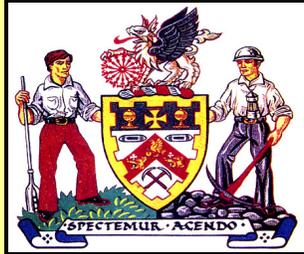


**Barnsley Metropolitan
Borough Council
Regulatory Services**



**Air Quality Monitoring
Newsletter Number Seven**

**Air Quality Monitoring Data
January – December 2011**

**Air Quality Monitoring at
Midland Road, Royston**

Air quality monitoring is undertaken at Midland Road, Royston.



This monitoring station is owned and operated by Barnsley MBC, Regulatory Services. It monitors the concentrations of **sulphur dioxide gas** and **fine inhalable particles** (referred to as **PM₁₀ particles**).

This station monitors air pollution concentrations in real time. Air quality information is updated several times each day, and is available from the air quality

pages linked to the Council's website (www.barnsley.gov.uk).

The Council's Role

Barnsley Council has responsibility for assessing the concentrations for certain airborne pollutants in the Borough, including Royston.

We work closely with the Environment Agency and keep them and other interested parties informed of the latest monitoring results. The Environment Agency is responsible for regulating the processes undertaken at Monckton Coke and Chemical Limited.

**Air Quality Data January to
December 2011**

The data for 2011 can be reported and compared against Government air quality standards.

For **sulphur dioxide**, the most stringent air quality standard for this polluting gas is:

Thirty-Five **fifteen-minute** readings allowed above the standard, over twelve months

The Government has also implemented air quality standards for **PM₁₀ particles**, the most stringent air quality standard for this airborne pollutant being:

Thirty-Five **daily** readings allowed above the standard, over twelve months

The data for the period 1st January to 3^{1st} December 2011 are summarised below:

Fine Airborne Particles (PM₁₀ particles)

Number of days when daily PM ₁₀ readings have been above the standard	Maximum number of daily readings allowed, above the standard, over twelve months
19	35

Sulphur Dioxide Gas

Number of fifteen-minute readings above the standard	Maximum number of fifteen-minute readings allowed, above the standard, over twelve months
0	35

Previous year's data for the last five years are given below. For PM₁₀ particles the number of days when daily PM₁₀ readings have been above the standard are given below – there have been less than the maximum number of daily readings (35) allowed above the standard, for each year.

Year	Number of days when daily PM₁₀ readings have been above the standard
2006	27
2007	19
2008	20
2009	8
2010	11

For sulphur dioxide gas the number of instances when fifteen-minute readings have been above the standard are given below – in each year less than the maximum number of fifteen-minute readings (35) allowed above the standard, have been recorded.

Year	Number of fifteen-minute sulphur dioxide readings above the standard
2006	1
2007	1
2008	0
2009	1
2010	0

Further information on this monitoring can be obtained from:

Barnsley MBC, Regulatory Services
 Telephone: 01226 772468
 E-mail: regulatoryservices@barnsley.gov.uk

Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons



This monitor at Midland Road is owned by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). It measures the concentrations of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs).

There is a UK Air Quality Standard and a European Union Air Quality Target Value relating to PAHs both of which are based on an annual average concentration. The UK Air Quality Standard is set at 0.25 nanograms per cubic metre, to be achieved by 31st December 2010; whilst the European Union Air Quality Target Value of 1 nanogram per cubic metre is to be achieved by 2012.

PAH data for 2011 are now available. The average for 2011 is 0.88 nanograms per cubic metre. This compares to 2.7, 1, and 1.1 nanograms per cubic metre for 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively.

The Governments' Expert Panel on Air Quality Standards (EPAQS) researched studies involving PAH and disease, in order to derive the UK air quality standard for PAH. In deriving their standard, EPAQS concluded that ambient concentrations above the standard do not carry a significant risk as additional safety factors were used in deriving the standard.

NHS Barnsley have therefore stated that the risk from PAHs in the environment around industrial sites is small but it is important that efforts are made to reduce concentrations further wherever practicable.