

## **Appendix 1 - The monitoring of outdoor air quality in Manchester**

Automatic monitors are situated in Piccadilly Gardens, on Oxford Road, on Bridge Street, and in Sharston. These monitors provide hourly data, freely available from the Clean Air Greater Manchester data hub. These air quality data are presented in annual air quality reports. If air quality is lower than deemed acceptable for a particular area, an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) will be declared. As per the Department for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), an AQMA is an area within a local authority's region "where the national air quality objectives are not likely to be achieved."

Declaration of an AQMA requires the local authority to develop a local air quality action plan to improve the air quality in that area.

An AQMA was first declared in Manchester in 2001 due to higher than acceptable levels of particulate matter recorded in a 24-hour period. Since 2007, the annual mean concentration of nitrogen dioxide has also exceeded acceptable levels. In Manchester, the AQMAs include an area covering Manchester City Centre, the area around Manchester Airport, and the main arterial traffic routes into the city.