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Date: 14 March 2024
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RE: 398 Wilbraham Road, Manchester - Air Quality Statement

Introduction

Planning permission (ref. 138619/FO/2023) has been granted by Manchester City Council (MCC) for the conversion of the building to form 8no. apartments and erection of a three storey rear extension at 398 Wilbraham Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester.

Planning Condition 11 states:

> *11) a. Prior to commencement of the development, a scheme for a clean air intake shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the City Council as local planning authority.*

[…]

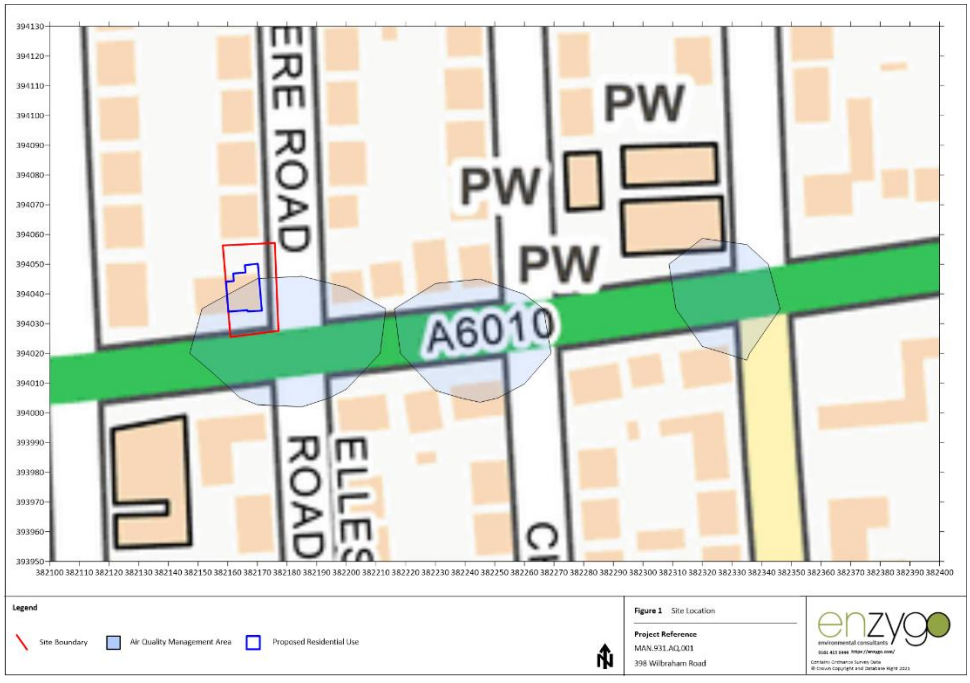
> *Reason: To secure a reduction in air pollution from traffic or other sources in order to protect existing and future residents from air pollution, pursuant to policies EN16, SP1 and DM1 of the Core Strategy.*

This air quality statement supports the proposed air ventilation scheme from an air quality perspective.

Development Site Air Quality

The consented development site boundary is located 3 m from the A6010 Wilbraham Road near the centre of Chorlton-cum-Hardy as shown in **Figure 1** below.

Figure 1 Site Location



The site lies partially within the Greater Manchester Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) declared by MCC for exceedances of the annual mean air quality objective (AQO) for nitrogen dioxide (NO_2).

Whilst the presence of the AQMA at this location suggests elevated roadside NO_2 concentrations in the area, the AQMA boundary is not a definitive indicator of where the AQO may be exceeded and probably over predicts the distance that unacceptable air quality extends from the kerbside. Similarly, concentrations at locations further from the roadside and outside the AQMA are likely to be below the AQO.

The front (road facing) facade of the development is set back 10.5 m from the kerbside and it is considered that at such distances from the roadside the AQO would not be exceeded in this location. However this would require local monitoring data or detailed modelling to definitively show this. A review of MCC monitoring database show no automatic or diffusion tube monitors in the area and detailed modelling was not required for the planning permission.

The rear of the property is also shielded from the pollution source by the building can be considered to be located in an area of acceptable air quality. In addition, MCC Air Quality & Planning Technical Guidance states that "New development should be designed to minimise public exposure to pollution sources" and IAQM Guidance states that "it would be reasonable to examine design and ventilation arrangements to reduce the impact of the external environment on occupants in the building".

As such it is considered acceptable and in accordance with good practice to locate air ventilation inlets at the rear of the building. In addition, inlets should be located away from kitchen extract outlets.

The submitted ventilation scheme is therefore considered acceptable from an air quality perspective.

This Technical Note has been produced by Conal Kearney (BEng MSc MIAQM MIEnvSc) Director of Air Quality at Enzygo Ltd