

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL

QUESTION PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 10

COUNCIL – 20 JULY 2021

QUESTION A

Councillor Mrs O'Rourke to ask the Leader of the Council, Councillor Lowe:

“Can the leader of this Council let the residents who live in the urban areas of the town what action this council will be taking to mitigate poor air quality in the town centre areas as result of the Huge developments around the edge of town?”

Councillor Lowe, Leader of the Council, to reply as follows:

“The council has a duty under the Environment Act 1990 to manage air quality. This includes statutory duties such as producing an annual report and producing air quality action plans. These are available on the council website. Search for ‘air quality’.

The town does have an air quality management area for nitrogen dioxide. The main cause of the air pollution is traffic and the historic layout of the town means that traffic has had to go through the town centre. The Commercial Regulation Team in Regulation and Safety is actively involved in the planning and development of the larger estates and has contributed to work including the Rugby Western Relief Road and the South Western Supplementary Planning Document to reduce the need for traffic to go through populated areas. We are planning to review the air quality action plan this year. It is important to note that Warwickshire County Council has a significant role in reducing air pollution in the town centre as the highway authority and it will be a key partner in the air quality action plan review.”