

Iver Heath Residents' Association

Air Quality Report

Update



**Data relating to Air Quality Monitoring carried out by
Iver Heath Residents' Association
between August 2017 and November 2020**



January 2021

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IHRA Air Quality Monitoring Update

Introduction

In February 2020 IHRA published its **Air Quality Report** based on the work we had done around monitoring air quality across ten sites in Iver Heath since August 2017. The report contained a full analysis of monitoring results as well as a significant amount of background information and context. A copy of the report can be found at www.iverheathra.co.uk/useful-information under the 'Useful Documents' section.

Much has happened during the intervening period: the Covid 19 outbreak with the resulting levels of lockdown; planning applications from Pinewood Studios including the widening of Sevenhills Road and the building of a Screen Hub and visitor attraction on a 77 acre green belt site in Iver Heath plus the proposed Welcome Break Motorway Services area on the borders of Iver Heath and Uxbridge.

The Ivers are already in a designated Air Quality Management Area, where Buckinghamshire Council should be looking at mitigating factors to reduce air pollution rather than schemes that will inevitably increase it. We therefore feel that the results from our monitoring scheme should be urgently taken into consideration in the context of judging planning applications for major developments, with the potentially serious cost to human health being given priority.



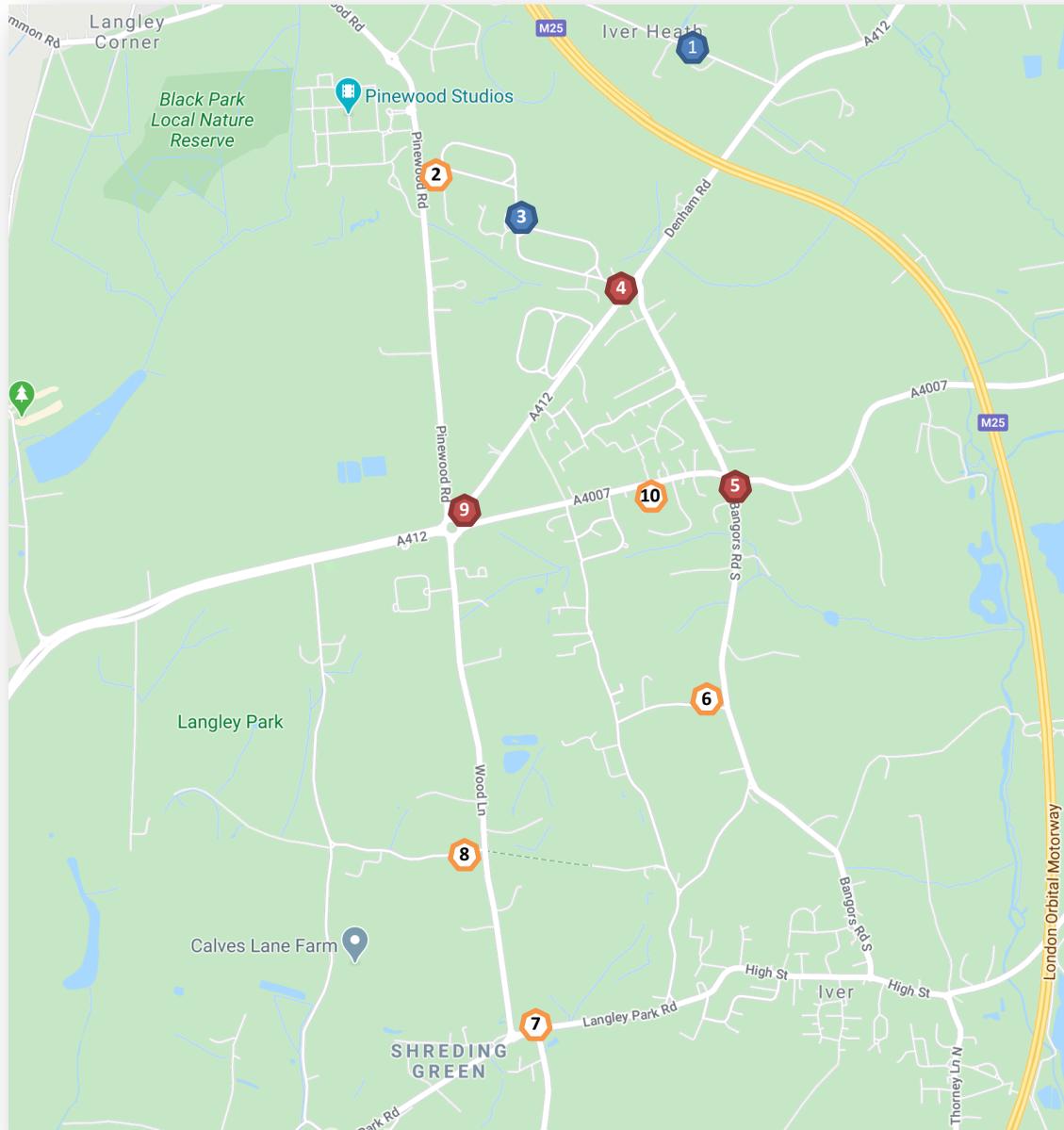
Diffusion tube

The Significance of Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂)

- Nitrogen dioxide diffusion tubes, which are used in our air quality monitoring programme, provide long-term monitoring options with detection limits in the low parts per billion to parts per million range. These cost-effective devices do not require specialist skills or time commitment and therefore provide us with an efficient and reliable method for air quality monitoring.
- The reason that Nitrogen Dioxide is measured is that, apart from the now better understood health impacts of NO₂, its concentrations in the air are also a useful indication of levels of other harmful pollutants associated with vehicle-related traffic such as PM_{2.5}* and Low Level Ozone.
- **Sources of Nitrogen oxides include:** fuel combustion, power stations, off road equipment, vehicles, (in-vehicle concentrations of NO₂ may be higher than measured ambient levels), biomass burning, natural processes.
- **Potential implications of Nitrogen oxides pollution include** various respiratory effects and aggravation of heart disease symptoms.

* Fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) is an air pollutant that is a concern for people's health when levels in air are high. PM_{2.5} are tiny particles in the air that reduce visibility and cause the air to appear hazy when levels are elevated.

Sites Map



Site No.	Site location
1.	Clump Cottages, Sevenhills Road, SLO OPA
2.	Junction of Pinewood Road and Pinewood Green, SLO OQJ
3.	Opposite 82 Ashford Road/Thornbridge Road, SLO OQF
4.	Near Stag & Hounds, Junction of Church Road/Bangors Road North, SLO ORW
5.	Near Black Horse, junction of Bangors Road South/Slough Road, SLO ODH
6.	Junction of Bangors Road South and Norwood Lane (East)
7.	Red Lion, junction of Wood Lane (South) and Langley Park Road SLO OJZ
8.	Junction of Bellswood Lane and Wood Lane, SLO ORA
9.	Near Five Points Roundabout at junction of Church Road and Pinewood Road
10.	Iver Heath Infant and Nursery School, Slough Road SLO ODT

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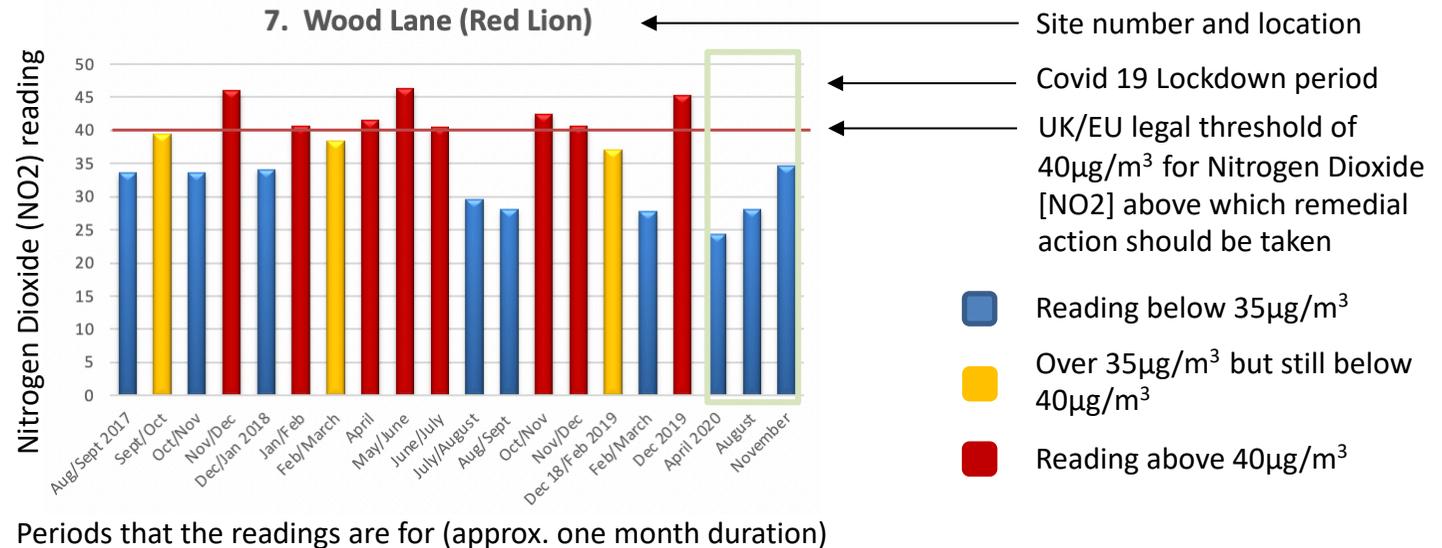
-  Site readings for NO₂ have remained below 40µg/m³
-  Readings close to or occasionally exceed 40µg/m³
-  Readings regularly exceed 40µg/m³

Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) Readings by Site

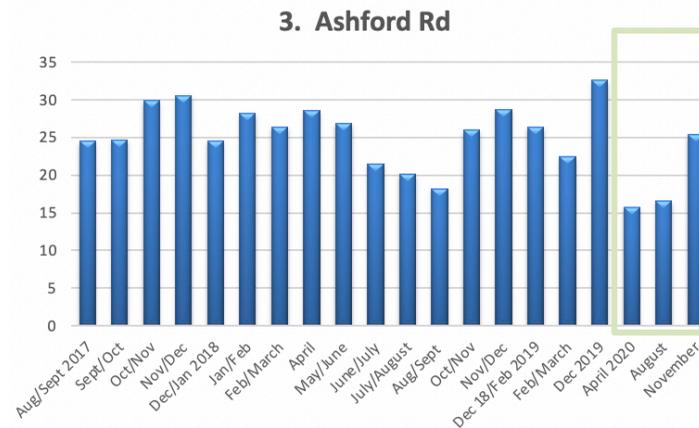
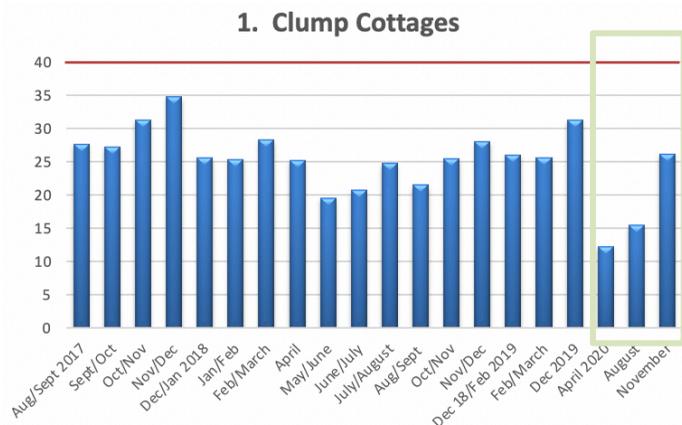
This example indicates how to interpret the charts.

The readings shown are exactly as sent to IHRA by Gradko, the laboratory that carries out the analysis of the diffusion tubes.

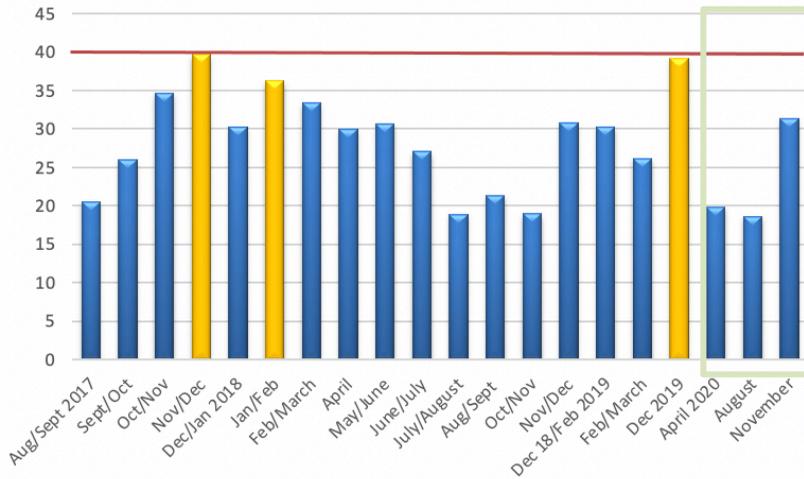
Our Air Quality Monitoring Programme commenced in August 2017 and the most recent set of results at this time is for November 2020.



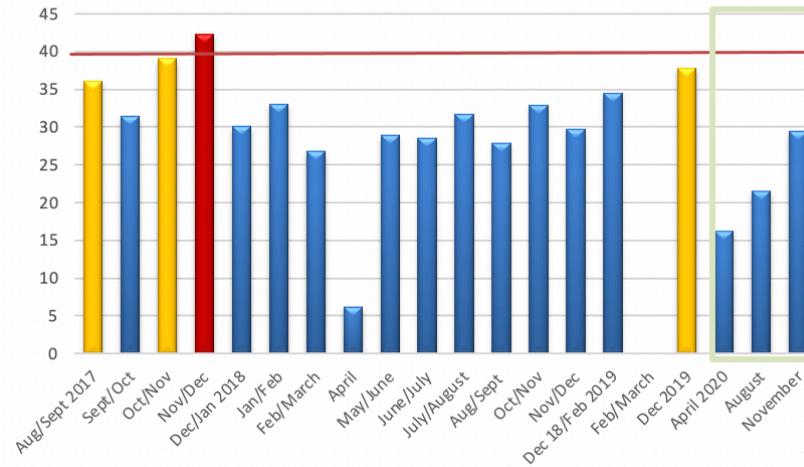
The two sites with the lowest readings, and therefore lowest levels of air pollution, are at Clump Cottages and the one opposite 82 Ashford Road on the junction of Thornbridge Road. Site 1, which is on Sevenhills Rd will undoubtedly see increases in air pollution levels if/when the proposed widening of the road goes ahead as permission has now been granted for the scheme by Buckinghamshire Council.



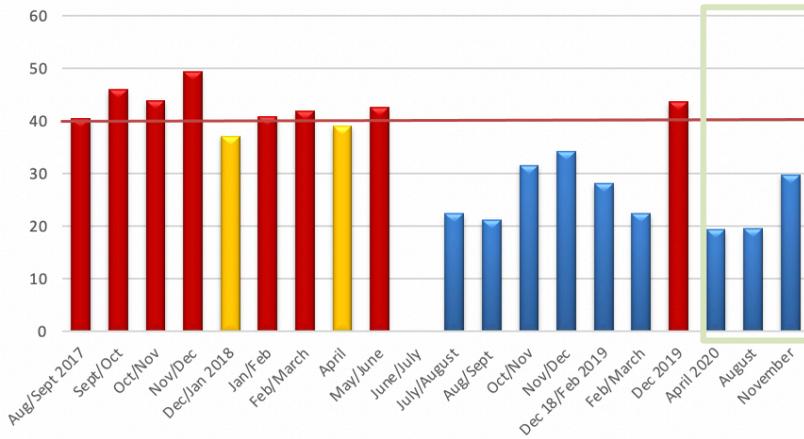
10. Slough Rd (Iver Heath Infants' School)



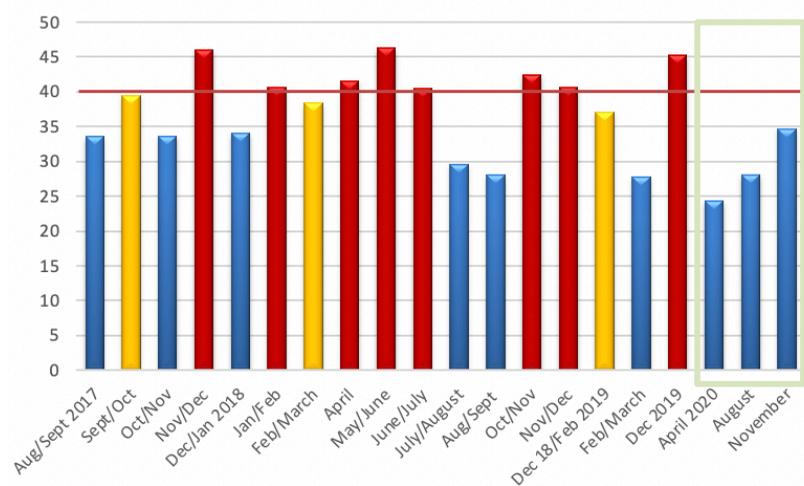
6. J'n of Bangors Rd South/Norwood Lane East



8. Junction of Bellswood Lane/Wood Lane

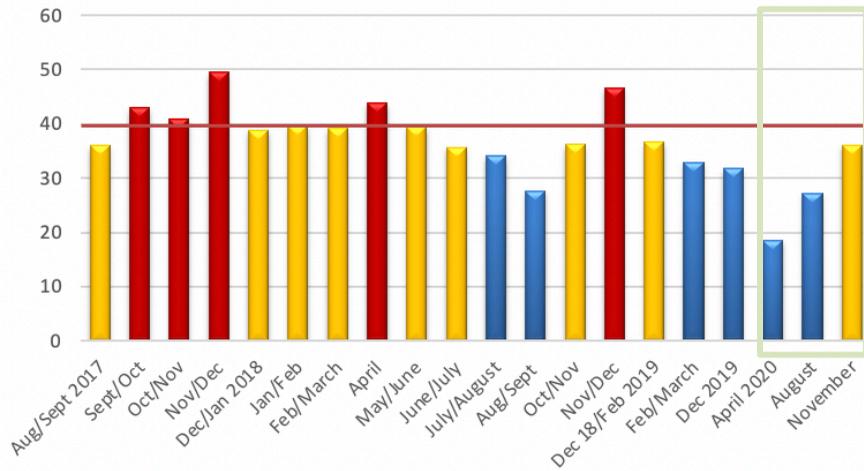


7. Wood Lane (Red Lion)

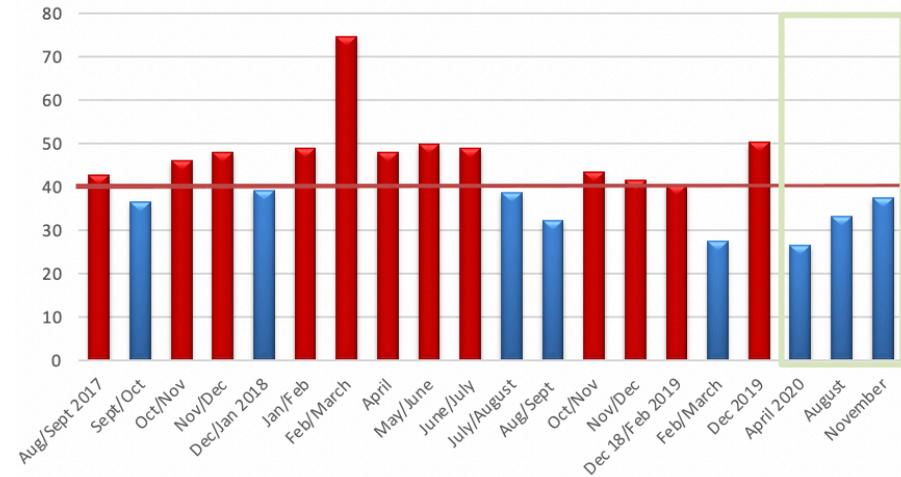


At the next level, the sites above have either got close to or exceeded the $40\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ threshold on three or more occasions. It can confidently be assumed that the impact of lockdown on the reduction of traffic levels has had a positive effect on air quality readings from April 2020 onwards.

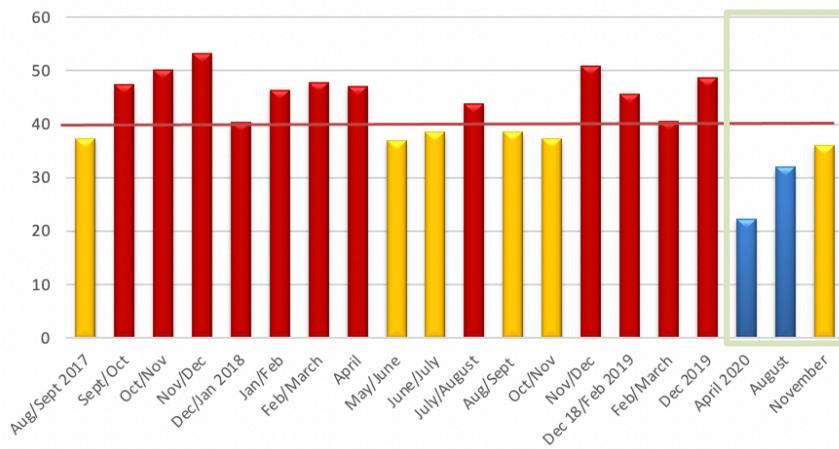
2. Junction of Pinewood Rd/Pinewood Green



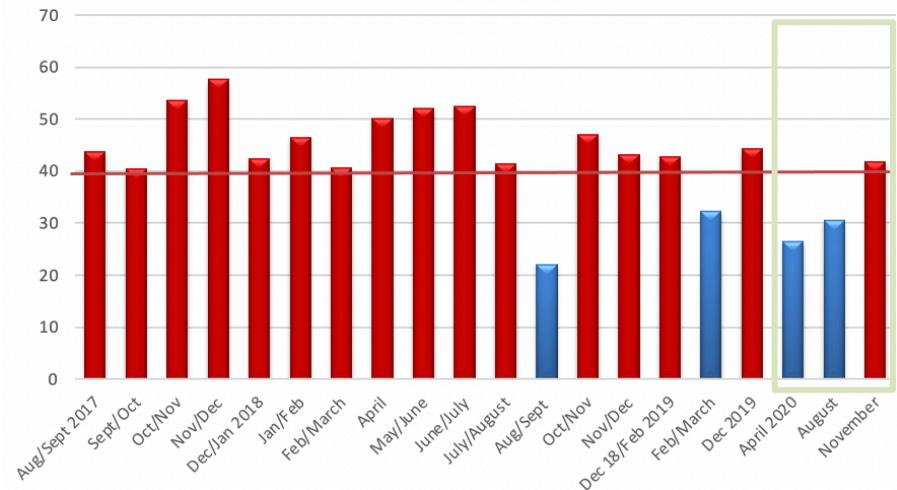
5. J'n of Bangors Rd South/Slough Rd (Black Horse)



9. Junction of Church Rd/Pinewood Rd (Crooked Billet)



4. J'n of Church Rd/Bangors Nth Rd (Stag & Hounds)



The four sites with the highest readings have most frequently got close to or exceeded the $40\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ threshold. Sites outside the Black Horse, adjacent to the Five Points Roundabout and at the Stag & Hounds on Church Road have consistently had the highest readings. Although site 2 is on a B road, it is heavily impacted by Pinewood Studios traffic. These are some of the busiest road junctions in Iver Heath which, should developments such as the Pinewood Studios ScreenHub and visitor attraction - and, to a lesser degree, Welcome Break motorway services - go ahead, an increase in air pollution is inevitable despite Iver Heath being in a designated Air Quality Management Area.



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