

## Staffordshire Health and Wellbeing Board – 02 December 2021

### Air Aware Staffordshire Project Phase 2 Update

#### Recommendation

The Board is asked to:

- a. Note the successful funding bid to continue the Air Aware Project; and
- b. Note that a detailed update will be provided at the next Board meeting.

#### Background

1. Staffordshire County Council in partnership with Cannock Chase District, Staffordshire Moorlands and East Staffordshire were successful securing funding from Defra to continue the Air Aware project until March 2023. Phase 1 previously included Newcastle and Stoke on Trent. Phase 2 will focus engagement activities in 3 locations where Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA's) impact or are caused by transport to businesses and schools.
2. The project consists of 5 elements
  - a. **Business Engagement** – building business networks and implementing travel planning to reduce car journeys to employment.
  - b. **School Engagement** – working with key schools in AQMA's to reduce car use for school journeys.
  - c. **Electric Vehicle** promotion including changing project fleet vehicle to an electric. Evie The EV a transit electric replacing diesel for events and use for team journeys.
  - d. **Communications** – raising awareness countywide of air pollution its causes and solutions including 2022 anti-idling campaign.
  - e. **Monitoring** stations to complement existing district monitoring.
3. £298k project funding is split across the five elements. Public Health £42k pa contribution provides match funding to Connected and Sustainable County funding to support Business and School Engagement Officers.
4. The Air Aware project engagement supports Staffordshire County Council Climate Change Action Plan.
5. Mode of travel pupil data collected from Phase 1 Air Aware 2018-2020 showed a reduction in car use (Example: 60% to 11% at Heath Hayes Primary) at schools engaged in the project. Phase 2 survey data is being

collected throughout the lifetime of this phase of the project. Note: School closures have had a significant impact on the data collected.

6. Air Quality monitoring using “Areoqual” handheld during anti-idling campaign activities during Phase 1 showed NO<sub>2</sub> reductions from 154.46 to 125.24. Phase 2 includes £50k to provide additional monitoring stations to support the District Environmental monitors to collect wider data and link back to the project outcomes.

### **List of Background Documents/Appendices:**

Appendix 1 – Staffordshire Air Aware project funding bid document

### **Contact Details**

Board Sponsor: Dr Richard Harling MBE, Director for Health and Care  
SCC

Report Author: Cath Stephenson, Connectivity Project Manager  
Telephone No: 07855 336944  
Email Address: [cath.stephenson@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:cath.stephenson@staffordshire.gov.uk)