AIR QUALITY ACTION PLAN

Emily Harrup - Colchester City Council

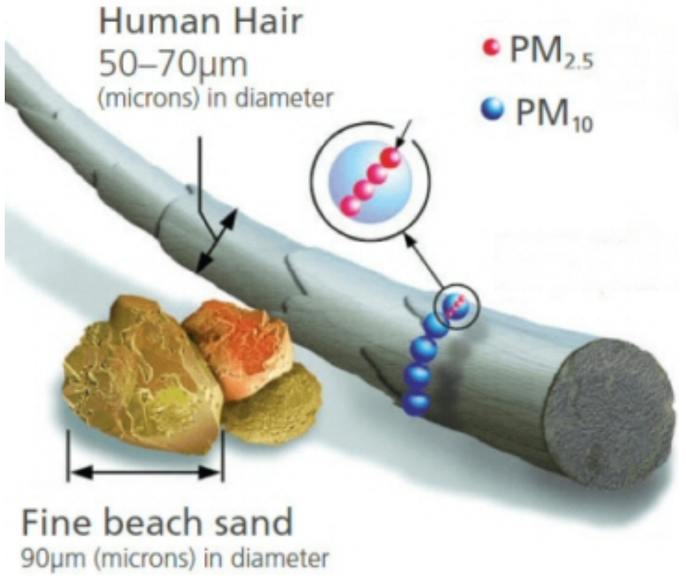
Colchester City Council

CARELESS POLLUTION

WHAT IS AIR POLLUTION?

Toxic substances in the air including:

- Nitrogen dioxide
- Carbon monoxide
- Sulphur dioxide
- Particulate matter



Most air pollution particles are too small to be seen.

Colchester City Council

CARELESS POLLUTION

WHAT ARE THE HEALTH IMPACTS?

- Impacts every organ in the body
- Results in over 36,000 deaths in the UK each year
- One of the main global health risks

For example:

- Shortness of breath
- Asthma
- Respiratory conditions
- Heart disease
- Strokes
- Dementia

WHO DOES IT AFFECT?

Anyone can be affected by air pollution

- We take around 22,000 breaths a day
- Each breath can draw 5-50 million particles into our lungs

Particularly:

- Those with existing complications
- Young children
- Elderly people
- Pregnant people

Colchester City Council

CARELESS POLLUTION

WHAT CAUSES AIR POLLUTION?

- Exhaust fumes from motor vehicles
- Industry
- Agriculture
- Burning wood

30% of air pollution is from idling engines

Colchester City Council

CARELESS POLLUTION

WHERE IS AIR POLLUTION A PROBLEM IN COLCHESTER?

As of 2024, there are 3 non-compliant areas:

- Brook Street
- Mersea Road
- St John's Street / Osbourne Street

Colchester City Council

CARELESS POLLUTION

SHOULD WE CONTINUE TO TAKE ACTION?

National Standards (40ug/m3)

World Health Organisation (10ug/m3)

We are likely to meet National Standards within next 5 years

World Health Organization

Colchester City Council

CARELESS POLLUTION

WHAT ARE WE DOING TO TACKLE AIR POLLUTION IN COLCHESTER?

cycle colchester

Colchester Travel Plan Club

Colchester City Council

CARELESS POLLUTION

WHAT CAN BUSINESSES DO TO HELP?

- Travel plans
- No idling campaign
- Carpark management
- Promote alternatives for business travel and freight delivery
- Providing travel information for staff, visitors and customers
- Promoting our new eLearning module

Colchester City Council

CARELESS POLLUTION

WHAT ARE YOUR IDEAS?

- General ideas to improve air quality in Colchester
- Ideas that would help you to reduce air pollution at your business

Colchester City Council

CARELESS POLLUTION

THANK YOU FOR TAKING PART

ANY QUESTIONS?

CARELESS POLLUTION