

Faversham Society Air Quality Report

Environmental Protection Update

The report is similar to the report carried out for Borden PC last year and in my opinion contains the same issues as in that one. My comments are as follows:

- It again refers to WHO limits as well as EU limits. WHO limits are lower and therefore are consequently easier to exceed, but are not part of the UK AQ Strategy which we enforce.
- It again uses equipment not MCERTS approved and for shorter periods of time, especially for the particulate monitoring.
- It suggests the declaration of a further 2 AQMAs in Faversham, but with readings that do not exceed current EU guidelines and in one of these proposed areas (junction of A2 and A251), where there are hardly any receptors.
- The report uses a different NO₂ tube bias correction factor to that used by all other tube locations in Kent even though the tubes originate from the same laboratory. The factor is used to calculate the levels found. Although the values shown in the report except at one locality do not exceed the annual mean limit of 40 ug/m³, there is a presumption that because these readings are within 10 % of the limit value, there is evidence to declare an AQMA. This approach is not followed by any other authority that I am aware of.
- Though we currently do not measure in some of these areas, so have no data to compare, we will remedy this situation by attaching NO₂ tubes at the same localities for a period of up to 12 months except at the A2/A251 junction where a tube will be exposed on the A2 next to the block of flats.
- I would expect our readings to be similar to those of the UKC report and if they are, i.e. are less than 40ugm/m³, my conclusion would be not to declare any further AQMAs.