

Question: CQ19.01

Cabinet – 13 July 2021

Re: Agenda item 19 - Quarterly Performance Progress Report 2020/21.

Question submitted by: Cllr Heather Mack

The progress report states that deaths related to air pollution are above target (5%) and the main sources of this within the city are traffic and combustion, and that the air quality data for 2020 has not yet been ratified for reporting.

Question:

How can this delay in reporting be justified whilst we are delaying the implementation of the CAZ and air pollution related deaths are above target?

Reply:

Thank you for your question.

Just want to note that even though the start date for the CAZ is moved back, the compliance date stays the same. By taking the time to get it right we've brought the compliance date forward by 5 years.

Your specific question refers to two different indicators:

* BCPC434: Reduce the proportion of deaths attributed to particulate air pollution – this indicator is based on Public Health England data and modelling. It relates to nationally modelled particulate pollution and the mortality numbers in Bristol extrapolated.

* BCPC480: Increase the % of monitoring sites that meet the annual air quality target for nitrogen dioxide. This relates to our actual monitoring data and is the data which needs to be ratified each year.

You also refer to the Clean Air Zone – which is aiming to achieve improvements in NO2 pollution which would be measured by the second indicator BCPC480 (i.e. not particulates).

Since the Performance Report was collated the nitrogen dioxide data for BCPC480 has been ratified and we have now been able to publish this on our open data portal <https://opendata.bristol.gov.uk>

N.B We have noticed a separate error in the report. The actual figure for 2019 should be 90% compliance (not 76.5% as is stated). It appears there was an error in the initial calculations and unfortunately the Indicator database wasn't updated before this report was produced.

During 2020 we have seen an improvement in the number of sites where nitrogen dioxide is below the legal limit – rising from 90% in 2019 to 98% in 2020