

Appendix 2 : Key Recommendations of the Lancashire and Cumbria Air Quality Summit

Theme	Suggested areas for further work across Lancashire and Cumbria
Leadership at all levels:	<p>Strengthen and improve local leadership for action on air quality including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elected Member and officer Air Quality Champion roles • Inclusion and consolidation of air quality in strategic plans, such as Health and Wellbeing Strategies, Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, Walking and Cycling, Public Health, Transport and Economic plans. • Extension of professional networks to include wider partners and help facilitate sharing of best practice and knowledge.
Public Awareness and Engagement	<p>Encourage greater transparency about local air quality and empower local people to understand how air pollution can affect their health, how they can reduce air pollution, protect themselves and understand the opportunities, tools and powers available in support of this. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making information about local air quality more accessible to members of the public in a range of formats • Community Air Quality Champions • A simple but coordinated set of messages for different audiences and coordinated communications plan
Planning Policy:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt a common set of principles/guidance for planning policy and ensure these are considered as part of (any) new application. A Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) is the strongest form of guidance needed to compete with other planning issues and priorities.
Green Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate across Lancashire and Cumbria to understand and develop best practice in relation to green infrastructure, for example type of species and locations, and their potential to mitigate against air pollution. National grant funding could be accessed collectively.
Travel and Transport	<p>Action on these areas is underway at a local level, however, some interventions could be more effective when considered on a wider footprint.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help people to be less reliant on their cars and change travel habits by providing alternatives e.g. public transport, walking and cycling routes. • School and business travel plans – working with large employers • Making it easier for people to drive in the most efficient, least polluting way by providing them with information and training. • No idling zones, around schools, hospitals for example • Facilitating the uptake of elective vehicles and other clean alternatives to petrol and diesel vehicles • Improving vehicle emission standards for taxis and private hire vehicles consistent with neighbouring authorities • Reducing emissions from public transport and improving the public transport experience.
Non transport pollution sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarify and communicate the health messages and advice available to inform choice and behaviour to reduce personal exposure to non-transport pollution sources from activities around the home such as wood burning stoves, open fires and cleaning with certain solvents. Other non-transport pollution sources include farming and industry, such as from commercial biomass boilers.
Growing the evidence base and evaluation of actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interventions should be based on the evidence of what works and be evaluated before and after. There are opportunities to work across Lancashire and Cumbria to assess and evaluate actions that are best delivered large-scale such as on the highway network, for example the use of intelligent traffic systems and real time monitoring could be explored.