

Cabinet Meeting: Monday, 17 March 2025

Question from: Councillor Prashad

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

QUESTION

In part 4 of the Environment Act (1995) as amended in 2021, Calderdale MBC is obligated to regularly review and assess air quality in their areas to fulfil the requirements of Local Air Quality Management.

The last Air Quality Annual Status Report was published in June 2023 and showed figures for two diffusion tubes in West Vale – SR1 and SR2 with bias adjusted figures for Nitrogen Dioxide of 31.8 and 24.8 respectively.

However, the last published Dataworks Diffusion Tube Data dated 2019, shows both SR1, SR2, plus SR3 and SR4.

Can the Portfolio holder please explain why diffusion tubes SR3 and SR4 were not included in the Air Quality Status Report of 2023.

Also is any data being collected currently from diffusion tubes in West Vale and if not, when can it be reasonably expected that CMBC will achieve the stipulations of the Environment Act.

Response

The Diffusion Tubes marked SR3 & SR4 are believed to have been linked to an individual air quality project rather than being in place to continuously monitor air quality in the borough. As such the tubes would have been removed when the project was complete.

The diffusion tubes marked WV-SR1 and WV-SR2 are still located in West Vale, with one located outside Café Thai and the second located outside West Vale Primary School, on Stainland Road. These tubes capture NO² levels over an annual period and are reported in the Annual Status report once bias factors have been calculated.

WV-SR1 and WV-SR2 are strategically placed to ensure they capture some of the highest levels of pollution. This allows us to take appropriate action to safeguard health should those levels exceed the associated environmental limits.