



STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Agenda Item 4
Environment Committee
7 June 2018

QUESTIONS FROM	QUESTION TO
R Lawson	Councillor Simon Pickering
<p>“Is the town council planning on doing anything to improve the local air quality which can sometimes be poor due to smoke?”</p> <p>I feel that this year the air quality has been particularly bad. Over winter I thought that there were a few days of smog and over summer so far there have been a large number of bonfires. I live up on the hill and it is noticeable that the visibility is regularly reduced due to smoke, I can't believe that this is good for anyone. I think that Stroud is bad for this as it is in a valley so the smoke often collects in the bottom.</p>	<p>The Council routinely monitors air quality at 23 separate locations across the district and every year the results of the monitoring are published in our Air Quality Status report, which is available on the website.</p> <p>The results of the monitoring indicate that there are currently no areas within the district that exhibit pollution levels that require formal action and no statutory air quality standards are exceeded.</p> <p>Of course there can be short term pollution incidents such as bonfires that can give rise to complaints and these are robustly investigated and dealt with accordingly. Last year for example a skip fire led to the offending company being fined £9,000. Any residents who persistently cause a smoke nuisance by lighting bonfires are served with formal notices where non compliance can lead to prosecution.</p> <p>The overall air quality in the district is very good and proactive monitoring, investigation and enforcement is designed to ensure that it is maintained and improved.</p>