

Cabinet Meeting: **Monday, 06 October 2025**

Question from: **Jeanette Hunton**

Question to: **Councillor Durrans, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Public Services and Communities**

QUESTION

Cabinet's answer to my 1 September question was that an unusually low December 2024 NO2 result and missing July to December 2024 NO2 data were due to issues in the transcribing of site locations. The Air Quality Annual Status Report 2025 states such issues occurred before March 2024 when improvements were made.

Is the Air Quality Annual Status Report 2025 correct or the answer Cabinet gave me?

Cabinet's answer to my unusually low December 2024 NO2 result for SB1 query also included "monitoring will continue at the site as normal so we can determine if this drop in emissions is a continued trend or an erroneous result".

Given it is now October 2025 please tell me what the outcome of, as normal, continued monitoring at site SB1 determined. Was the December 2024 low result a continuing drop in emissions trend or an erroneous result?

The Air Quality Annual Status Report refers to "process where some measurements had to be assigned to the best estimate of the Site ID". Over what time period was this process in operation?

Cabinet meeting 4 August a question asked what changes had been included in a recently published revised Air Quality Annual Status Report 2024, the question included specific report dates and published dates. Cabinet's answer stated an inaccurate figure had been corrected. This answer was incorrect, having reviewed the two versions of the report there were 72 changes to figures. Why was the Cabinet answer so materially inaccurate?

Response

The period between January – March 2024 which would be reflected in the 2025 ASR was prior to the change in practice to ensure that no mis transcribing could occur. However, the data has been reviewed by both an external consultant and DEFRA to ensure it is as accurate as possible.

The low result reported in December 2024 is based on data from 2023. Therefore, the data presented in the ASR 2025 report is based on 2024 results. The results for monitoring location SB1 were recorded as 44.0 ugm. The results from the diffusion tubes are measured over an annual basis so no further results are currently available. It is not possible to fully attribute this to either a drop in pollution or an

erroneous result as this can be an inherent part of the monitoring using diffusion tubes.

The “process where some measurements had to be assigned to the best estimate of the Site ID”. Occurred during the reporting year 2024 and partially into 2025.

Unfortunately, there was confusion as to the reports being compared. Once clarity was sought on the matter a full response was provided. We can only apologise for any confusion.