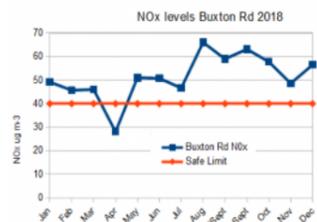


Air Pollution Figures 'Appalling' but action may be years away

A recently published report from Derbyshire Dales District Council has shown that the air on Buxton Road Ashbourne has levels of pollution that are on average almost 20% above the suggested safe maximum. The pollutant in question is nitrogen dioxide (sometimes abbreviated to NOx) and is formed in vehicle engines, particularly older diesel engines. It is an internationally recognised hazard with EU legislation making 40ug m⁻³ the maximum long term exposure limit. It is associated with a variety of health conditions including respiratory diseases.



The photo above of Buxton Road shows the site of the NOx test sensor placed here in 2017 at the suggestion of local Lib Dem member Peter Dobbs. It is this location that has shown the very high readings for NOx in the graph on the left.

Despite measurements having shown no indication of decreasing (if anything the trend is up) the report suggests that another two years of testing are needed before an 'Air Quality Action Plan' is prepared to attempt to reduce these dangerous levels.

At the Council Meeting in Matlock on 25th of July, recently elected District Councillor **Robert Archer (Lib Dem)** requested clarification as to what the Council were proposing to do in response to these levels of pollution in Ashbourne. The response he received from Tim Braund (Head of Regulatory Services) was not the one he had expected.

(The odd result for April appears to be when the sample tubes were possibly muddled up - the probable value was 57.17, recorded for another tube).

Rob Archer commented "The Council has recently voted unanimously to establish a Climate Emergency Sub Group of six Councillors and I thought that this would be a suitable issue to have been discussed by this small group. This would enable a rapid response to what is clearly a crucial issue for the residents of Buxton Road. Instead I was informed by Tim Braund that the diffusion tube was not accurate enough for the 'detailed assessment' required to create an 'Air Quality Management Area' and more testing was to be carried out. Quite why they have left it for over a year after high values of NOx pollution were regularly being recorded on Buxton Road is hard to understand."

It also seems hard to understand why diffusion tube measurements of pollutants are deemed sufficiently accurate to supply data used to support planning applications but not the declaration of a plan to protect existing residents!

Some good news - the District Council has sited **FOUR** more sensors on Buxton Rd, shown below; Let us hope that they will act promptly on any data these provide.



There will also be a **Public Meeting to discuss Air Pollution in Ashbourne organised by Ashbourne & District 50+ Forum**

Friday 15th November 10am Waterside Centre (Elim Church)

Speakers; Jane Careless, Public Health Lead (Health Protection) Derbyshire County Council
Tim Braund, Head of Regulatory Services, Derbyshire Dales District Council

Karen Carpenter, Environmental Health Officer, Derbyshire Dales District Council
Peter Dobbs, Ashbourne Resident



Liberal Democrats - caring for our environment

A General Election is coming soon. What will YOU do?



"The Earth is facing a threat from climate change which is a genuine and serious emergency. If climate change is the elephant in the room, then Brexit is merely the flea on the elephant's back. If you let us, the Liberal Democrats will tackle this issue robustly and urgently. We will decarbonise in a way which works on a realistic timescale and seek to influence the world to follow us. That is why I am a Green Liberal Democrat."

Robert Court, Lib Dem Prospective Parliamentary Candidate writes

The Conservatives are desperate to deliver Brexit as soon as possible, for the sake of the **Conservative** party. If it means a **"No Deal"** departure from the EU, that is fine by them, whatever it costs.

- Food and medicine shortages? They don't care.
- Sheep farmers exporting lamb to the EU hit by a tariff rise from zero to 48%? Tough.
- Break the law, break democracy, break up the United Kingdom? Fine by them.
- They have thrown out over 20 loyal MPs, including Churchill's grandson, who voted with their consciences against the madness of "No Deal".

Is this your Conservative party? If it is, vote for them; if it isn't, don't.

For **Labour**, the biggest peace-time crisis for a century is nothing compared with purging their party of anti-Corbyn resistance.

- Brexit policy? Be both for and against at the same time.
- People's vote? Maybe, maybe not.
- Stand up for young people's future? Throw the Labour Students organisation out of the party.
- A popular Jewish MP? Shout abuse at her until she leaves the party and joins the Lib Dems.

Is this your Labour party? If it is, vote for them; if it isn't, don't.

The **Liberal Democrats** under Jo Swinson believe that those who argued for Brexit misled us on the benefits and glossed over the difficulties of undoing a 40-year relationship. The electorate has changed since 2016.

- We will act in the national interest.
- We believe that any deal (or no deal) should be subject to a **people's vote**.
- But failing that, if we are elected as a majority government, we will act upon the mandate we have been given and revoke Article 50, **stopping Brexit**.
- We believe in a liberal, open, compassionate, 21st century Britain.
- The first Liberal Democrat budget will prioritise physical and mental health and wellbeing.
- We have a credible plan to help **save the planet** from the effects of climate change.

If these are your values, vote Liberal Democrat.

I am sure you realise that we are the only party who could take this seat from the Conservatives. You do not need to choose the lesser of two evils. You can cast a positive vote. I will be the Liberal Democrat candidate at this election. I have experience to offer from outside politics, having been a teacher and headmaster. Now you have a chance to change things for the better. Please take the chance.

Visit our website www.derbyshiredaleslibdems.org.uk