traffic moving up Kingshill.

It was suggested at a previous meeting that the designation of the roads be changed as Satellite Navigation Systems will currently direct traffic along A roads like Kingshill and Bath Road rather than along the outlying B Roads like Blackhorse Way and Wharf Road. If possible, the reclassification of Kingshill/Bath Road to a B Road and upgrading the divert route around Wichelstowe to an A road

would prevent this happening. Councillors were disappointed to see that this suggestion was not in the measures or the archived measures.

The consensus was that more detailed traffic modelling was required as a matter of urgency and this would give a better understanding of traffic journeys and the mix of vehicles in use.

Completed on Behalf of Central Swindon South Parish Council

Jake Mee MAAT
Deputy Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer
South Swindon Parish Council
(Central Swindon South Parish Council)