

Vision: Improving Air Quality in Sussex

“The objective of the Sussex Air Quality Partnership Strategic Plan is to drive improvements in air quality (and carbon reduction) for the benefit of the regions’ citizens and the environment.”

To deliver the core vision of the strategy, the Sussex Air Quality Partnership (Sussex-air) will develop the strategy through 5 key objectives.

Objectives:

- 1. Provide advice and support and improve the expertise and knowledge base**
- 2. Project development and implementation**
- 3. Partnership working**
- 4. Develop cross cutting work on health Improvement, climate change, environment and transport.**
- 5. Communicate air quality issues and initiatives in Sussex.**

Sussex-air resources:

The partnership retains resources to enable it to deliver these key objectives and will develop the vision. These resources include:

- Project Manger –the partnership supports the partnership project manager to undertake core and project related functions on behalf of Sussex-air.
- Websites (www.sussex-air.net & www.airalert.info) plus air quality models and emissions inventories.
- Commitment of SAQP members to attend meetings, co-develop initiatives and share best practice and experience.
- Maintain a contingency fund to develop initiatives.

1. Provide advice and support

- Provide public and professional facing air quality information on health, transport and land use planning, to improve knowledge of air quality and assist with improving air quality across Sussex.
- Provision of policy and technical support to Local Authorities (LA) Highway Authorities involved in LAQM.
- Provide information, training and support to professionals and public (information) on air quality in Sussex and wider regions. Provision of opportunities for sharing knowledge.

2. Project development and implementation

- Develop strategies and policy which engender air quality and climate change benefits for the Sussex region;
 - e.g. Low Emission Strategy for Sussex authorities.
- Develop and participate in regional and European projects to promote air quality and partner in developing initiatives which benefit citizens and authorities in Sussex and surrounding regions;
 - Interreg IVB (NW European) (2011 – 2014/5) – Trans EU air pollution project focusing on sources of PM and NO_x, health protection, alert systems, policy and awareness.
 - FP7 Eur'Atmo (2010-2011) – Trans EU air pollution project on state of the art air quality monitoring across EU regions

3. Partnership working

- Sustaining and enhance partnership working across the Sussex LA's; exploring opportunities for partnership procurement and shared working.
- Working with partners such as Environment Agency, DEFRA, HPA, PCT's, Universities, NGO's (Environment Protection UK, Climate South East) and EU partners, on initiatives and projects of mutual benefit and interest.
- Work across strategic and political tiers in government to deliver mutual carbon reduction and air quality benefits.

Sussex Air Quality Partnership (Sussex-air)

Tel: 01273-484331 Web: www.sussex-air.net & www.airAlert.info

4. Develop cross cutting work on Health Improvement, Climate Change, Environmental Issues and Policy Development (Land-use &Transport).

- airAlert – air pollution warning service for vulnerable people, schools, health professionals and general public in Sussex.
- Develop climate change initiatives in conjunction with the Sussex LAs Pollution Group and other appropriate stakeholders and partnerships.
- Close partnership working on transport and land-use authorities on related mitigation of air quality and climate change issues.

5. Communicate air quality issues and initiatives in Sussex

- SAQP Annual seminar to share information and improve understanding of topical air quality issues and projects to the members and other interested stakeholders.
- Website; to provide a web portal for access to air quality statistics and relevant local information and to improve public awareness of air quality and how groups and individuals can help improve it and be “involved”.
- To coordinate press releases in conjunction with partner organisations as necessary.