

Fact sheet

Air quality



Surveying air quality

Some air quality monitoring may already be in place in the area due to the presence of the surrounding main roads, however, as we develop the project, we may need to take measurements in other places as well.

Monitoring is undertaken to gain understanding of the existing air quality surrounding our roads, which is then compared to predicted air quality as a result of the scheme.

How it works

Air quality is measured using passive diffusion tubes. These are simple monitoring devices that look like test tubes, which are clipped onto things like lamp-posts or sometimes onto temporary sticks. They are fastened at nose height. Monitoring needs to last at least 6 months, with the tubes changed every month and sent for analysis.

What will happen on site?

The surveys are non-invasive and we are able to carry our equipment a short distance on foot as long as there is vehicle access nearby. We can do them at any time of year depending on weather. Changing the tubes once a month takes about half an hour per tube.



The air quality survey data will provide a detailed and up to date baseline of the existing air quality on-site. Allowing us to identify any problem areas and assist in calibrating the air quality models. Air quality models will then be used to predict the air quality in the area surrounding the existing road network in the future both with and without the scheme, thereby assessing the proposed schemes impact on air quality.

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