Air pollution is estimated to account for 3.5% of number of years lost due to ill-health, disability or early death (DALYs) in Northamptonshire. It is one of the top ten risk factors for the global burden of disease; particularly heart disease, stroke, lung cancer, COPD and lower respiratory infections.

The main pollutants of concern in Northampton, as in most areas of the UK, are associated with road traffic, in particular Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2) and particulate matter (PM) at locations close to busy, congested roads where people may live, work or shop. Vehicle emissions are the main contributing factor, particularly diesel exhausts.

In 2016/17 there were 571 emergency admissions per 100,000 for COPD.
In 2016-17, 573 people were referred urgently where lung cancer was suspected.
In 2014-16 there were 48.8 deaths per 100,000 from CVD considered preventable.
In 2016/17 there were 12,978 people had a stroke, 1.7% of the GP population.
In 2016/17, 573 people were referred urgently where lung cancer was suspected.
In 2014-16 there were 48.8 deaths per 100,000 from CVD considered preventable.

An estimated 37,220 people living with undiagnosed hypertension need to be diagnosed and treated to meet the PHE ambition of 80%.

There are eight declared ‘Air Quality Management Areas’ in Northamptonshire. Seven of these are in Northampton and one is on the A5 in Towcester. All concern high levels of Nitrogen Dioxide.

If Northants improved care pathways to match the top performing CCGs, lives affected by air pollution could be saved.

An estimated £2,569 per person per year is spent on dealing with NO2 in the health and social care system. This rises to £7,569 per person per year for PM.

Produced by Public Health Intelligence Team Northamptonshire County Council
### Public Health Plan on a page: Commissioning for Outcomes (Air Quality)

**Vision:**
All parts of Northamptonshire will have good air quality in order that:
- The health and wellbeing of Northamptonshire residents is not damaged by the air that they breathe.
- Town centres are cleaner and healthier, making them more attractive places to live, visit, work and play.

### Our Priorities/Objectives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Whole system approach</th>
<th>Addressing existing problems and preventing new ones</th>
<th>Behavioural Change</th>
<th>Evidence based approach</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Air quality is just one factor influencing the management of urban environments and travel patterns. Others include: economic development and retail, planning, tourism/visitor strategies, housing growth, workplace travel needs, access to services including healthcare and access to education. <strong>Achieved through:</strong></td>
<td>A number of areas in the county have identified/designated Air Quality Management Areas, where air quality is worse than the recommended legal limits. Further such areas may be created due to future housing growth/development and the associated increase in travel. <strong>Achieved through:</strong></td>
<td>Assist relevant partners to address air quality and increase sustainable travel, including: environmental health teams, planning departments, transport and highways and major organisations/employers. <strong>Achieved through:</strong></td>
<td>There is increasing scientific evidence of the health impacts of air pollution, particularly for vulnerable people such as the elderly, the very young and those with certain health conditions, even at pollution levels within the legal limits. Explore new evidence of effective approaches to reduce and mitigate risks. <strong>Achieved through:</strong></td>
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<td>- Partnership working (health, local government, roads, planning, workplaces, schools) across the system and for all ages</td>
<td>- Targeted efforts in known problem areas</td>
<td>- Social marketing</td>
<td>- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)</td>
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<td>- Clear leadership on air quality issues</td>
<td>- Preventative measures to avoid further Air Quality Management Areas being required</td>
<td>- Influencing on policy</td>
<td>- Return on Investment (ROI) tools</td>
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<td>- Partnership creation and advocacy</td>
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### Our Commitment/Enablers

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<th>System partnerships - engage and co-produce with partners / stakeholders e.g. NHS, schools, prisons, workplaces and local government.</th>
<th>Continued investment in advocacy and policy, and programmes to increase active travel and use of green spaces.</th>
<th>Engagement and co-production of research aligning with evidence. Evaluation to monitor and assure service delivery and quality.</th>
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<td><strong>Measures of Success</strong></td>
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<td>- All areas meet legal air quality limit values</td>
<td>- Increased awareness in organisations and the public</td>
<td>- Reductions in traffic congestion</td>
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<td>- Adoption of sustainability policies and actions among partners</td>
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<td>- Reduced respiratory disease in high traffic areas</td>
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<td>- Increased rates of active/sustainable travel</td>
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