

Hillingdon Hospital

Air Quality Neutral
Technical Note

Project number: 60642181

18th November 2022

Project:	Hillingdon Hospital	Job No:	60642181
Subject:	Air Quality Neutral Technical Note		
Prepared by:	Zadie Astill	Date:	18/11/2022
Approved by:	Jess Muirhead	Date:	18/11/2022

Air Quality Neutral Clarification

- 1.1 In February 2022 an Air Quality Assessment (AQA) was prepared by AECOM Limited (AECOM) to accompany hybrid planning application being submitted by the Applicant, Hillingdon Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, to the London Borough of Hillingdon (LBH) for the Hillingdon Hospital, Pield Heath Rd, Uxbridge UB8 3NN site (the 'Proposed Development').
- 1.2 Following review of the AQA, a clarification was sought by the Greater London Authority (GLA) regarding the number of trips generated by the Proposal Development with regard to the Air Quality Neutral (AQN) Assessment carried out. This note provides an update of the AQN section of the AQA following a meeting held with the GLA on 17/11/22, in which it was agreed that the AQN calculations for the Proposed Development should be based on the number of car movements associated with hospital staff. The car movements associated with staff vehicle trips has been confirmed as 1,161 annual average daily trips (AADT), which is equivalent to 423,765 car trips per year.
- 1.3 The Air Quality Neutral (AQN) guidance followed was initially introduced within the GLA's Sustainable Design and Construction SPG (2014)¹ which required that developments be designed so that they were at least 'air quality neutral'. The Sustainable Design and Construction SPG was superseded with the publication of the London Plan 2021 and a new consultation draft of the AQN guidance issued in November 2021². The draft 2021 AQN includes lower, more stringent building emission benchmarks, and transport benchmarks are based on trip rates rather than vehicle emissions.
- 1.4 The Air Quality Guidance cites TRAVL database derived trip generation rates for care homes and hospitals. The appropriate trip generation rate for care homes and hospitals in outer London (19.5 trips/m²/annum) has been multiplied by the Gross Internal Area (GIA) of the Proposed Development to calculate the annual Transport Benchmark of 1,552,270 trips per annum.
- 1.5 The total number of trips generated by hospital staff for the Proposed Development is calculated as 423,765 trips per annum and, as such is lower than the benchmark value. Therefore, the Proposed Development is considered to be Air Quality Neutral in terms of transport related emissions. It should be noted that the Proposed Development is also considered AQN with regard to the building related emissions, as shown in the original AQA.
- 1.6 Given the nature of the site it is not considered feasible to eliminate car use, though measures have been taken to reduce traffic generation compared to the existing hospital. Proposals already include a reduction in the number of parking spaces. Travel Plans and a Car Park Management Plan have already been prepared and submitted as part of the planning application to control hospital staff car trips as far as possible. A number of mitigation measures have been incorporated within the design of the Proposed Development, including but not limited to secure bicycle storage and electric car charging points to off-set the impacts the Proposed Developments traffic has on local air quality.

¹ Mayor of London, Sustainable Design and Construction Supplementary Planning Guidance, GLA, 2014

² Greater London Authority (GLA), "London Plan Guidance Air Quality Neutral Consultation Draft November 2021," 2021

