

Local Authority:	Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council
Reference:	ASR25-2776
Date of Issue:	July 2025

Annual Status Report Appraisal Report

The Annual Status Report (ASR) sets out new information on air quality obtained by King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council (KLaWNBC) as part of the Review & Assessment process required under the Environment Act 1995 (as amended by the Environment Act 2021) and subsequent Regulations.

KLaWNBC currently only has one Air Quality Management Area (AQMA), since the 'Gaywood Clock AQMA' was revoked in September 2024 for continued compliance with the NO₂ annual mean Air Quality Objective (AQO). 'Railway Road AQMA' was declared in November 2003 for exceedances of the NO₂ annual mean AQO. The Railway Road AQMA is set to be considered for revocation in a cabinet report due in Autumn 2025 following 5 years of compliance. Defra support this decision.

KLaWNBC undertook automatic monitoring at two sites, and non-automatic NO₂ diffusion tube monitoring at 76 sites in 2024. Three extra NO₂ diffusion tube monitoring sites was added to the monitoring network between 2023 and 2024 along Queen Mary Road near Gaywood Clock. In 2024, no exceedances of the NO₂ annual mean AQO was recorded. The highest concentration of annual mean NO₂ within KLaWNBC's jurisdiction was 31.2 µg/m³ for diffusion tube ID 2. For the continuous monitoring sites, CM_GW recorded the highest concentration of annual mean NO₂ at 22.6 µg/m³.

KLaWNBC also undertake non-reference grade monitoring at 4 additional sites. Whilst this is welcomed, these monitors should be reported separately in an appendix.

Indicative PM₁₀ monitoring showed that despite some daily mean concentrations over the objective of 50 µg/m⁻³, there were no exceedances at any of the monitors of the daily mean objective threshold of 35 days per year. Indicative PM_{2.5} monitoring within KLaWNBC's jurisdiction suggest concentrations are below the national mean objective of 20 µg/m⁻³.

QA/QC processes for both automatic and passive monitoring results are robust. Annualisation was performed where appropriate. A local bias adjustment factor was used for the passive monitoring results, which was identified as 0.76. The method for calculating the bias adjustment factor was conducted correctly.

KLaWNBC have not highlighted three key measures in yellow in Table 2.2. To help improve the visibility of local authority action to reduce air pollution, three key measures should be highlighted

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in Table 2.2 will be fed through to UK-AIR. These should be measures the local authority would like to raise awareness of amongst local communities. Please ensure each measure title is succinct and meaningful to the public and includes completion dates. Guidance on how to pitch this information is available [here](#). You should avoid using acronyms in the description of the action or when listing the organisations involved.

On the basis of the evidence provided by the local authority the conclusions reached in the report are **accepted** for all sources and pollutants. Following the completion of this report, KLaWNBC should submit an Annual Status Report in 2026.

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Commentary

The report is well structured, detailed, and provides the information specified in the Guidance. The following comments are designed to help inform future reports:

1. There is good in-depth discussion about the planning applications that the council have received in 2024.
2. There is good in-depth discussion about PM_{2.5} emissions in the council's administrative area, and the measures being put in place to reduce PM_{2.5} levels.
3. KLaWNBC has a low-cost sensor, we encourage their use but advise any results should be presented in the Appendix and not in the main report. Please consult this FAQ: <https://laqm.defra.gov.uk/faqs/faq140/>
4. KLaWNBC reporting of the AIR PT scheme results showcases KLaWNBC continued commitment to QA/QC. One comment would be to include an appendix showing figures with the AIR PT data.
5. The Gaywood Clock AQMA was still present on the portal. Please contact the LAQM Helpdesk for support in ensure revocation is reflected more widely.
6. The individual response to each comment from last year's appraisal is welcomed.
7. There is a couple of slight errors that should be fixed.
 1. The number of diffusion tube sites is reported as 75 sites stated in section 3.1.2 but in the tables, there are 76.
 2. AQAP measures haven't been highlighted.

This commentary is not designed to deal with every aspect of the report. It highlights a number of issues that should help the local authority either in completing the Annual Status Report adequately (if required) or in carrying out future Review & Assessment work.

Issues specifically related to this appraisal can be followed up by returning the attached comment form to Defra, Welsh Government, Scottish Government or DOE.

For any other queries please contact the Local Air Quality Management Helpdesk:
 Telephone: 0800 0327 953
 Email: LAQMHelpdesk@bureauveritas.com

The [Air Quality Hub](#) is now run by Defra, it is a free online information and knowledge sharing resource for local authority air quality professionals. Please consider onboarding on the Air

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Quality Hub to access a multitude of air quality resources and be kept up to date with local authority air quality activity and air quality news.

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Appraisal Response Comment Form

Contact Name:	
Contact Telephone number:	
Contact email address:	UKLAQMAppraisals@aeom.com

Comments on appraisal/Further information: