



Reference: FOI1172

**Request:**

Due to the increase volumes of bus services i.e six per hour on a Saturday ( this excludes the metro replacement bus) pulling in at Whitley Bay station please can you provide data on what steps are being taken to monitor pollution levels in this residential area.

Please can you provide data on the levels of pollution in Station Road, Station Square and Victoria Terrace. A main concern is the level of fumes being omitted from the newly introduced open top Seaside bus. Unsure if this is an old vehicle but the omitted fumes appear to be very high. As there are a few residents already suffering from asthma I am interested to see if the pollution level are within EU levels.

**Response:**

Air quality monitoring is not carried out in Station Road, Station Square or Victoria Terrace of Whitley Bay. Monitoring sites are located at relevant exposure position on the busiest roads to assess worst case.

The nearest monitoring site is at the junction of Marden Road A193/Grosvenor Drive to assess traffic related emissions from vehicles travelling into Whitley Bay town centre. Pollutant levels of NO<sub>2</sub> have consistently been well below the air quality objective level of 40 µ/m<sup>3</sup> at this location, ranging between 18-26 µ/m<sup>3</sup> and at another location within Whitley Bay.

Historically monitoring was also carried out in Park Road, Whitley Bay, with the NO<sub>2</sub> levels also consistently half of the air quality objective level.\*\*

Monitoring locations are reviewed annually and consideration will be given to locating a monitoring site in Station Road for the 2020 monitoring period.

The annual status reports are available for review on the Councils website:

<https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/589/air-quality>