

**DEVELOPMENT OF AN AIR QUALITY ACTION PLAN AROUND HEATHROW AIRPORT,
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Whilst European and national legislation limits air pollution emissions from vehicles, factories, housing, etc., there remain 'hot spots' of air pollution in which air quality standards are exceeded. Local authorities in the UK are required to identify these hot spots and to develop action plans describing additional controls to be introduced locally to combat the problem. Residents of the London Borough of Hillingdon are subject to some of the highest exceedences of air quality standards in the UK. The major local sources of NO_x, the most problematic pollutant, are Heathrow airport and road traffic. This paper describes the development of the air quality action plan for Hillingdon. This has taken account of a large number of options (cleaner vehicles, reducing traffic, etc.) for reducing NO_x and PM levels. Account has been taken not just of the cost-effectiveness of options in improving air quality but also of associated impacts on (e.g.) congestion, noise and the local economy. Added complexity arises because responsibility for major roads, the airport, etc., lies outside of the Local Authority. Plan development has therefore required liaison with numerous other bodies in both the public and private sectors that have diverse responsibilities and objectives. With these issues in mind, a software system has been developed to assist the local authority with the option appraisal and implementation phases.