

THRUXTON NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Noise and Air Pollution from the A303

One of the key negative factors of living in Thruxton Parish, as identified within the Parish Survey, was the noise from the A303. Other residents also identified air pollution as an issue.

Further information has been sought in respect of both forms of pollution.

Air Pollution

Test Valley Borough Council have been consulted in respect of air quality, and the impact of pollution from the A303. The 2017 Air Quality Annual Status Report 'includes the results of nitrogen dioxide diffusion tube monitoring carried out in 2016. This has indicated trends that are either stable or downward at all 17 sites and there is no evidence that the Annual Mean concentration of nitrogen dioxide may exceed the specific Air Quality Objective of $40\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. Based on the findings of this report, Test Valley Borough Council has found no evidence that the levels of any other relevant pollutants may exceed the specific Air Quality Objectives and therefore has not identified the need to designate any Air Quality Management Areas'.

There is no air quality testing point in Thruxton, however TVBC identified that testing adjacent to the A303 took place at Barlow's Lane in Andover, and that the figures were likely to be similar. The above report contains a table of test results in the Appendix. The Barlow's Lane results are recorded at AND23 and AND25. The figures do not indicate any significant levels of air pollution.

The report can be found at

<https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/housingandenvironmentalhealth/environmentalprotection/air-quality>

It has not been possible to reproduce the tables in stand alone format.

Those living close to the A303 within the Parish (and particularly the village where some houses back on to the road) would say that they need to wipe down their white window frames regularly because of traffic pollution and it should be noted that the road runs to the south of the village and the prevailing wind is from the south-west. One resident living close to the A303 and having a mechanical ventilation system in their property (on the non road side) has noted that the incoming air leaves a black residue on the filters.

Noise Pollution

TVBC have stated that the A303 at Thruxton was identified by DEFRA as an Important Area within the context of the Noise Action Plan (Including major Roads) which can be found at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/276237/noise-action-plan-roads-201401.pdf

The report states that 'Important Areas with respect to noise from major roads will be where the 1% of the population that are affected by the highest noise levels from major roads are located...'

Since the preparation of the report noise reducing resurfacing has taken place. The Steering Group have written to DEFRA (at the email address given on the report) to request information in relation to current levels; their response is awaited.