



EAST PARK ENERGY

East Park Energy

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Appendix 11-2: Baseline Air Quality Data

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Appendix 11-2: Baseline Air Quality Data

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1.0 Current Baseline Air Quality

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 Information on background air quality has been obtained through a review of Defra air quality data, and local authority annual air quality reports and monitoring data.
- 1.1.2 The Scheme falls within the local authority areas of Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) and Bedford Borough Council (BBC). At the time of preparation of this Appendix the latest available air quality reports produced by HDC and BBC were as detailed in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1: Available Annual Air Quality Status Reports (ASRs)

Council	Report	Comment(s)
Huntingdonshire District Council ¹	Huntingdonshire District Council 2025 Air Quality Annual Status Report, June 2025, <i>and previous reports</i>	Update of local authority air quality monitoring and assessment in fulfilment of LAQM requirements; includes data until the end of 2024
Bedford Borough Council ²	Bedford Borough Council 2024 Air Quality Annual Status Report, August 2024 <i>and previous reports</i>	Update of local authority air quality monitoring and assessment in fulfilment of LAQM requirements; includes data until the end of 2023

- 1.1.3 Relevant available air quality information is presented below.

1.2 Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs)

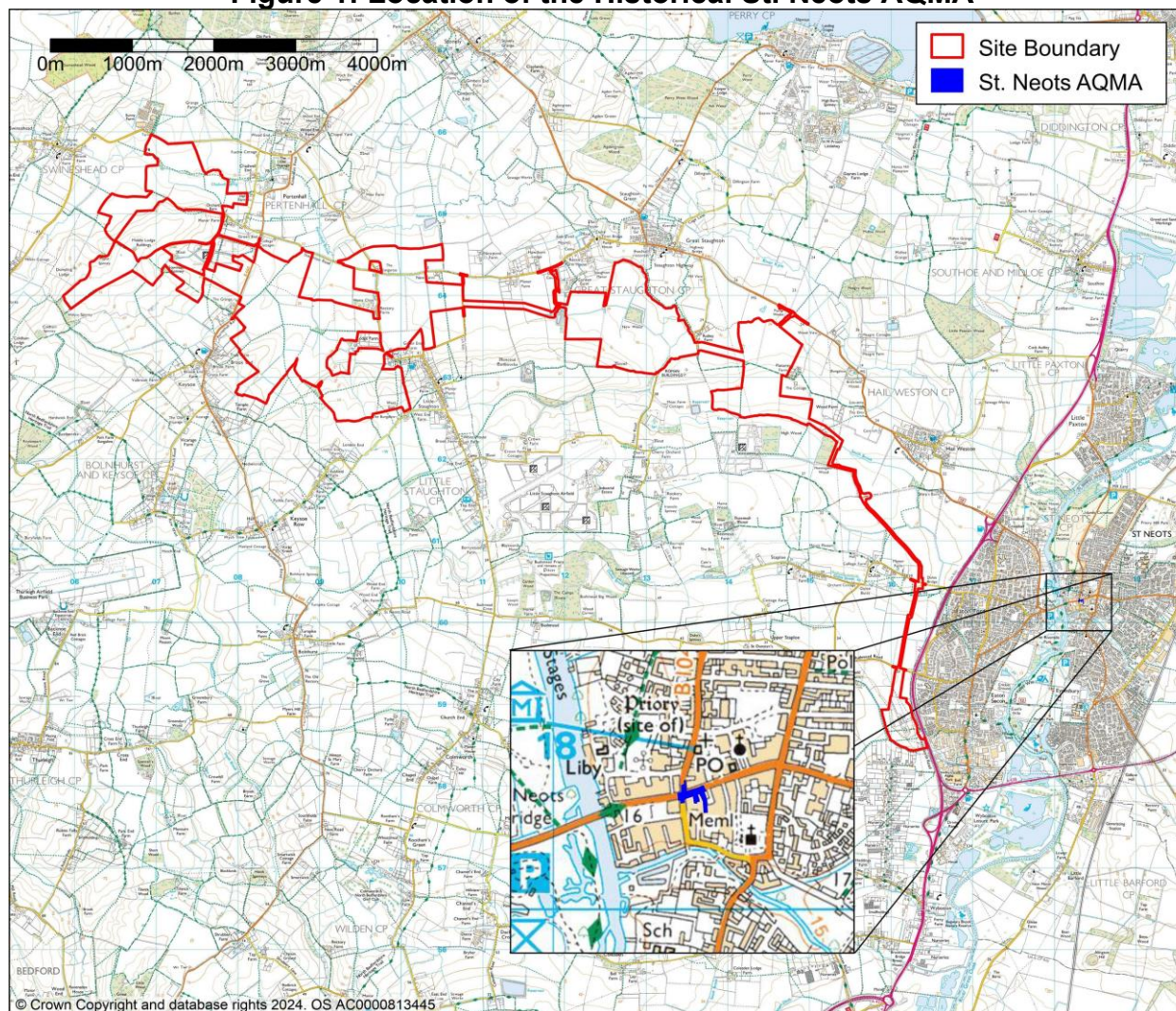
- 1.2.1 HDC has one currently declared AQMA within its administrative area under the Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) regime. However, this AQMA is located in Huntingdon, over 10km northeast of the Scheme and distant from the local road network. Historically an AQMA was declared within St Neots town centre (AQMA No. 2 St. Neots), which lay within St. Neots town centre about 1.9km east of the Order limits.

- 1.2.2 BBC has one currently declared AQMA within its administrative area. This is located in Bedford town centre, over 12km southwest of the Scheme, distant of the Study Area and local road network.
- 1.2.3 HDC revoked the St Neots AQMA in 2024 due to on-going compliance with the long-term nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) AQO as detailed in the 2025 Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR)¹. Additional information about this former AQMA is provided in Table 1 below and the location is provided in Figure 1 below.

Table 1.2: Former Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) of Potential Relevance to the Scheme

AQMA Name	Council	Location	Comment(s)
AQMA No. 2 St. Neots	Huntingdonshire District Council	Encompassed the junction between New Street, South Street, and the B1428.	Originally declared due to exceedances of the long-term NO ₂ Air Quality Objective; due to vehicle emission sources. HDC revoked this AQMA in 2024 due to ongoing compliance with the Air Quality Objective.

Figure 1: Location of the Historical St. Neots AQMA



1.3 Local Air Quality Monitoring Data

- 1.3.1 HDC and BBC each undertake ambient air quality monitoring within their areas using a combination of automatic (real-time) and non-automatic (passive) analysers as detailed in the relevant ASRs. Monitoring considered of relevance to the assessment is discussed below.

Automatic (Real-Time) Monitoring

- 1.3.2 Neither Council carries out any automatic monitoring within the Study Areas. Automatic monitoring is carried out within the towns of Bedford (by BBC for NO₂) and Huntingdon (by HDC for NO₂, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}), both distant from the Scheme. These locations are all 'roadside' locations and are not considered to provide background information on the wider local ambient air quality of relevance to the Scheme.

Non-Automatic (Passive) Monitoring

- 1.3.3 HDC and BBC both undertake non-automatic monitoring for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) across their areas using a network of passive diffusion tubes. Of these one (St. Neots 9) is within the Study Area and one (St. Neots 10) close to the Study Area. Both locations are within Eaton Socon to the east of the A1 as shown in Figure 2 of this Appendix, within the HDC administrative area. Information about the two locations is provided in Table 1.2 below.
- 1.3.4 Table 1.3 also provides information for monitoring locations further afield within St Neots, including within the former St. Neots AQMA, to provide information on background air quality.
- 1.3.5 Information is also presented for monitoring locations further afield that are distant from the Scheme but are within the vicinity of the A1.

Table 1.3: Diffusion Tube Locations within the Study Area and Wider Locality

Site ID	Location	Council	Grid Ref.	Type	Shortest distance & orientation from Scheme Boundary
Within Study Area					
St. Neots 9	5 Duchess Close	HDC	516370 259514	Suburban	240m E
Within St Neots AQMA No 2					
St. Neots 5	8-10 High Street (Post Office)	HDC	518323 260263	Kerbside	1.97km E
St. Neots 6	35 High Street (Traffic lights)		518433 260321	Kerbside	2.08km E
In wider area					
St. Neots 10	81 Great North Road	HDC	516921 258382	Roadside	470m E
St. Neots 1	The Paddocks		517869 260132	Kerbside	1.55km E
St. Neots 4	20 Harland Road		518489 260871	Urban Background	1.96km E
St. Neots 7	17 Arundel Crescent		518424 258556	Suburban	1.97km E
St. Neots 8	122 Lindisfarne Close		518707 258260	Suburban	2.26km E
St. Neots 3	71 Avenue Road		518925 260503	Urban Background	2.51km E
St. Neots 2	18 Cromwell Gardens		519541 260280	Roadside	3.18km E

Site ID	Location	Council	Grid Ref.	Type	Shortest distance & orientation from Scheme Boundary
Southoe 1	2 Lees Lane		518714 264308	Roadside	3.41km NE
St. Neots 11	119 Cambridge Road		519925 260291	Roadside	3.56km E
Buckden 1	6 Perry Road		518981 267370	Roadside	5.43km NE
Buckden 2	4 High Street (Roundabout)		519082 267433	Roadside	5.54km NE
Buckden 3	34 High Street (shop)		519161 267624	Roadside	5.73km NE
Buckden 4	11 Taylors Lane		519197 267955	Roadside	5.99km NE
DT12	8 The Lane, Wyboston	BBC	516345 256592	Roadside	1.83km S
DT13	Gt Nth Road, Wyboston - A1 South		516420 256552	Other	1.87km S

1: Data from HDC 2025 ASR and BBC 2024 ASR

1.3.6 Annual mean NO₂ concentrations for the 2018-2024 period are presented in Table 1.4 below.

Table 1.4: Diffusion Tube Monitors – Annual Mean Nitrogen Dioxide Concentrations¹

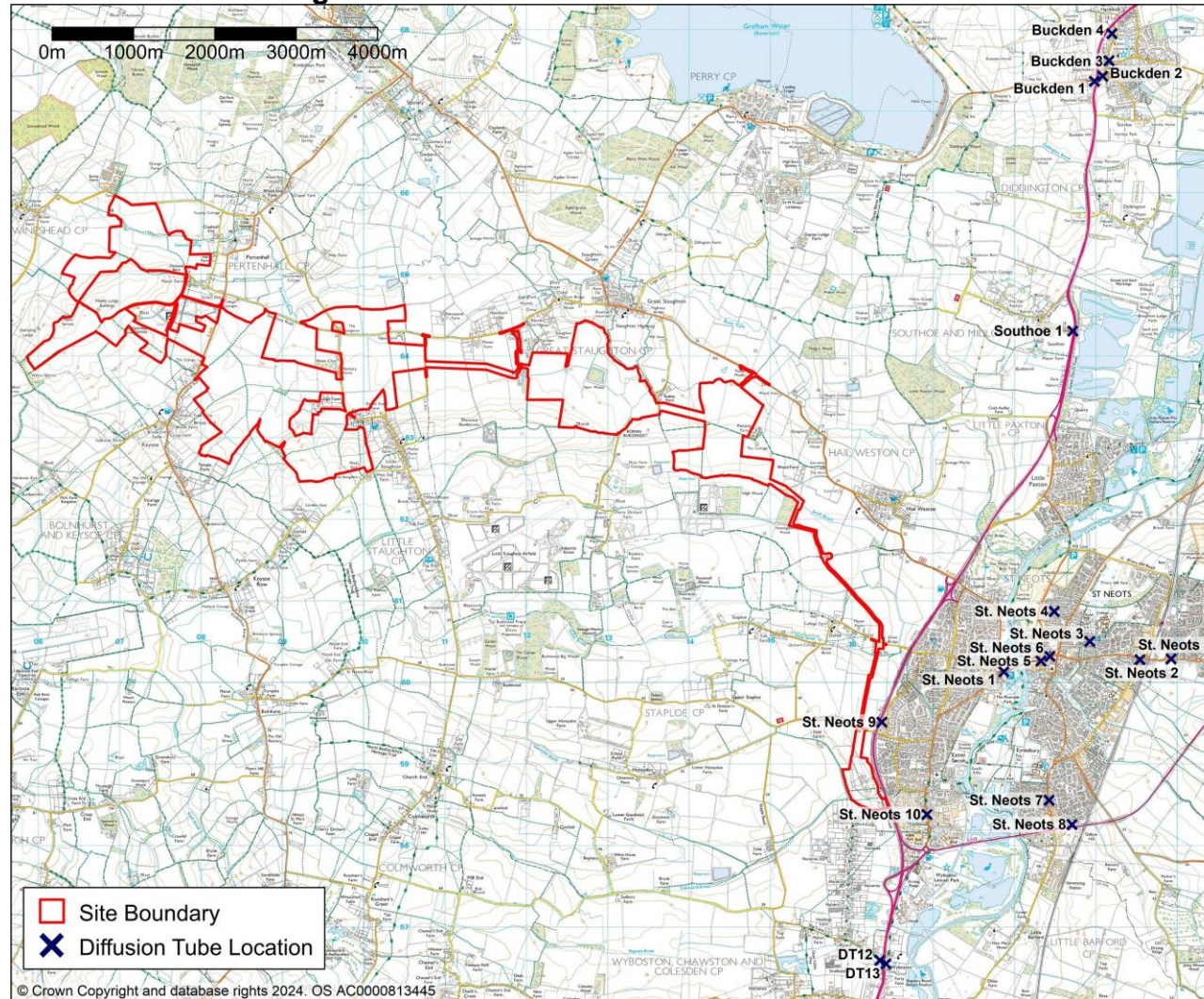
Site ID	Annual mean NO ₂ concentrations (µg/m ³)(<i>bias-adjusted</i>)						
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Within Study Area							
St. Neots 9	22.4	23.0	15.5	15.8	17.6	14.2	13.5

Site ID	Annual mean NO ₂ concentrations (µg/m ³)(<i>bias-adjusted</i>)						
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Within St Neots AQMA No 2							
St. Neots 5	28.7	28.8	18.6	21.0	23.2	20.8	19.1
St. Neots 6	28.4	29.0	20.4	20.2	22.9	21.0	18.6
In Wider Area							
St. Neots 10	-	24.7	16.9	17.8	20.3	17.9	16.6
St. Neots 1	17.5	18.1	12.2	13.7	13.9	12.1	11.1
St. Neots 4	13.9	14.7	10.0	10.2	11.2	9.9	8.7
St. Neots 7	17.4	18.7	14.2	13.9	14.1	11.9	11.1
St. Neots 8	18.8	19.9	12.7	12.4	14.6	11.9	10.3
Southoe 1	16.2	15.5	10.9	10.4	11.1	9.4	7.7
St. Neots 11	-	18.7	11.8	12.2	13.9	12.9	11.7
Buckden 1	21.9	21.8	13.0	14.3	18.1	14.6	15.7
Buckden 2	19.7	22.2	14.4	15.6	16.1	14.6	13.2
Buckden 3	25.4	25.7	17.5	17.8	20.8	16.8	15.7
Buckden 4	15.8	17.1	12.0	12.1	13.0	11.5	9.4
DT12	21.0	18.2	14.6	16.1	14.1	15.7	n/a
DT13	23.0	21.8	21.6	22.5	18.2	18.5	n/a

1: Data from HDC 2025 ASR and BBC 2024 ASR; data annualised and bias-adjusted by HDC and BBC;
BBC 2025 ASR and 2024 monitoring data not available at time of preparation of this Appendix
n/a – not available

- 1.3.7 The monitored concentrations have generally been consistent with expectations and national trends. A predominantly year on year steady reduction in NO₂ was experienced up until 2019. Recorded NO₂ concentrations then sharply declined in 2020 due to national lockdowns associated with the COVID-19 pandemic³ that heavily reduced road traffic emissions. Recorded concentrations rebound in 2021 and 2022 following the removal of COVID-19 restrictions, although none of the recorded concentrations returned to pre-pandemic levels at any of the locations.
- 1.3.8 No exceedances of the long-term NO₂ Air Quality Objective (40 µg/m³ as an annual mean) were recorded at any of the locations over the 2018-2024 period within St Neots, including at those within the former AQMA. Annual mean NO₂ concentrations at St Neots 9 and St Neots 10, the closest monitoring locations to the Site, have been in the range 13.5-24.7 µg/m³ over the 2018-2024 period, remaining well below the relevant UK AQO of 40 µg/m³.
- 1.3.9 Similarly, no exceedances of the long-term NO₂ Air Quality Objective (40 µg/m³ as an annual mean) were recorded at any of the locations near the stretches of the A1 to the north and south of the B645 junction (including Buckden 1, Southoe 1, DT12 and DT13). Annual mean NO₂ concentrations at these locations were in the range 7.7-23.0 µg/m³ over the 2018-2024 period, remaining well below the relevant UK AQO of 40 µg/m³.
- 1.3.10 It should be noted that although a rebound since 2020-2021 has been experienced this is consistent with expectations and that it is considered unlikely that the majority of UK roadside locations are likely to experience NO₂ and NO_x concentrations above those experienced in 2019 at any point in the foreseeable future⁴.

Figure 2: Diffusion tubes within the wider area



1.4 Predicted Background Air Quality Data

- 1.4.1 Defra publishes predicted background pollutant concentration maps for 1km-by-1km grid squares across the UK. These are updated on a regular basis due to updates in the underlying data, including emission factors. The current maps were issued in 2024 and are based on 2011 ambient monitoring and meteorological data. The maps incorporate the latest information on the age and distribution of vehicles and emission factors and existing local sources of emissions. These estimated concentrations are provided for NO₂, NO_x, PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5} and are provided by Defra for each year from 2021 to 2040⁵.
- 1.4.2 Predicted background air quality data for the key pollutants associated with the Scheme for the Study Areas are detailed in Table 1.5 below. Data is provided for the current year, 2025.

Table 1.5: DEFRA Predicted Background Air Quality - 2025

Grid Square	Location	Predicted Annual Mean Concentrations (µg/m³)			
		NO ₂	NO _x	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
Grid squares that include the Site					
505500 263500	Coldham Cottages	5.51	6.93	12.49	6.25
505500 264500	Swineshead Road / West of Dumpling Lodge	5.51	6.93	12.12	6.21
506500 263500	West of Brook End	5.46	6.86	13.67	6.33
506500 264500	Middle Lodge Buildings / East of Dumpling Lodge	5.44	6.83	13.18	6.28
506500 265500	East of Swineshead	5.45	6.85	13.19	6.24
507500 262500	Keysoe	5.58	7.02	12.71	6.26
507500 263500	Brook End	5.55	6.98	12.77	6.27

Grid Square	Location	Predicted Annual Mean Concentrations (µg/m ³)			
		NO ₂	NO _x	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
507500 264500	Manor Farm / West of Green End	5.47	6.88	13.14	6.27
507500 265500	West of Pertenhall	5.42	6.81	12.34	6.15
508500 262500	East of Keysoe	5.52	6.94	13.69	6.35
508500 263500	East of Brook End	5.49	6.91	12.86	6.26
508500 264500	Green End	5.53	6.95	12.61	6.24
508500 265500	Pertenhall	5.52	6.94	11.97	6.15
509500 262500	London End Farm	5.51	6.93	13.35	6.31
509500 263500	Green End (West) / Lodge Farm B&B	5.48	6.89	13.10	6.28
509500 264500	Kangaroo Meadows	5.46	6.87	12.74	6.23
510500 262500	Little Staughton	5.50	6.92	12.08	6.21
510500 263500	Green End	5.45	6.85	13.13	6.29
510500 264500	East of Kangaroo Meadows	5.40	6.79	12.51	6.20
511500 263500	East of Green End	5.41	6.80	13.31	6.27
511500 264500	Great Staughton (West)	5.40	6.78	11.86	6.12
512500 263500	South of Great Staughton	5.45	6.85	12.61	6.20
512500 264500	Great Staughton	5.48	6.88	11.75	6.15
513500 262500	Moor Farm Cottages	5.47	6.88	12.29	6.18

Grid Square	Location	Predicted Annual Mean Concentrations (µg/m³)			
		NO ₂	NO _x	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
513500 263500	South of Staughton Highway	5.46	6.87	13.18	6.27
513500 264500	Staughton Highway	5.55	6.98	12.06	6.24
514500 262500	High Wood	5.53	6.96	12.24	6.19
514500 263500	Pastures Farm / North of High Wood	5.53	6.95	12.54	6.22
515500 258500	Wyboston (Northwest)	6.18	7.82	12.58	6.49
515500 259500	South of Duloe / Bushmead Road	6.02	7.60	12.94	6.48
515500 261500	Huntingdon Wood (South)	5.69	7.17	12.76	6.30
515500 262500	Huntingdon Wood (North) / Wood Farm	5.63	7.09	12.46	6.24
515500 263500	North of Meagre Wood	5.56	7.00	12.77	6.25
516500 258500	Eaton Socon (Southwest) / Wyboston (Northeast) / St. Neots 10 (Diffusion Tube)	8.19	10.53	13.26	6.98
516500 259500	Eaton Socon (centre-west) / St. Neots 9 (Diffusion Tube)	7.64	9.77	13.51	7.11
516500 260500	Eaton Socon (Northwest) / East of Duloe	6.93	8.81	13.41	6.75
516500 261500	South of Hail Weston	6.09	7.69	12.63	6.39
	Max	8.19	10.53	13.69	7.11

Grid Square	Location	Predicted Annual Mean Concentrations (µg/m³)			
		NO ₂	NO _x	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
	Air Quality Objective	40	30	40	20 (12)
Grid Squares that include the wider study area					
505500 265500	Swineshead	5.51	6.93	12.30	6.20
506500 266500	Sunny Farm / Swineshead Wood (Southeast)	5.74	7.23	14.77	6.40
507500 266500	Grange Farm / East of Sunny Farm	5.42	6.82	13.09	6.22
509500 261500	South of London End Farm	5.55	6.98	12.52	6.24
509500 265500	East of Pertenhall	5.45	6.85	12.88	6.22
510500 265500	South of Stonely (South)	5.36	6.73	12.69	6.18
511500 262500	Crown Farm / North of Little Staughton Airfield	5.46	6.86	12.59	6.21
511500 265500	North of Great Staughton (West)	5.35	6.72	12.87	6.17
512500 262500	East of Crown Farm / Northeast of Little Staughton Airfield	5.48	6.89	13.26	6.27
512500 265500	North of Great Staughton	5.39	6.78	12.19	6.11
513500 265500	North of Staughton Highway	5.44	6.83	11.90	6.11
514500 261500	South of High Wood	5.61	7.06	13.26	6.31

Grid Square	Location	Predicted Annual Mean Concentrations ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)			
		NO ₂	NO _x	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
514500 264500	East of Staughton Highway	5.52	6.95	12.55	6.22
515500 257500	Wyboston (West)	6.50	8.24	12.04	6.55
515500 260500	Duloe	5.84	7.37	12.30	6.32
515500 264500	Meagre Wood	5.48	6.89	12.58	6.21
516500 257500	Wyboston (East)	8.64	11.13	14.05	6.98
516500 262500	Hail Weston	5.96	7.53	12.46	6.37
516500 263500	North of Hail Weston	5.67	7.14	12.78	6.29
517500 260500	Crosshall Schools / St. Neots 1 (Diffusion Tube)	7.72	9.88	12.22	7.01
517500 261500	St. Neots Golf Club / A1 Junction	7.56	9.66	13.34	6.72
517500 262500	North of St. Neots Golf Club / East of Hail Weston	6.47	8.19	13.42	6.51
	Max	8.64	11.13	14.77	7.01
	Air Quality Objective	40	30	40	20 (12)¹

1: Interim target of $12\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ for PM_{2.5} for 2028

- 1.4.3 The maximum background NO₂ concentration predicted for any grid square from across the Study Area is $8.64\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, well below the relevant Air Quality Objective for the protection of human health of $40\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. Average background NO₂ concentrations are higher ($>7\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) within grid squares on the eastern side of the scheme, around St. Neots and the A1, and lower ($5\text{--}7\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) within grid squares that are central or on the western side of the Scheme. This is

consistent with expectations of higher pollutant concentrations around St. Neots and the A1.

- 1.4.4 The maximum background NO_x, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} concentrations predicted at any of the grid squares across the Study Area are also all well below the relevant Air Quality Objectives.
- 1.4.5 It should be noted that the data are effectively an average concentration across each 1km square. The pollutant concentrations will therefore be expected to be higher close to any significant source, such as main roads, junctions, and concentrated habitation. Concentrations are therefore expected to be higher close to the A1.

2.0 Future Baseline

2.1 Predicted Background Air Quality Data

2.1.1 Predicted pollutant concentrations for the Study Areas for a future year (2030) provided by Defra are detailed in Table 2.1 below.

Table 2.1: DEFRA Predicted Background Air Quality - 2030

Grid Square	Location	Annual mean concentrations (µg/m³)			
		NO ₂	NO _x	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
Grid squares that include the Site					
505500 263500	Coldham Cottages	4.76	5.95	12.06	5.88
505500 264500	Swineshead Road / West of Dumpling Lodge	4.76	5.95	11.69	5.84
506500 263500	West of Brook End	4.71	5.88	13.24	5.96
506500 264500	Middle Lodge Buildings / East of Dumpling Lodge	4.70	5.87	12.76	5.91
506500 265500	East of Swineshead	4.71	5.89	12.77	5.88
507500 262500	Keysoe	4.78	5.98	12.27	5.89
507500 263500	Brook End	4.77	5.96	12.34	5.90
507500 264500	Manor Farm / West of Green End	4.71	5.89	12.71	5.90
507500 265500	West of Pertenhall	4.68	5.85	11.91	5.79
508500 262500	East of Keysoe	4.75	5.94	13.26	5.98
508500 263500	East of Brook End	4.73	5.91	12.43	5.89
508500 264500	Green End	4.74	5.93	12.18	5.87

Grid Square	Location	Annual mean concentrations ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)			
		NO ₂	NO _x	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
508500 265500	Pertenhall	4.73	5.91	11.55	5.79
509500 262500	London End Farm	4.74	5.92	12.92	5.94
509500 263500	Green End (West) / Lodge Farm B&B	4.71	5.89	12.67	5.91
509500 264500	Kangaroo Meadows	4.70	5.87	12.31	5.87
510500 262500	Little Staughton	4.73	5.90	11.65	5.85
510500 263500	Green End	4.69	5.86	12.71	5.92
510500 264500	East of Kangaroo Meadows	4.65	5.80	12.09	5.84
511500 263500	East of Green End	4.65	5.81	12.89	5.91
511500 264500	Great Staughton (West)	4.64	5.79	11.44	5.76
512500 263500	South of Great Staughton	4.68	5.84	12.18	5.84
512500 264500	Great Staughton	4.69	5.86	11.32	5.78
513500 262500	Moor Farm Cottages	4.69	5.85	11.87	5.81
513500 263500	South of Staughton Highway	4.68	5.84	12.76	5.91
513500 264500	Staughton Highway	4.74	5.92	11.64	5.87
514500 262500	High Wood	4.73	5.91	11.82	5.83
514500 263500	Pastures Farm / North of High Wood	4.72	5.89	12.11	5.85
515500 258500	Wyboston (Northwest)	5.24	6.58	12.14	6.11

Grid Square	Location	Annual mean concentrations ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)			
		NO ₂	NO _x	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
515500 259500	South of Duloe / Bushmead Road	5.11	6.40	12.50	6.10
515500 261500	Huntingdon Wood (South)	4.85	6.06	12.34	5.93
515500 262500	Huntingdon Wood (North) / Wood Farm	4.79	5.99	12.04	5.88
515500 263500	North of Meagre Wood	4.73	5.91	12.35	5.89
516500 258500	Eaton Socon (Southwest) / Wyboston (Northeast) / St. Neots 10 (Diffusion Tube)	6.70	8.51	12.83	6.59
516500 259500	Eaton Socon (centre-west) / St. Neots 9 (Diffusion Tube)	6.19	7.83	13.07	6.72
516500 260500	Eaton Socon (Northwest) / East of Duloe	5.64	7.10	12.99	6.38
516500 261500	South of Hail Weston	5.12	6.42	12.21	6.03
	Max	6.70	8.51	13.26	6.72
	Air Quality Objective	40	30	40	20 (12)¹
Grid Squares that include the wider study area					
505500 265500	Swineshead	4.77	5.96	11.88	5.83
506500 266500	Sunny Farm / Swineshead Wood (Southeast)	5.02	6.29	14.34	6.04
507500 266500	Grange Farm / East of Sunny Farm	4.70	5.87	12.67	5.86

Grid Square	Location	Annual mean concentrations ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)			
		NO ₂	NO _x	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
509500 261500	South of London End Farm	4.77	5.96	12.09	5.87
509500 265500	East of Pertenhall	4.69	5.85	12.45	5.85
510500 265500	South of Stonely (South)	4.61	5.76	12.28	5.82
511500 262500	Crown Farm / North of Little Staughton Airfield	4.69	5.85	12.17	5.84
511500 265500	North of Great Staughton (West)	4.59	5.73	12.46	5.81
512500 262500	East of Crown Farm / Northeast of Little Staughton Airfield	4.70	5.87	12.84	5.90
512500 265500	North of Great Staughton	4.61	5.76	11.77	5.75
513500 265500	North of Staughton Highway	4.63	5.78	11.48	5.74
514500 261500	South of High Wood	4.80	5.99	12.84	5.95
514500 264500	East of Staughton Highway	4.73	5.90	12.13	5.86
515500 257500	Wyboston (West)	5.50	6.92	11.60	6.17
515500 260500	Duloe	4.97	6.22	11.88	5.95
515500 264500	Meagre Wood	4.68	5.84	12.16	5.85
516500 257500	Wyboston (East)	6.76	8.58	13.62	6.60
516500 262500	Hail Weston	5.06	6.34	12.04	6.00

Grid Square	Location	Annual mean concentrations ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)			
		NO ₂	NO _x	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
516500 263500	North of Hail Weston	4.83	6.04	12.36	5.92
517500 260500	Crosshall Schools / St. Neots 1 (Diffusion Tube)	6.34	8.03	11.79	6.63
517500 261500	St. Neots Golf Club / A1 Junction	6.06	7.65	12.92	6.35
517500 262500	North of St. Neots Golf Club / East of Hail Weston	5.34	6.71	13.00	6.14
	Max	6.76	8.58	14.34	6.63
	Air Quality Objective	40	30	40	20 (12)¹

1: Interim target of $12\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ for PM_{2.5} for 2028

- 2.1.2 NO₂ and NO_x concentrations are projected to decrease due to modernisation of the UK vehicle fleet. Background concentrations of PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} are also expected to fall, although to a lesser extent.
- 2.1.3 Maximum background concentrations of NO₂ and NO_x from grid squares across the Site are expected to fall from $8.19\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and $10.53\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ in 2025 to $6.70\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and $8.51\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ by 2030 respectively, reflecting expectations. Maximum background concentrations of PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} from grid squares across the Site are expected to fall marginally from $13.69\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and $7.11\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ in 2025 to $13.26\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and $6.72\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ by 2030 respectively, which is again consistent with expectations.
- 2.1.4 The 2028 UK interim target for PM_{2.5} of $12\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ will be relevant in 2030. The maximum predicted background concentration of PM_{2.5} would, however, still be below the threshold at $6.72\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

3.0 REFERENCES

¹ Huntingdonshire District Council (2025). 2025 Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR), June 2025. Available at: <https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/qtreahla/2024-air-quality-annual-status-report-asr-for-the-year-2023.pdf> [Last accessed: 09 September 2025]

² Bedford Borough Council (2024). 2024 Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR), August 2024. Available at: [https://www. https://www.bedford.gov.uk/files/2024-air-quality-annual-status-report.pdf/download?inline](https://www.bedford.gov.uk/files/2024-air-quality-annual-status-report.pdf/download?inline) [Last accessed: 09 September 2025]

³ COVID-19: Following the outbreak of a global pandemic of the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) due to the SAR-CoV-2 virus, the UK Government declared several restrictions on non-essential travel and movement from 23rd March 2020 onwards.

⁴ Air Quality Consultants (2022). *Trends in UK NO_x and NO₂ Concentrations – May 2022 Update*.

⁵ Defra, <https://laqm.defra.gov.uk/review-and-assessment/tools/background-maps.html>, released November 2024