Dublin Airport Air Quality Monitoring
Q2 2018

HSSE Environment

July 2018

Dublin Airport Air Quality Monitoring
Quarter 2 Report 2018
1.0 Introduction ........................................................................................................................................ 4
1.1 Background ........................................................................................................................................ 4
1.2 Purpose ............................................................................................................................................... 4
2.0 Monitoring Locations ......................................................................................................................... 6
3.0 Parameters and Sampling Methodology .............................................................................................. 8
  3.1 Offsite Passive Sampling: ................................................................................................................ 8
    3.1.1 Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) and Benzene (C₆H₆) ........................................................................ 8
  3.2 Onsite Sampling ............................................................................................................................... 8
    3.2.1 Equipment Calibration .............................................................................................................. 8
    3.2.2 Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) ........................................................................................................ 8
    3.2.3 Particulate Matter (PM₁₀) ..................................................................................................... 8
4.0 Monitoring Results ............................................................................................................................. 10
  4.1 Offsite NO₂ Monitoring Results ..................................................................................................... 10
  4.2 Offsite Benzene Monitoring Results .............................................................................................. 11
5.0 On-site Airport Monitoring Station Results ....................................................................................... 12
  5.1 On-site Airport Monitoring Station Results: Daily Average NO₂ .............................................. 12
  5.2 On-site Airport Monitoring Station Results: PM₁₀ ................................................................. 13
  5.3 Odours ......................................................................................................................................... 15
6.0 Conclusion ....................................................................................................................................... 15

Figures
Figure 1 Air Quality Monitoring Locations ......................................................................................... 7
Figure 2 Average Monthly NO₂ Concentrations H1 2018 .............................................................. 10
Figure 3 Average Monthly Benzene (C₆H₆) Concentrations H1 2018 ............................................. 11
Figure 4 Daily Average NO₂ H1 2018 .............................................................................................. 12
Figure 5 Daily Average PM₁₀ H1 2018 ............................................................................................ 14

Tables
Table 1 Community Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Locations .................................................. 6
Table 2 PM₁₀ Limit Values ................................................................................................................. 13
Glossary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EPA</td>
<td>Environmental Protection Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Nitrogen Oxide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO₂</td>
<td>Nitrogen Dioxide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOₓ</td>
<td>Oxides of Nitrogen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM₁₀</td>
<td>Airborne particulate Matter, particle size less than 10 micron.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AQIH</td>
<td>Air Quality Index for Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Regulations</td>
<td>Ambient Air Quality Standards Regulations 2011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Version Control

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue No</th>
<th>Prepared by</th>
<th>Reviewed by</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>V1</td>
<td>HSSE</td>
<td>HSSE – Head HSSE</td>
<td>01/06/2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Executive Summary

daa undertakes a programme of air quality monitoring at Dublin Airport (DAP) and in surrounding communities. Monitoring is undertaken using a stationary continuous air monitoring station located within the DAP boundary. Air quality is also monitored at 10 locations outside the airport boundary using passive diffusion tube sampling.

This report provides an overview of the results of air quality monitoring undertaken by daa at DAP and environs in H1 2018. Air monitoring locations are listed in Table 1 and presented as Figure 1 of this report.

The Ambient Air Quality Standards Regulations 2011 (the Regulations), S.I. No. 180 of 2011, implement EU Directive 2008/50/EC on Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe. The Regulations are referred to in this report for comparison purposes only. There is no requirement under the Regulations for individual companies or operators to carry out air monitoring. In Ireland, compliance with the Regulations is the responsibility of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which is deemed to be the competent authority for the purpose of Directive 2008/50/EC. The EPA is required to submit an annual Air Quality report to the Minister of Communications, Climate Action and the Environment and to the European Commission. The latest EPA Report entitled: Air Quality in Ireland 2016, Key Indicators of Ambient Air Quality was published in 2017 and is available on the EPA website.

Data collected from each monitoring location presented in this report was well within the limit values mandated in the Regulations in H1 2018. Similarly, data collected since implementation of the air quality monitoring programme has been found to be well within the limit values mandated in the Regulations.

The current location of the DAP air quality monitoring station adjacent to an increasingly active construction compound may have contributed to elevated readings of PM$_{10}$. The results of National Air Monitoring Programmes carried out by the EPA and local authorities and further information relating to air quality such as the Air Quality Index for Health can be found at www.epa.ie.
1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background
Dublin Airport (DAP) is located approximately 10 km north of Dublin city. The areas to the west of the airport are predominantly rural in nature. The airport is surrounded by Swords Village to the north and Santry to the south. The airport is bounded on two sides by the two busiest motorways in the country: the M1 and the M50. The M1 motorway is approximately 1km east of the current location of the airport’s onsite air quality monitoring station and the M50 motorway is approximately 2.5km south of the monitoring location.

1.2 Purpose
The purpose of this report is to present an overview of the results of air quality monitoring conducted onsite at DAP and at 10 external monitoring locations in the vicinity of the airport in H1 2018. The Ambient Air Quality Standards Regulations 2011, S.I. No. 180 of 2011 (the Regulations), implement EU Directive 2008/50/EC on Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe. This report compares the data collected during the daa monitoring programme with limit values contained in the Regulations to assess air quality at each monitoring location.

The Regulations are referred to in this report for comparison and reference purposes only. There is no requirement under the Regulations that companies or operators shall carry out air quality monitoring. In Ireland, compliance with the Regulations is the responsibility of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which is deemed to be the competent authority.

A range of parameters are recorded at DAP’s continuous on-site monitoring station as follows:

- Sulphur dioxide (SO\textsubscript{2})
- Oxides of nitrogen NO\textsubscript{x} (NO and NO\textsubscript{2})
- Carbon monoxide (CO)
- Ozone (O\textsubscript{3})
- Particulate Matter (PM\textsubscript{10})
Diffusion tube samplers located in communities surrounding the airport monitor the following gases:

- Benzene
- Ethylbenzene
- m- and p-Xylene
- o-Xylene
- Toluene
- Ozone

The results of air quality monitoring for all of the above parameters are reviewed by daa on a continuous basis. Results are consistently below limit values (where limits exist).

To date and in line with air quality reporting at many airports, daa has focussed reporting on the most important parameters:

- Nitrogen Dioxide (NO\textsubscript{2}) and Particulate Matter (PM\textsubscript{10}) at the DAP automatic station; and
- Nitrogen Dioxide (NO\textsubscript{2}) and Benzene using diffusion tubes at 10 offsite locations.
2.0 Monitoring Locations

A list of the ambient air quality sampling locations is presented in Table 1. Sampling locations are presented as Figure 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ref</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Parameters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On-site</td>
<td>Dublin Airport.</td>
<td>Continuous analyser(^1)</td>
<td>NO(_2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>Forrest Little Golf Club.</td>
<td>Passive Tubes</td>
<td>PM(_{10})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2</td>
<td>Kilreesk Lane, St. Margaret’s.</td>
<td>Passive Tubes</td>
<td>NO(_2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A3</td>
<td>Ridgewood Estate West, Swords.</td>
<td>Passive Tubes</td>
<td>Benzene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A4</td>
<td>St. Margaret’s School and Parish</td>
<td>Passive Tubes</td>
<td>NO(_2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A5</td>
<td>Fire Station, Huntstown, Dublin Airport.</td>
<td>Passive Tubes</td>
<td>Benzene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A6</td>
<td>Southern Boundary Fence, Dublin</td>
<td>Passive Tubes</td>
<td>NO(_2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A7</td>
<td>Western Boundary Fence, Dublin Airport</td>
<td>Passive Tubes</td>
<td>Benzene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A8</td>
<td>St. Nicholas of Myra School, Malahide Road.</td>
<td>Passive Tubes</td>
<td>NO(_2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A9</td>
<td>Naomh Mearnóg GAA Club,</td>
<td>Passive Tubes</td>
<td>Benzene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A10</td>
<td>Oscar Papa Site, Portmarnock.</td>
<td>Passive Tubes</td>
<td>NO(_2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1 Community Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Locations
Figure 1 Air Quality Monitoring Locations
3.0 Parameters and Sampling Methodology

3.1 Offsite Passive Sampling:

3.1.1 Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) and Benzene (C₆H₆)

daas has installed a network of passive diffusion tube samplers in areas surrounding
the airport. Monitoring locations are shown on Figure 1 and listed in Table 1. The
diffusion tubes are exposed for approximately 4-week intervals and record monthly
mean concentrations. Monthly mean concentrations are averaged to give an
annual mean, presented in Figure 2. The tubes are analysed using UV
Spectrophotometry at a UKAS (United Kingdom Accreditation Service) accredited
laboratory. Results are expressed in μg/m³ (micrograms per cubic metre).

3.2 Onsite Sampling

3.2.1 Equipment Calibration

An external expert service provider undertakes routine servicing of the DAP air
quality monitoring equipment on a monthly basis. The monitoring station undergoes
a full service twice yearly. During monthly visits, air filters are replaced and the
instruments are calibrated to EPA gas standards. The technician also inspects the
functionality of the station and sampling system. An emergency call out service is
also provided by the service provider. The monthly calibration process takes
approximately 24 hours, Data collection resumes after this 24 hour period. In H1
2017, due to down times during calibration, approximately 95% of NO₂ data was
captured, the capture of PM₁₀ data was approximately 95%.

3.2.2 Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂)

Onsite monitoring of NO₂ is carried out on a continuous basis at the stationary
airport monitoring station. Measurement of NO₂ is carried out using a Horiba
APNA-370 ambient NOx monitor which employs a cross-flow modulated
chemiluminescence method.

3.2.3 Particulate Matter (PM₁₀)

PM₁₀ is defined as airborne particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter equal
to or less than 10μm. PM₁₀ is monitored on a continuous basis at the airport
monitoring station. This PM₁₀ instrument automatically measures and records
airborne particulate concentration levels using the principle of beta ray
attenuation. The sampler monitors the PM₁₀ content of air by drawing a measured
volume of air through a chamber containing a pre-conditioned and pre-weighed filter in accordance with the internationally accepted US EPA protocol for PM$_{10}$ sampling. The results are expressed in μg/m$^3$. 
4.0 Monitoring Results

4.1 Offsite NO\textsubscript{2} Monitoring Results

Figure 2 presents the annual mean NO\textsubscript{2} concentration for each location based on the monthly passive tube sampling. The Regulations mandate an annual mean limit value of 40 μg/m\textsuperscript{3} for NO\textsubscript{2}. As can be seen from Figure 2, the annual mean values were below the limit value at all monitoring locations in H1 2018.

*Figure 2 Average Monthly NO\textsubscript{2} Concentrations H1 2018
*A6 and A7 locations closest to motorway.
4.2 Offsite Benzene Monitoring Results

Figure 3 presents the annual mean Benzene concentration for each location based on the monthly passive tube sampling. The Regulations mandate an annual mean limit value of 5 μg/m³ for Benzene. As can be seen from Figure 3, the annual mean values were below the limit value of 5 μg/m³ and less than 1 μg/m³ at all monitoring locations.

![Graph showing average monthly Benzene concentrations from January to June 2018. The graph displays the concentration (µg/m³) on the y-axis and monitoring locations (A1 to A10) on the x-axis. The annual limit value of 5 μg/m³ is marked as a dashed line. All values are below the limit, with most concentrations being significantly lower.]

**Figure 3** Average Monthly Benzene (C₆H₆) Concentrations H1 2018
5.0 On-site Airport Monitoring Station Results

5.1 On-site Airport Monitoring Station Results: Daily Average NO₂
NO₂ concentrations are measured at the automatic station at Dublin Airport.

Figure 4 presents the daily average NO₂ concentrations measured during H1 2018. The equivalent daily average was calculated as 24 μg/m³.
Figure 4 Daily Average NO₂ H1 2018

H1 2018 average NO₂ = 24 μg/m³
5.2 On-site Airport Monitoring Station Results: PM$_{10}$

Daily average PM$_{10}$ concentrations recorded at the automatic station in DAP in H1 2018 are presented in Figure 5. The average PM$_{10}$ was calculated as 23 µg/m$^3$. The Regulations set a 24-hour PM$_{10}$ limit value of 50 µg/m$^3$, and an annual mean limit value of 40 µg/m$^3$ as shown in Table 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Averaging Period</th>
<th>Limit or Threshold Value (µg/m$^3$)</th>
<th>No. of Allowed Exceedances</th>
<th>No. of Exceedances (Year to date)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PM$_{10}$ Limit Value</td>
<td>24 hour</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Not to be exceeded on more than 35 days per year</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM$_{10}$ Limit Value</td>
<td>Calendar Year</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 2 PM$_{10}$ Limit Values*
Figure 5: Daily Average PM$_{10}$ H1 2018
5.3 Odours
Fuel odours may arise from many sources including road traffic, ground handling equipment as well as aircraft on the ground. Depending on weather conditions odours from fuel (hydrocarbons) may be detected at locations close to the airport. As discussed in section 4.2 of this report, diffusion tubes results for benzene indicate that the average concentrations are well below the national limit value at all locations.

The human nose is extremely sensitive and can detect very low concentrations of hydrocarbons in the air. Weather also impacts the dispersion of odour and affects the strength of odour and locations affected.

6.0 Conclusion
Onsite Monitoring: The results of the NO\textsubscript{2} and PM\textsubscript{10} concentrations using the online analyser indicate concentrations are well below the relevant annual limit value of 40μg/m\textsuperscript{3} and well within the allowed criteria of short term limit values.

Offsite Monitoring: The diffusion tube results for NO\textsubscript{2} indicate that the highest concentrations are recorded adjacent to the main roads around the airport. The monitoring locations A6 and A7 are only a few metres from the road and are therefore influenced by roadside concentrations which are close to the vehicular emission source. Concentrations further away from the roadways are much lower and similar to the concentrations recorded at the on-site station. All concentrations are below the annual average limit value for NO\textsubscript{2}. Diffusion tube results for benzene indicate that concentrations at all locations are well below the annual average limit value.