



SUMMARY MONITORING REPORT

March 2025

DATE:	08 May 2025	CONFIDENTIALITY:	Restricted
SUBJECT:	Monthly Air Quality Monitoring Report – March 2025		
PROJECT:	NVCC	AUTHOR:	Shruti Verma
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INTRODUCTION

WSP has been commissioned by Sacyr UK Limited to continue the ambient air quality monitoring in the vicinity of the Approved Velindre Cancer Centre, Whitchurch Hospital, Park Road, Whitchurch, Cardiff, CF14 7XB. The ambient monitoring was originally set up on behalf of NHS Wales to meet Cardiff Councils (CC) Pre-commencement planning condition 11 in relation to the Temporary Construction Access Route (TCAR) for the Construction of the Approved Velindre Cancer Centre. The ambient monitoring is required to allow the continued use of the TCAR during the construction of the main cancer centre site which is being completed by Sacyr UK Limited.

For reference, 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).’

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.

On behalf of Sacyr UK Limited, WSP is carrying out monitoring in the study area 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 month of March 2025.

Historically, concentrations of particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) and Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) have been continuously monitored at four locations within the study area. Currently, two monitors are continuously sampling for NO₂, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} using Zephyr monitors located at 5 Pendwyallt Road (Z1381) and close to the construction site entrance (Z942).. There is also currently a dedicated PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} monitor (DM11 Pro) located outside 19 Park Road (332). A suitable location for a second DM11 Pro monitor is currently being investigated and will be deployed as soon as an alternative location is identified. Figure 1 shows the current monitoring locations in operation.

The Zephyrs and DM11 Pro monitor 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 Pro 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.

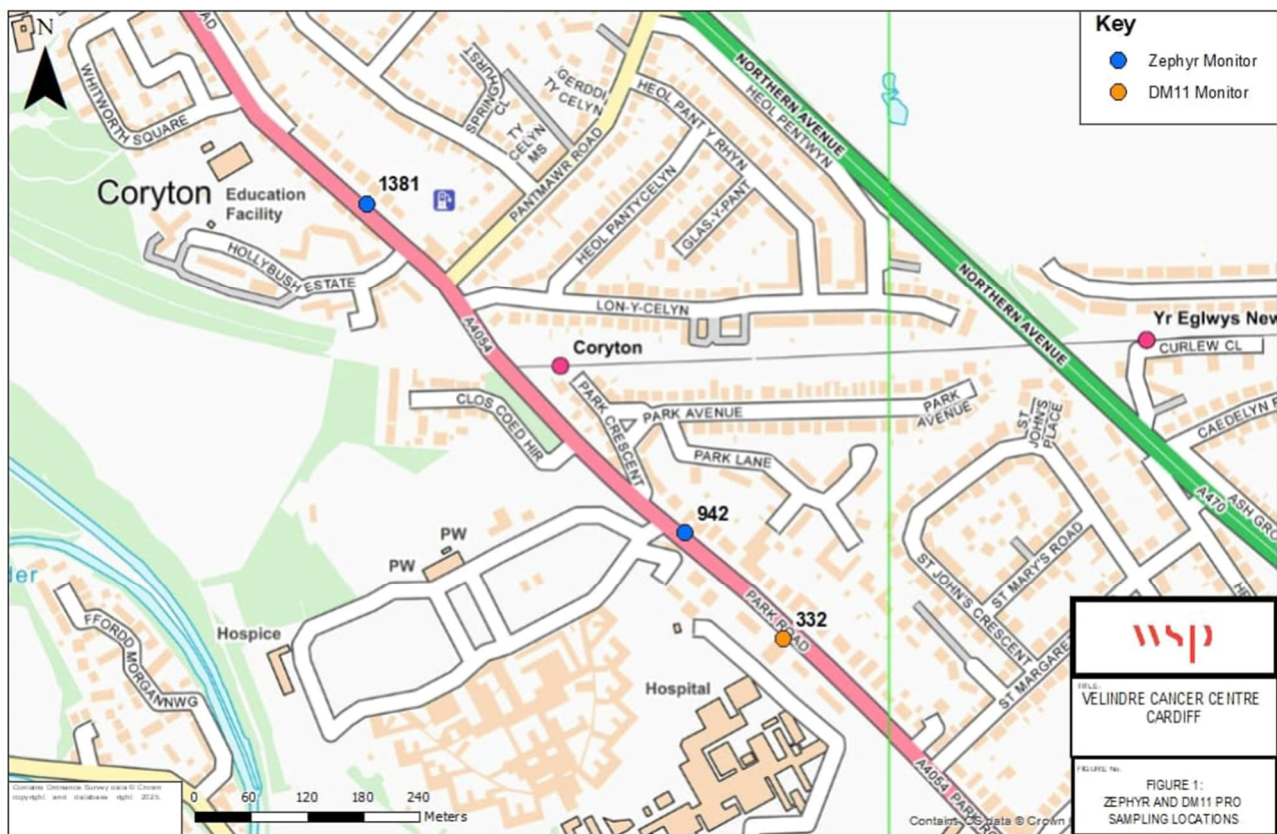


Figure 1 Air Quality Monitoring Locations

AIR QUALITY OBJECTIVES AND STANDARDS

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)¹. The AQS provides a framework for reducing air pollution in the UK with the aim of meeting the requirements of European Union legislation².

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.

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.

The relevant standards and objectives for this monitoring programme are given in Table 1.

¹ 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)

² 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.

Table 1 – Relevant Air Quality Objectives and Standards

Pollutant	Concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	Duration	Exceedances permitted per 12-month period
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.

The UK Government published its Environmental Targets (Fine Particulate Matter) (England) Regulations on 30th January 2023³. The regulations include a long-term target annual mean $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentration of $10\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and an exposure reduction target of 35% when compared to 2018 levels, both to be met by 2040. There is also an interim $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ target, which is to be met by the end of January 2028, of $12\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ as an annual mean concentration and a 22% reduction in exposure when compared to 2018 levels.

DEFRA AIR QUALITY INDEX

Defra's Air Quality Index⁴ 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 2) The bandings are based on hourly/24-hour mean concentrations depending on the pollutant.

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

PM_{10} 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

$\text{PM}_{2.5}$ 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 – Defra Air Quality Index

³ Environmental Targets (Fine Particulate Matter) (England) Regulations 2023

⁴ <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/air-pollution/daq>

MONITORING RESULTS

Zephyr Continuous Monitors

Data Capture

During the month of March 2025, 100% data capture was recorded at both the Pendwyallt Road (Z1381), and Park Road (Z942) Zephyrs.

Nitrogen Dioxide

Figure 3 shows the monitored hourly average concentrations for the period 1st to 31st March 2025 and a summary of the monitored concentrations for this period are provided in Table 2.

Average hourly NO₂ concentrations across the monitoring period at both monitoring sites were well below the air quality objective of 40µg/m³. There were no exceedances of the one-hour mean objective (200µg/m³) at either of the sites. Several peaks in the data were recorded at both sites, it suggests more of a regional influence driving the spikes rather than a local source.

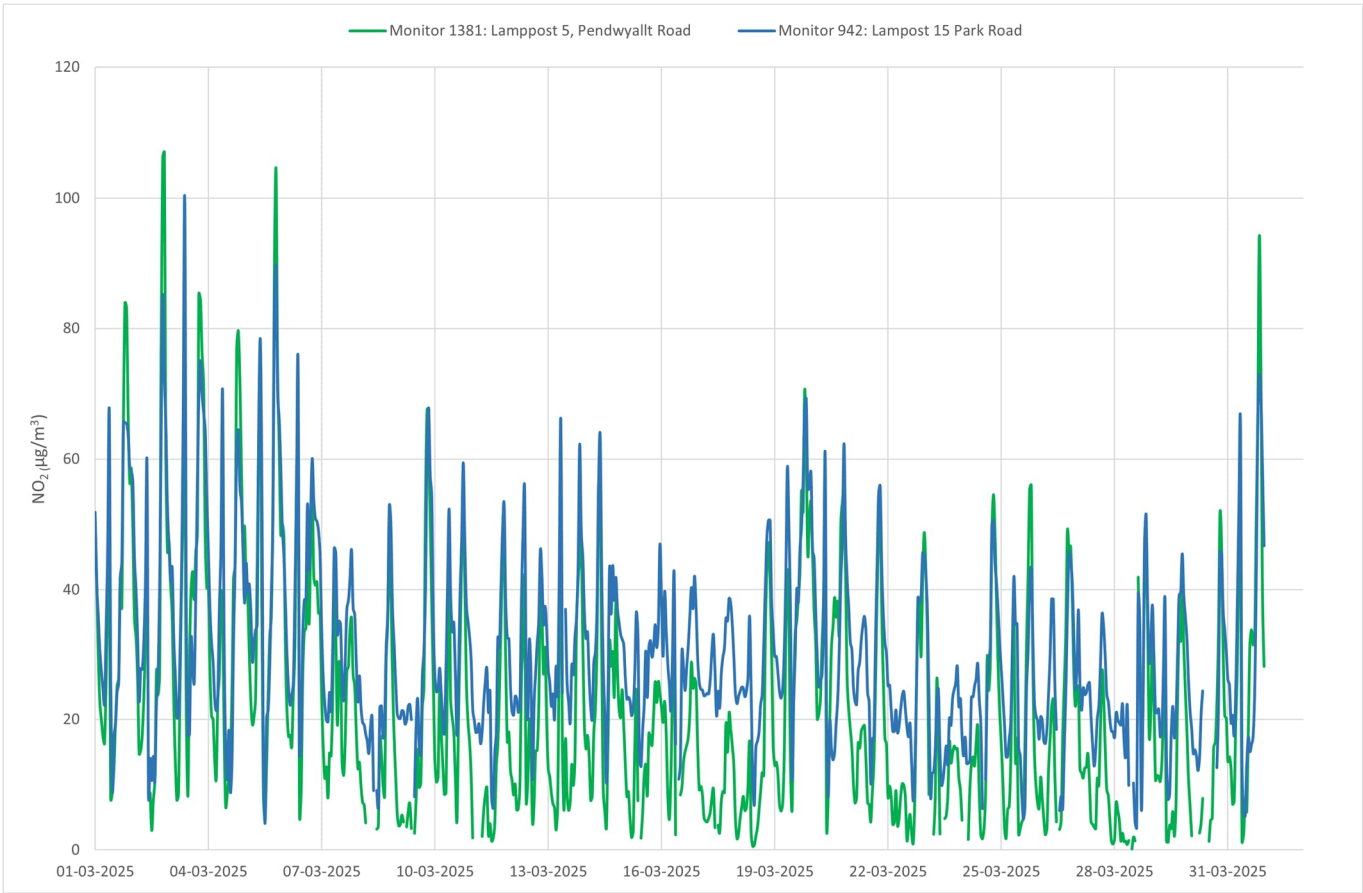


Figure 3 – Monitored Zephyr NO₂ Hourly Concentrations (µg/m³)

Table 2 – NO₂ Concentrations, 1st to 31st March 2025

Monitor	Location	NO ₂ Concentration Summary (µg/m ³)	
		Average	Hourly Maximum
Z1381	Lampost 5, Pendwyallt Road	22.6	107.0
Z942	Lampost 15, Park Road	30.7	99.8

Particulate Matter (PM₁₀)

Figure 4 shows the monitored PM₁₀ concentrations from 1st to 31st March 2025 and a summary of the monitored concentrations for this period are provided in Table 3 below.

Average hourly concentrations of PM₁₀ at both Pendwyallt Road and Park Road Zephyr monitor remained below the annual mean objective of 40µg/m³.

During the period from 5th March to 24th March, there were six occasions where 24-hour mean concentrations were above 50 µg/m³. These were recorded at both the Pendwyallt Road (Z1381) Zephyr and Park Road (Z942) Zephyr site. The recorded values ranged from 67.9 to 91.4 µg/m³ at Pendwyallt Road and from 71.0 to 94.9 µg/m³ at Park Road.

The objective permits up to 35 exceedances within a 12-month period. In March 2025, six exceedances were recorded at both Zephyr monitors. Historically, there have been 24-hour periods where concentrations have been above 50µg/m³. Since the start of January 2025, there have been 26 and 27 24-hour periods where concentrations have been above 50µg/m³. Although this is close to the objective of no more than 35 days within a 12-month period, it should be noted that the Zephyrs are in place to monitor trends and changes in ambient concentrations during the construction works and the locations of the monitors at kerbside do not explicitly represent locations where members of the public will be present over a 24-hour or annual period. The data from the Zephyrs should therefore be used to identify overall trends in pollutant concentrations. Monitoring data from the DM11 located on Park Road and summarised below should be considered more representative of where members of the public will be present for the relevant monitoring periods (24-hour and annual).

Overall, the PM₁₀ concentrations follow a similar trend at both monitor locations, there were several peaks in PM₁₀ monitored at both sample locations; however, these were over for a short period of time.

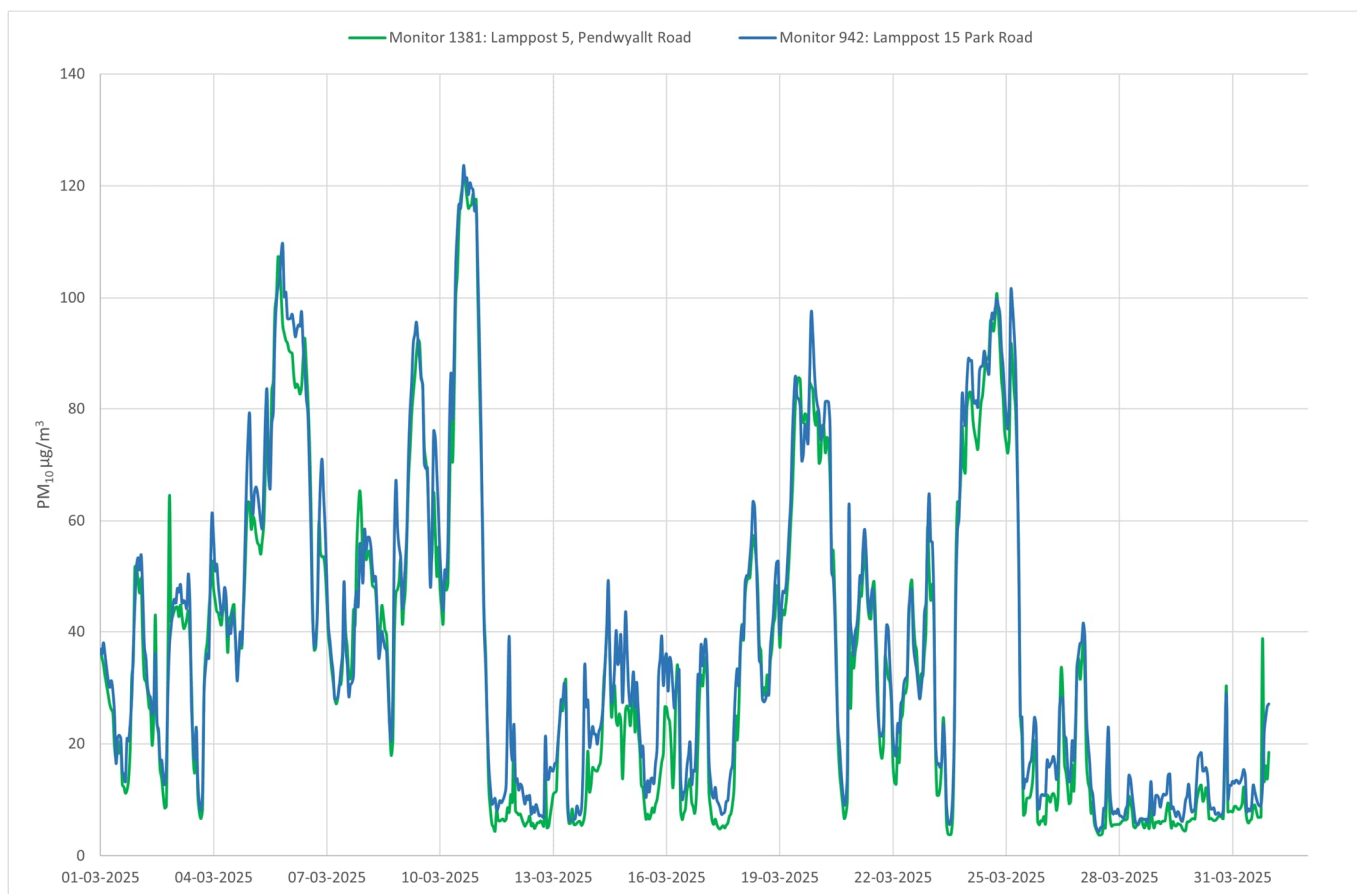


Figure 4 – Monitored Zephyr PM₁₀ Hourly Concentrations (µg/m³)

Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5})

Figure 5 indicates monitored PM_{2.5} concentrations from 1st to 31st March 2025, and the summary of monitored concentrations for this period are provided in Table 3 below.

Average hourly concentrations of PM_{2.5} were slightly above the 20 µg/m³ objective level over the monitoring period of March 2025. PM_{2.5} concentration patterns between the two monitors Pendwyallt Road (1381) and Park Road (942) followed a similar trend over the monitoring period.

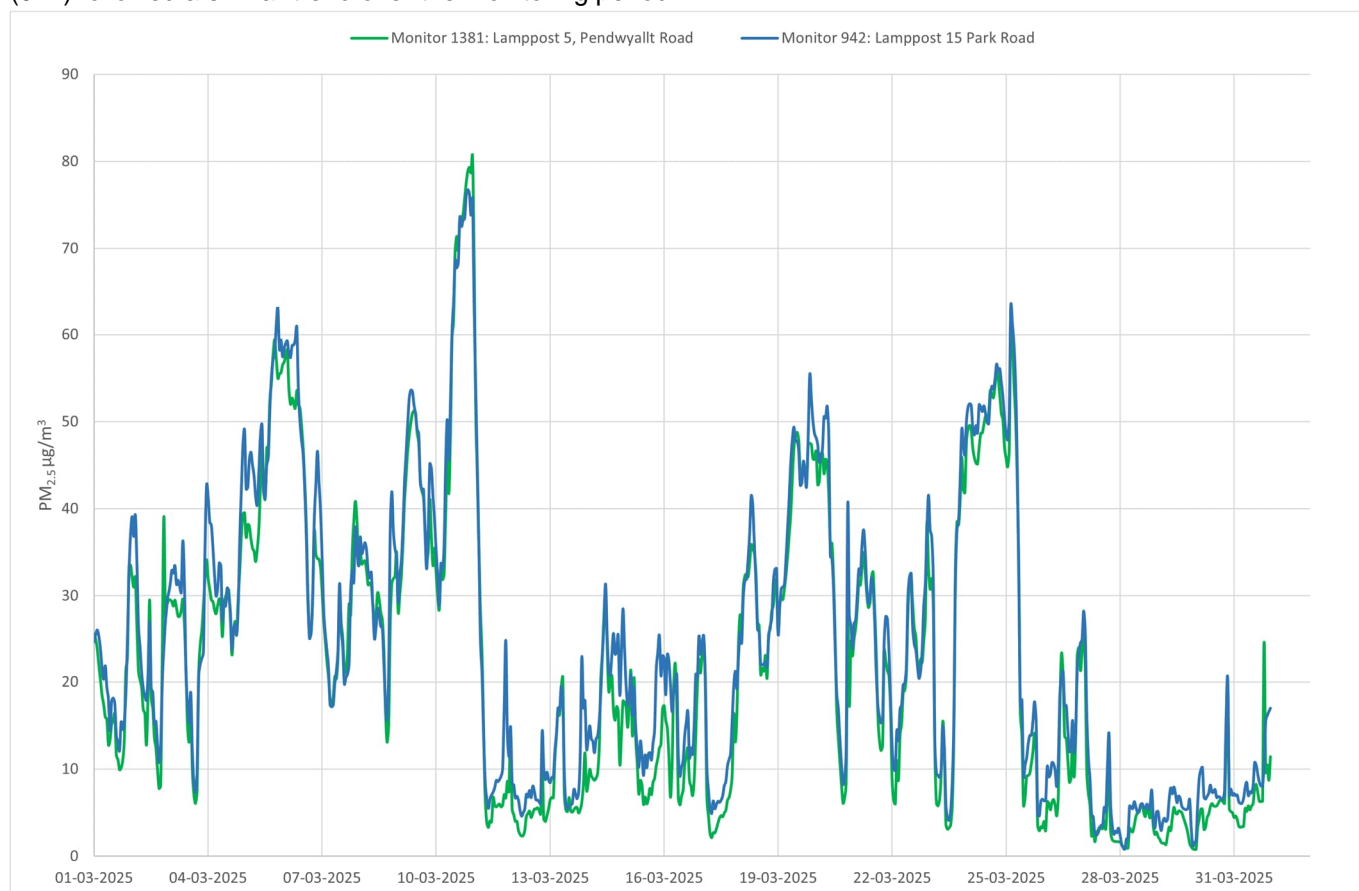


Figure 5 – Monitored Zephyr PM_{2.5} Hourly Concentrations (µg/m³)

Table 3 – PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} Concentrations Recorded by Zephyr Monitors, 1st to 31st March 2025

Monitor	Location	PM ₁₀ Concentrations (µg/m ³)			PM _{2.5} Concentrations (µg/m ³)	
		Average	Maximum Hourly	Maximum 24-hour mean	Average	Maximum Hourly
Z1381	Lampost 5, Pendwyallt Road	35.0	121.9	91.4	22.4	80.6
Z942	Lampost 15, Park Road	38.3	123.6	94.9	24.6	76.8

Note that background colour applied is based on bandings which are classed for a 24-hour running mean PM concentration not an hourly concentration presented.

DM11 Pro Continuous Monitors

Data Capture

During the period 1st to 31st March 2025, the Park Road monitor recorded 99.9% data capture.

Particulate Matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5})

Figure 6 shows the hourly average PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} concentrations monitored at the DM11 Pro continuous monitor located at Park Road. A summary of the monitored concentrations is provided in Table 4.

Average hourly concentrations of PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} were below the respective annual mean objectives of 40µg/m³ and 20µg/m³ during the monitoring period. In addition, there were no 24-hour mean concentrations above 50µg/m³.

As noted in previous reports, as the monitoring device located at 19 Park Road is set slightly back from the roadside, it is more representative of exposure of residential receptors along Park Road, than the Zephyr monitoring locations, which are mounted upon lampposts at the Kerbside.

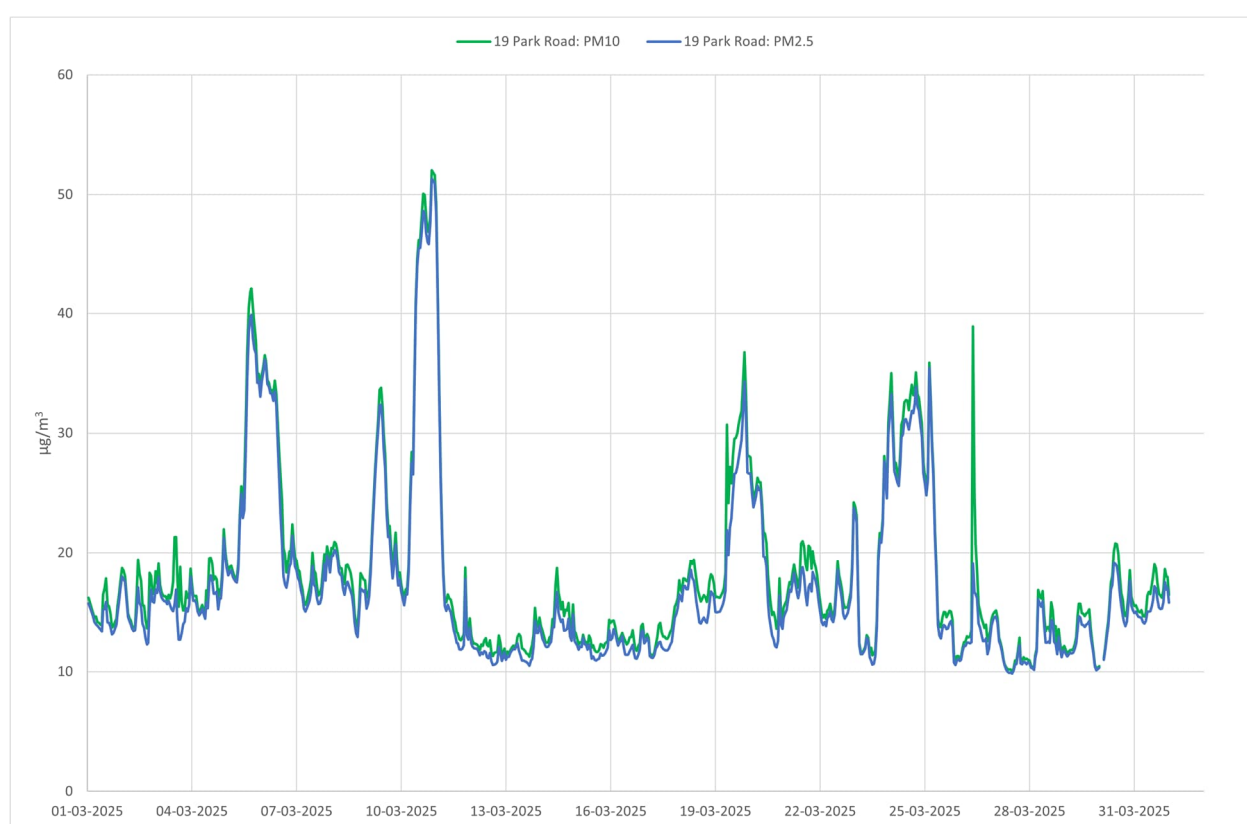


Figure 6 – Monitored DM11 PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} Concentrations 19 Park Road (µg/m³)

Table 4 – PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} Concentrations, 1st to 31st March 2025

Monitor	Location	PM ₁₀ Concentrations (µg/m ³)			PM _{2.5} Concentrations (µg/m ³)	
		Average	Maximum Hourly	Maximum 24-hour mean	Average	Maximum Hourly
332	19 Park Road	18.3	52.0	38.4	17.3	51.3

Note that background colour applied is based on bandings which are classed for a 24-hour running mean PM concentration not an hourly concentration presented.