**Current Air Monitoring Situation around Northwich**

A number of nitrogen dioxide (NO2) diffusion tube monitoring sites are currently operational in the Northwich area. The site on King Street (close to Britannia Drive) has been in continuous operation since 2011.

*Annual mean air quality objective for nitrogen dioxide was exceeded at 24 of 60 diffusion tube monitoring locations in 2015.*

 From January this year tubes at Rudheath primary school; Station Road, Northwich; Winnington Hill and Greenbank Lane were established.

The tube on Chesterway, close to the memorial hall, which was operational until the end of 2013, was re-established this year.

***Monitoring at the Griffiths Road site will recommence from the end of this month. (Due to local unease)***

Monitoring was carried out in 2010 -2011 at Griffiths Road Junction and Manchester Rd but was removed in 2013. Results shown then were 26 to 27 for nitrogen dioxide NO2

The monitoring point on King Street is the closest to Lostock Works and a report is due out in June 2018 and the unadjusted figure is 38.1 for nitrogen dioxide. - NO2 (maximum national level is 40 adjusted).

With the projected increase in HGV and construction traffic around the Lostock Works an air quality management area (AQM) should now be implemented as a priority. Instead of waiting for 12 months results before acting we would suggest that an accelerated 6 month collation of results is carried out.

Imposing a 20 MPH speed limit from the roundabout to the Lostock works will help to reduce emissions (It is recognised that King Street is an A road.)

**Cheshire West and Chester have a low emission strategy 2017 to 2020.**

 “***It is recognised that the most significant source of local pollution and indeed the country is vehicle emissions.***

***The primary objective of this low emission strategy is to reduce traffic emissions by promoting and encouraging sustainable transport including the adoption of low emission vehicles and technologies while discouraging the use of high emitting vehicles wherever possible.***”

Councillor Karen Shore –Cabinet member for the environmental.

***I support this strategy and consider this the first important step in ensuring good air quality for all of our residents.***