



The impact of the Low Emissions Strategy and Peer Review Group in Tunbridge Wells

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Low Emissions Forum – 25th February 2010

Low Emissions Strategy and Tunbridge Wells



- Portrait of the Borough
- Current air quality constraints
- Transport Issues
- Specific Issues for Tunbridge Wells
- Achievements
- Future Plans and Progress to be made

LOCATION OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS IN THE SOUTH EAST OF ENGLAND



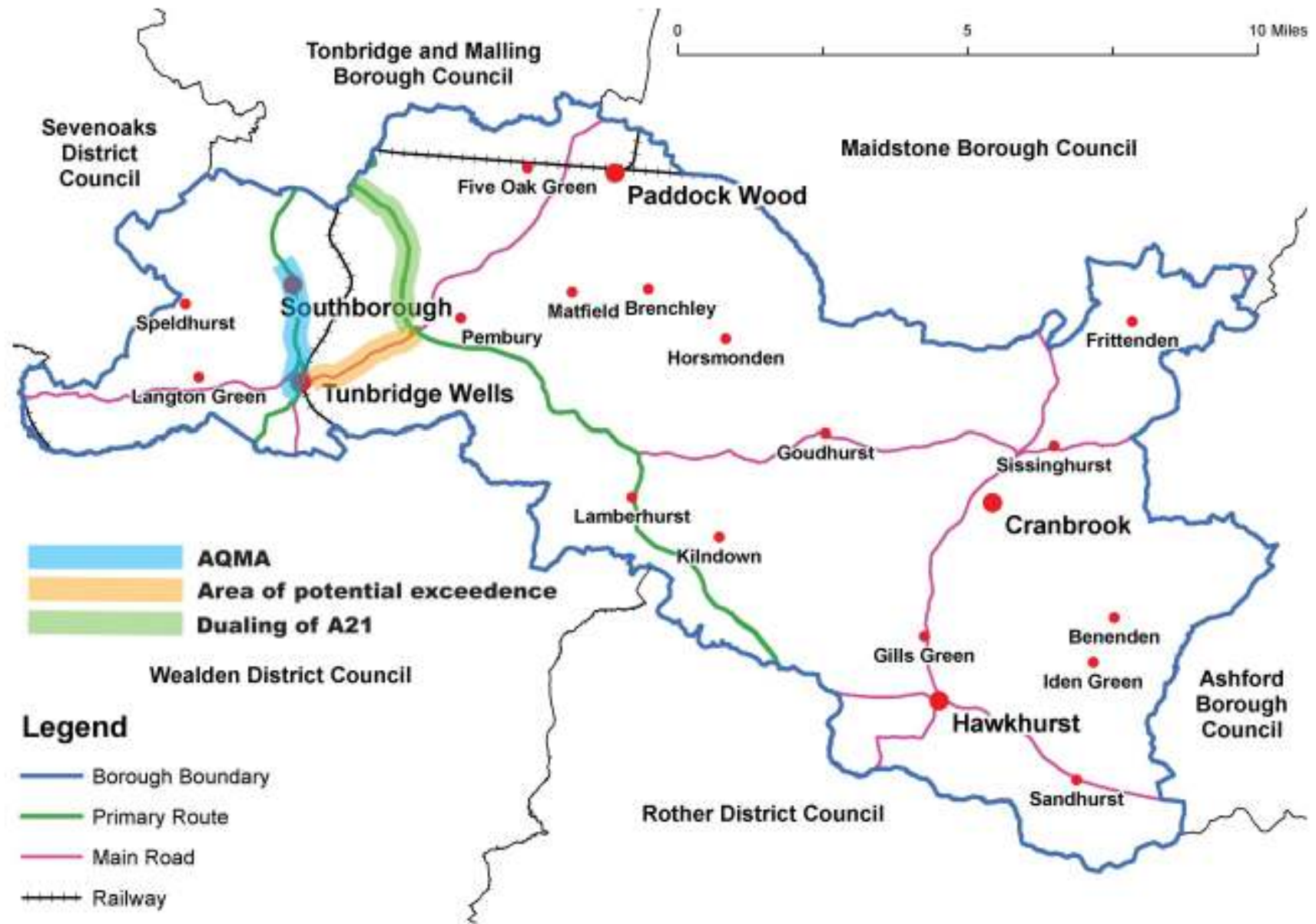
Scale 1:1,490,000

Map dated February 2010



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Portrait of the Borough

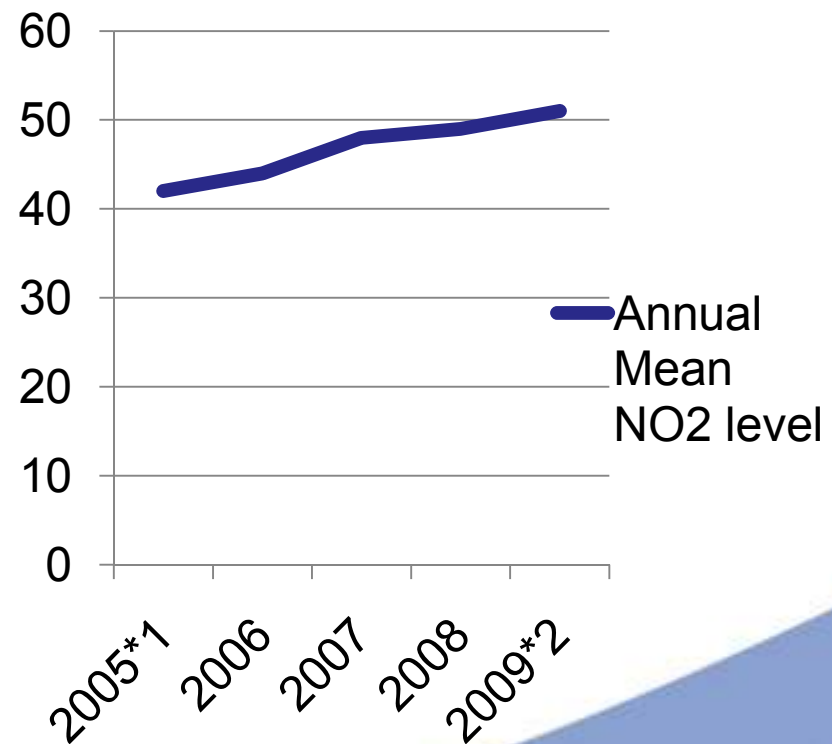


Air Quality Issues



- 1AQMA declared, action plan in the process of adoption.
- Process of extending the AQMA.
- Temporary monitoring along another main road into the town to assess borderline exceedences.

Annual Mean NO₂ level



Transport Issues



- Good rail service to Tonbridge, Sevenoaks and London.
- There are very high levels of car ownership and use within the Borough, with 58% of working residents travelling to work by car (2001 Census).
- TW suffers with congestion particularly on parts of the A21, A26 where an AQMA has been declared and A264 an area for further air quality investigation.

Specific issues for Tunbridge Wells



- Significant developments continue.
- Identified as a regional hub.
- Congestion recognised as significant issue.
- VISUM model due for completion summer 2010.

Specific issues for Tunbridge Wells continued



- Transport and cycling strategy being developed.
- Limited scope for fast tracking busses into town centre, but recognised as key.
- Kent and Medway Air Quality Partnership.

Air Quality Achievements



- Member of the LES Peer Review Group.
- Developed a good relationship with planning.
- Air quality policy hooks within the Core Strategy – includes specific mention to develop LES further. SPD still needs to be developed.

Air Quality Achievements continued



- Links with County transport planning and air quality incorporated within the objectives of the developing local transport strategy.
- S106 successes towards monitoring and action plan work.



Moving on



- Continue to promote air quality issues – planning/transport, links with climate change.
- Action Plan imminent for adoption.
- KMAQP – conference planned for autumn 2010, considering air quality, LES and climate change.

Moving On continued



- Need to progress implementation of SPD.
- Struggling with assessing emissions from development's
- LES Toolkit
- Maintain links with the Peer Review Group/Forum.



Thank You

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