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NHS Wales

NVCC ENABLING WORKS

Air Quality Monitoring Quarterly Report



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Air Quality Monitoring Quarterly Report

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

WSP has been commissioned by NHS Wales to undertake air quality monitoring to meet Cardiff Councils (CC) Pre-commencement planning condition 11 in relation to the Temporary Construction Access Route for the Construction of the Approved Velindre Cancer Centre, Cardiff, CF14 7XB.

During construction works there is the potential for air quality impacts from the generation of dust and particulate matter, which could lead to dust soiling and human health impacts at relevant sensitive receptors. There is also the potential for increases in pollutant emissions from construction vehicles using the local road network.

This report provides a summary of the monitoring data for the period between 18th January 2022 and 6th April 2022. Defra's Air Quality Index¹ has been used to provide a useful indication of the levels of air pollution (See Figure 2-1 in main report). The index is divided into four bands (low (green), moderate (yellow/orange), high (red), very high (purple)).

Summary tables of the monitored concentrations is provided below, the background colour assigned to each of the cells corresponds to Defra's Air Quality Index. All concentrations were low and below the relevant Air Quality Objectives.

Summary of Monitored Diffusion Tube Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) Concentrations

Monitor Type	Location	NO ₂ Concentration (µg/m ³)
		Average
Diffusion Tube	Vel 1	24.1
	Vel 2	22.4
	Vel 3	22.3
	Vel 4	23.7
	Vel 5	31.1
	Vel 6	12.9

Summary of Monitored Zephyr Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) Concentrations

Monitor Type	Location	NO ₂ Concentration (µg/m ³)	
		Average	Maximum
Zephyr Monitors	Lamppost 1, Hollybush Inn	18.8	95.3
	Lamppost 15, Park Road	18.3	79.9

¹ <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/air-pollution/daq>

Summary of Monitored Zephyr Particulate Matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) Concentrations

Monitor Type	Location	PM ₁₀ Concentration (µg/m ³)			PM _{2.5} Concentration (µg/m ³)	
		Average	Maximum	Maximum 24-hour mean	Average	Maximum
Zephyr Monitors	Lamppost 1, Hollybush	18.9	61.3	49	12.7	41.1
	Lamppost 15, Park	18.2	56.9	47	12.4	40.3

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1. WSP has been commissioned by NHS Wales to undertake air quality monitoring to meet Cardiff Councils (CC) Pre-commencement planning condition 11 in relation to the Temporary Construction Access Route for the Construction of the Approved Velindre Cancer Centre, Whitchurch Hospital, Park Road, Whitchurch, Cardiff, CF14 7XB.
- 1.1.2. Condition 11 (CC Reference: 20/01110/MJR) states that:
- “Prior to commencement of the development hereby approved details of an air monitoring unit and its location shall be submitted to and approved in writing with the Local Planning Authority. The monitoring unit shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details and remain operational until cessation of the development. Data from the air monitoring unit shall be provided to the Local Planning Authority on request.*
- Reason: To monitor air quality in accordance with Policy EN13 of the adopted Cardiff Local Plan (2006-2026).’*
- 1.1.3. During construction works there is the potential for air quality impacts from the generation of dust and particulate matter, which could lead to dust soiling and human health impacts at relevant sensitive receptors. There is also the potential for increases in pollutant emissions from construction vehicles using the local road network.
- 1.1.4. In order to discharge the pre-commencement planning condition 11, on behalf of NHS Wales, WSP is carrying out monitoring in the study area using Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) diffusion tubes and using Zephyr and DM11 Pro continuous monitors. The air quality monitoring within the study area is being undertaken to ensure that dust and vehicle exhaust emissions from construction traffic are monitored and effectively managed. This report provides a summary of the monitoring data for the period between 18th January 2022 and 6th April 2022.

2. MONITORING METHODOLOGY

2.1. MONITORING TECHNIQUES

DIFFUSION TUBE MONITORING

- 2.1.1. The diffusion tubes are passive samplers which are used to measure ambient concentrations of NO₂. The tubes are designed to provide an indication of longer-term average NO₂ concentrations and are useful in identifying areas of high concentrations in relation to road traffic emissions. They are not suitable for identifying short-term pollution events. In order to compare how well the diffusion tubes are performing against a reference method (i.e. a continuous analyser), three tubes have been co-located with the Castle Street continuous monitoring site.
- 2.1.2. The diffusion tubes have been located at 7 locations² on accessible points along the main road network and where possible at relevant receptors (e.g. school) to assess any changes in NO₂ concentrations at those locations as a result of the construction traffic (see Table 2-1 and Figure in Appendix A). The tubes are changed over typically every 4 weeks and are then sent to Gradko Laboratories for analysis.

² The 7th location was set up in April 2022 and therefore is not included within this report.

Table 2-1 - Diffusion Tube Monitoring Locations

Tube ID	Location	X (m)	Y (m)
Vel 1	Lamppost 15, Park Road	314782	180711
Vel 2	Lamppost 17, Corner of Park Road and Park Avenue	314723	180758
Vel 3	Lamppost 25, Pendwyallt Road opposite Lon Y Celyn	314537	180951
Vel 4	Lamppost 1, Hollybush Inn	314520	180993
Vel 5	Lamppost 7, Pendywyallt Road opposite No. 32	314348	181128
Vel 6	Coryton Junior School	314321	181107
Vel 8*	Coryton Junior School – side entrance	314291	181157

* Monitoring began here in April 2022 so results for this location are not included in this report.

CONTINUOUS MONITORS

- 2.1.3. Concentrations of particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) and NO₂ are being continuously monitored at two locations within the study area (See Table 2-2 and Figure in Appendix A). There is a Zephyr monitor (NO₂, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) and a DM11 Pro monitor (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) located close to the Hollybush Estate site and a Zephyr monitor (PM₁₀, PM_{2.5} and NO₂) located closer to the construction site entrance. The Zephyr monitors were installed on 28th February 2022 and began recording data after an initial 24-hour acclimatisation period, from 10:00am on the 1st March. The DM11 Pro began monitoring concentrations on the 5th April and therefore has not been included within this quarterly report.
- 2.1.4. The Zephyr and DM11s are able to detect localised pollution events and fluctuations in the concentrations and can send alerts to the project team when concentrations go above a certain threshold. The Zephyr continuous monitoring devices are supplied by Earthsense and the DM11 Pros by Air Quality Monitors, data from each of the monitors is uploaded onto a cloud system/website where it can be viewed and downloaded by specific individuals.

Table 2-2 - Continuous Monitor Locations

Monitor ID		Location	X (m)	Y (m)
Zephyr	111	Lamppost 1, Hollybush Inn	314520	180993
	942	Lamppost 15, Park Road	314782	180711
DM11 Pro	332	19 Park Road	314887	180597

2.2. AIR QUALITY OBJECTIVES AND STANDARDS

- 2.2.1. The Government's policy on air quality within the UK is set out in the Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (AQS)³. The AQS provides a framework for reducing air pollution in the UK with the aim of meeting the requirements of European Union legislation⁴.
- 2.2.2. The air quality standards are levels recommended by the Expert Panel on Air Quality Standards (EPAQS) and the World Health Organisation (WHO) with regards to current scientific knowledge about the effects of each pollutant on health and the environment.
- 2.2.3. The air quality objectives are policy-based targets set by the Government, which take into account economic efficiency, practicability, technical feasibility and timescale. Some objectives are equal to the EPAQS recommended standards or WHO guideline limits, whereas others involve a margin of tolerance, i.e. a limited number of permitted exceedances of the standard over a given period.
- 2.2.4. The relevant standards and objectives for this monitoring programme are given in below.

Table 2-3 – Relevant Air Quality Objectives and Standards

Pollutant	Concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	Duration	Exceedances Allowed
Nitrogen Dioxide	200	1-hour mean	18
	40	Annual mean	-
Particulate matter (PM_{10})	40	Annual mean	-
	50	24-hour mean	35
Particulate matter ($\text{PM}_{2.5}$) *	20	Annual mean	-

* Local Authorities are required to work towards reducing emissions/concentrations of particulate matter within their administrative area, however, there is no statutory objective given in the AQS for $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ at this time, only a framework.

2.3. DEFRA AIR QUALITY INDEX

- 2.3.1. A summary of available monitored concentrations for the period January to April 2022 are provided in Section 3. In addition, to the monitored concentrations, reference is also made to Defra's Air Quality Index⁵ which provides a useful indication of the levels of air pollution. The index is divided into four bands (low, moderate, high, very high), and the index is numbered from 1 to 10 within these bands (Figure 3). The bandings are based on hourly mean concentrations, however, can be used in relation to the diffusion tube monitoring results to provide an indication of the levels of air pollution.

³ Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and the Devolved Administrations (2007). The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (Volumes 1 and 2)

⁴ The UK formally left the EU on 31st January 2020 and new air quality legislation for the UK will be brought forward in due course. The Air Quality (Miscellaneous Amendment and Revocation of Retained Direct EU Legislation) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018 (SI 2018/1407) (see Regulation 5) makes changes to retained direct EU legislation relating to air quality, to ensure that it continues to operate effectively.

⁵ <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/air-pollution/daq>

Nitrogen Dioxide

Based on the hourly mean concentration.

Index	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Band	Low	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	High	High	High	Very High
$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	0-67	68-134	135-200	201-267	268-334	335-400	401-467	468-534	535-600	601 or more

PM₁₀ Particles

Based on the daily mean concentration for historical data, latest 24 hour running mean for the current day.

Index	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Band	Low	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	High	High	High	Very High
$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	0-16	17-33	34-50	51-58	59-66	67-75	76-83	84-91	92-100	101 or more

PM_{2.5} Particles

Based on the daily mean concentration for historical data, latest 24 hour running mean for the current day.

Index	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Band	Low	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	High	High	High	Very High
$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	0-11	12-23	24-35	36-41	42-47	48-53	54-58	59-64	65-70	71 or more

Figure 2-1 – Defra Air Quality Index

3. MONITORING RESULTS

3.1. NO₂ DIFFUSION TUBES

- 3.1.1. The results of the monitoring completed across the study area between 18th January 2022 and 6th April 2022 are provided in Table 1 below. The background colour assigned to each of the results corresponds to Defra's Air Quality Index.

All tubes were present during this monitoring period, and monitored concentrations were below the annual mean objective of $40\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. Monitored concentrations were highest overall at the Vel 5 diffusion tube site which is located at Lampost 7, Pendywyallt Road opposite No. 32. This location is closer to the roadside than residential premises, or nearby footpaths, and will be impacted from emissions from vehicle exhausts. Concentrations will be lower at the nearby residential properties which are set further back from the roadside. Monitored concentrations were lowest at the Vel 6 diffusion tube site which is located at Coryton Junior School and considered representative of background concentrations.

Table 3-1 - Summary of NO₂ Diffusion Tube Concentrations

Sampling Location	NO ₂ Concentration (µg/m ³)			
	Raw Data			Annual Average (annualised and bias-adjusted)*
	18/01/2022 – 15/02/2022	15/02/2022 – 15/03/2022	15/03/2022 – 06/04/2022	
Vel 1	28.2	22.6	31.7	24.1
Vel 2	29.5	20.6	25.8	22.4
Vel 3	24.0	22.7	29.9	22.3
Vel 4	31.7	21.3	27.3	23.7
Vel 5	38.4	30.9	36.4	31.1
Vel 6	16.0	11.6	17.3	12.9

* Following methodology in LAQM.TG(16)⁶

ZEPHYR CONTINUOUS MONITOR

Nitrogen Dioxide

- 3.1.2. Figure 3-1 shows the NO₂ data monitored at each of the Zephyr continuous monitors for the period 1st March to 6th April 2022⁷. A summary of the monitored concentrations is provided in Table 3-2. The continuous monitors both had 100% data capture during the monitoring period.
- 3.1.3. Average NO₂ concentrations across the monitoring period at both the monitoring sites were well below the air quality objective of 40µg/m³. There were also no exceedances of the one-hour objective (200µg/m³) at either of the sites. Concentrations were higher towards to the end of March, these peaks occurred at both monitors and coincided with a period of warm weather. During this period monitored concentrations regionally were also slightly higher.

⁶ Defra (2021) Local Air Quality Management Technical Guidance (TG16) April 2021.

⁷ The Zephyr monitors were installed on 28th February 2022 and began recording data after an initial 24 hour acclimatisation period, from 10:00am on the 1st March.

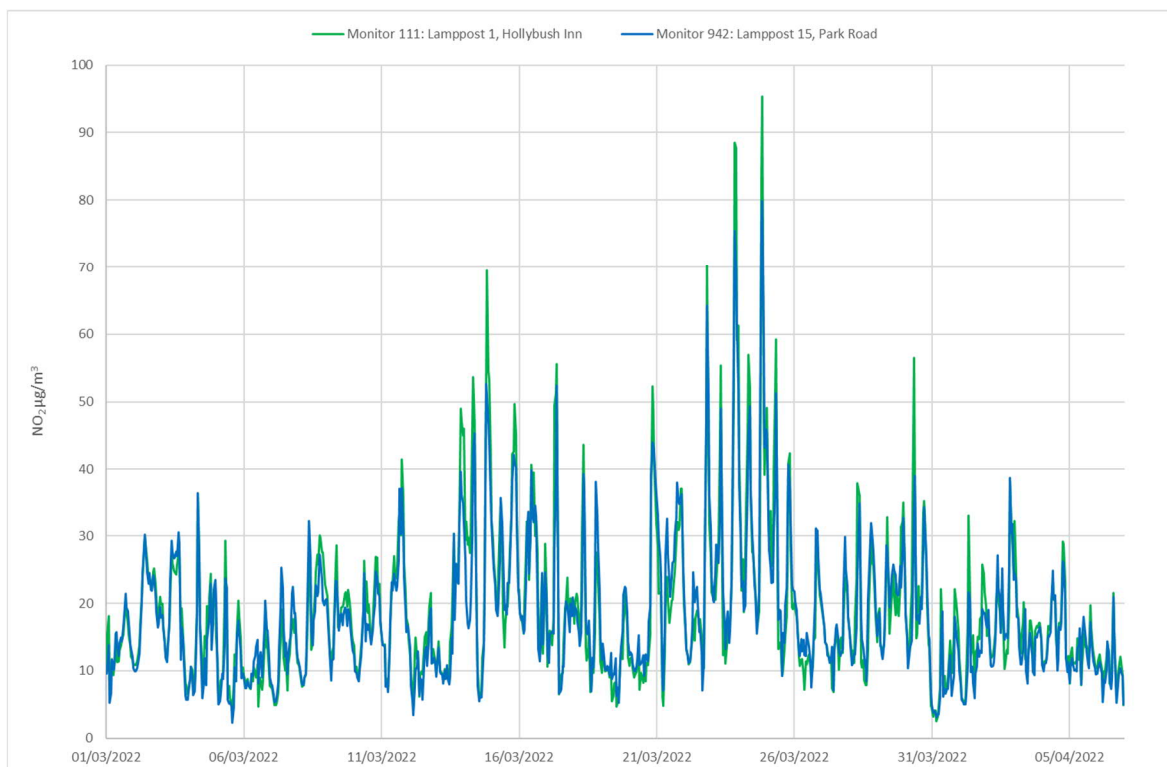


Figure 3-1 - Monitored Zephyr NO₂ Concentrations (µg/m³)

Table 3-2 - Summary of NO₂ Concentrations

Monitor	Location	NO ₂ Concentration Summary (28 th Feb – 06 April 2022)	
		Average	Maximum
111	Lamppost 1, Hollybush Inn	18.8	95.3
942	Lamppost 15, Park Road	18.3	79.9

Particulate Matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5})

Figure 3-2 and Figure 3-3 respectively, show the PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} data monitored at each of the Zephyr continuous monitors for the period 1st March to 6th April 2022. A summary of the monitored concentrations is provided in

Table 3-3. The continuous monitors both had 100% data capture during the monitoring period.

- 3.1.4. Average concentrations of PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} at both the continuous monitors are below the respective annual mean objectives of 40µg/m³ and 20µg/m³ during the monitoring period, and concentrations follow a similar trend at both monitor locations. In addition, there were no 24-hour mean concentrations above 50µg/m³. As with the NO₂ concentrations, monitored PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} increased at the end of March, most likely due to the warmer weather conditions during this period.

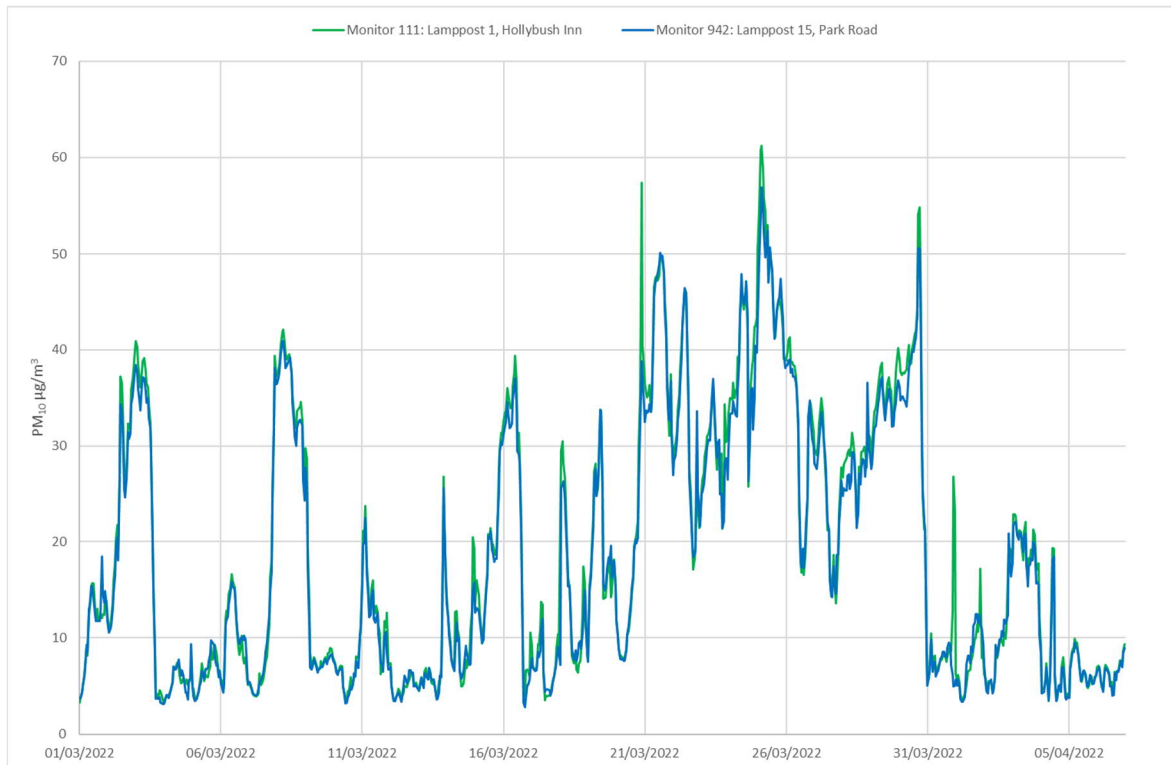


Figure 3-2 - Monitored Zephyr PM₁₀ Concentrations (µg/m³)

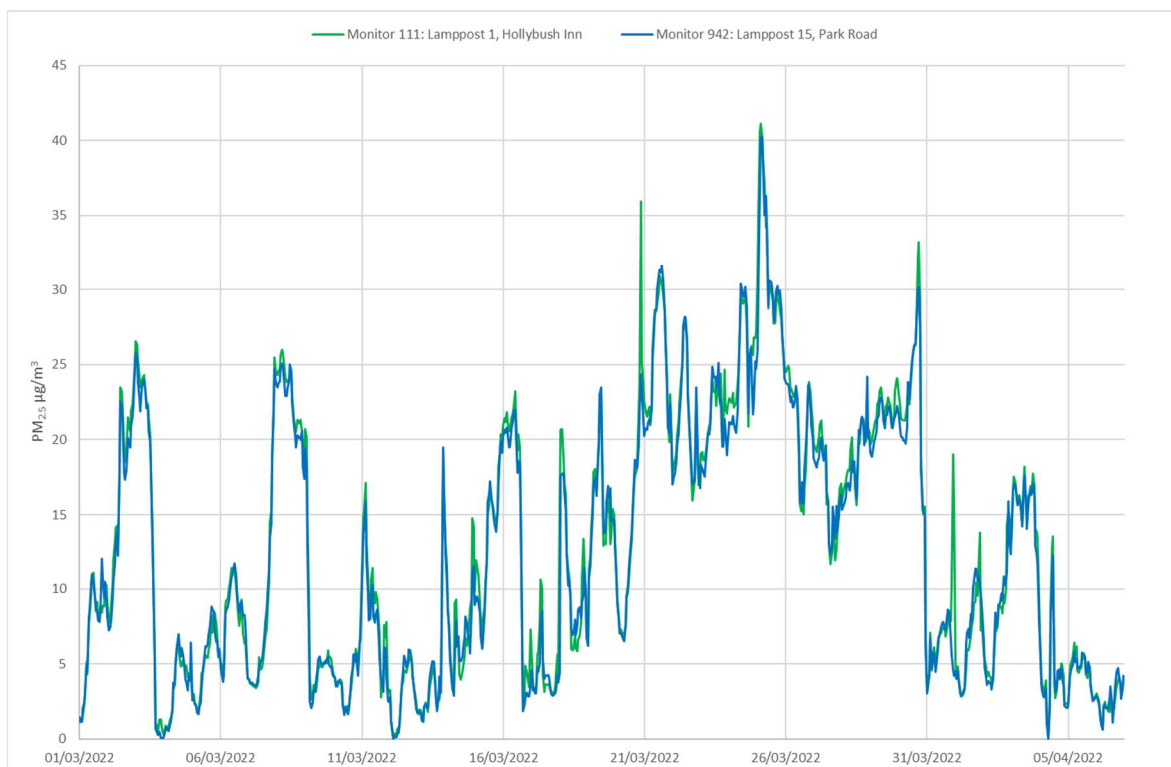


Figure 3-3 - Monitored Zephyr PM_{2.5} Concentrations (µg/m³)

Table 3-3 - Summary of PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} Concentrations

Monitor	Location	PM ₁₀ Concentrations (µg/m ³)			PM _{2.5} Concentrations (µg/m ³)	
		Average	Maximum	Maximum 24-hour mean	Average	Maximum
111	Lamppost 1, Hollybush Inn	18.9	61.3	49	12.7	41.1
942	Lamppost 15, Park Road	18.2	56.9	47	12.4	40.3

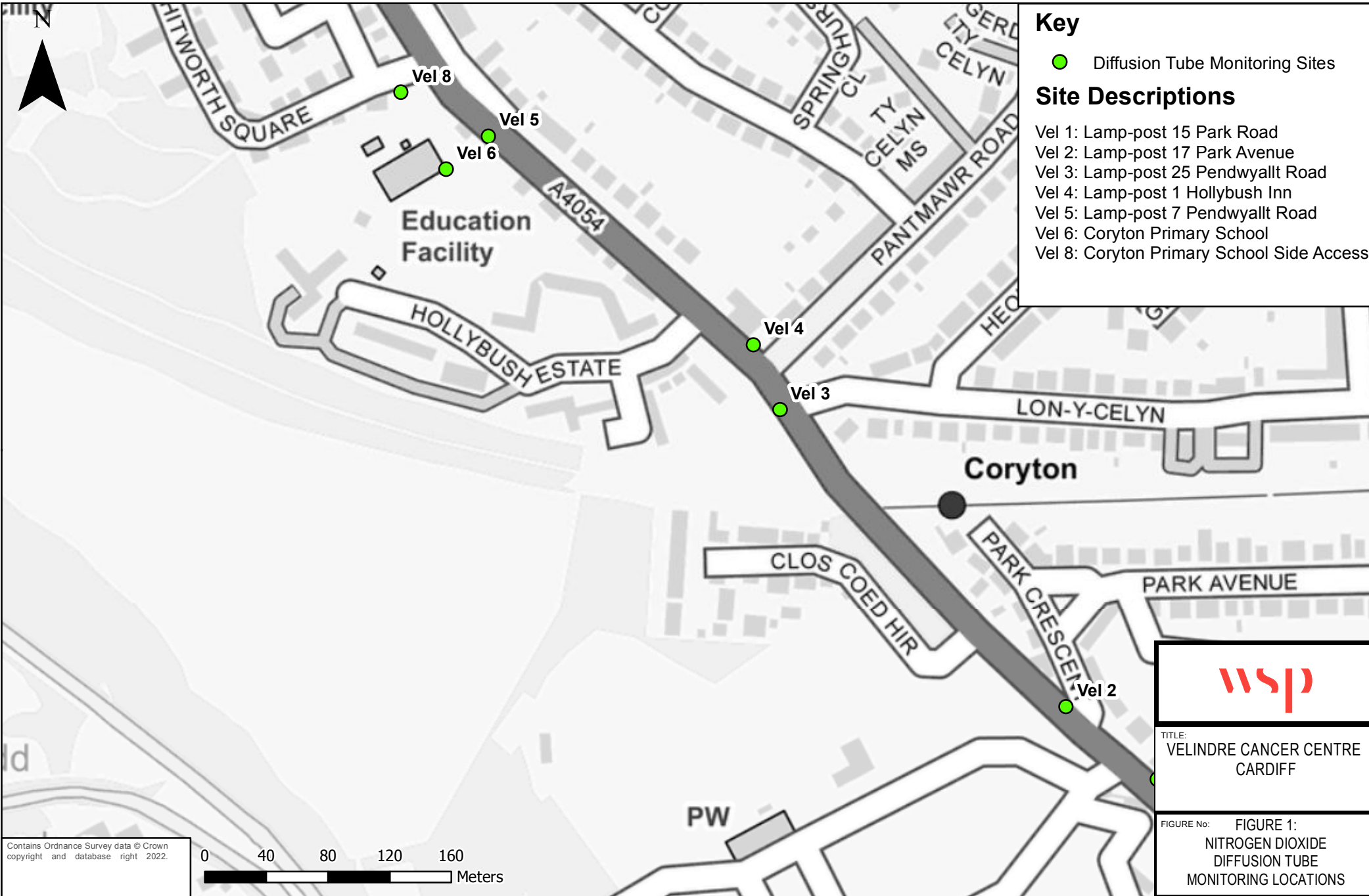
4. SUMMARY

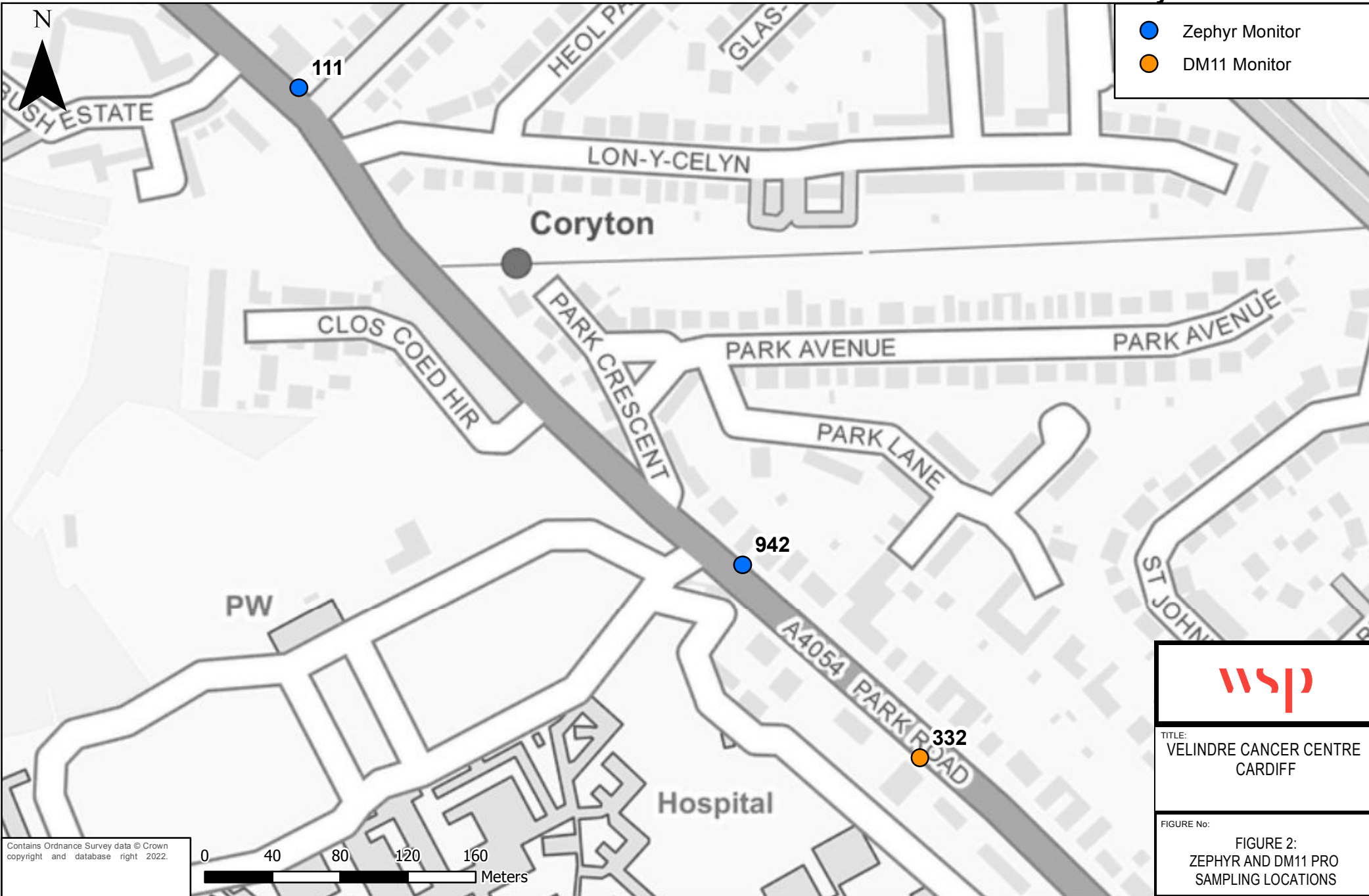
- 4.1.1. NO₂ diffusion tube monitoring was carried out at six locations during the period between 18th January 2022 and 6th April 2022. Concentrations of NO₂, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} were monitored between 1st March to 6th April 2022 at two locations using Zephyr monitors. All monitors had a 100% capture rate during these periods.
- 4.1.2. Monitored concentrations of NO₂, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} across the study area have been below the relevant objectives within this monitoring period. NO₂ concentrations were highest overall at the Vel 5 diffusion tube site which is located at Lamppost 7, Pendywyallt Road opposite No. 32. This sample location is closer to the roadside than residential premises, or nearby footpaths, and will be impacted from emissions from vehicle exhausts.
- 4.1.3. Monitored concentrations of NO₂, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} using the Zephyr monitors followed similar trends at both locations. All monitors recorded a slight increase in concentrations towards the end of March, most likely due to the warmer weather conditions, this occurred regionally.

Appendix A

MONITORING LOCATIONS









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