

# air quality

Capita Symonds has the expertise and experience to provide a comprehensive range of professional air quality management and impact assessment services.



Due to the increased recognition of the risks to health and the environment of air pollution, air quality has become a material consideration in planning decisions. Air quality has also become a significant issue to the public who have a decreasing tolerance of airborne nuisance.

Our regulatory knowledge combined with our skills and experience of modelling, the management and interpretation of monitoring programmes and the development and implementation of air quality management plans, enables us to tailor services to meet the environmental and technical needs of a diverse range of projects. Our skills ideally place us to undertake feasibility, impact and mitigation assessments and provide cost effective nuisance assessment and abatement specification advice.

We have experience in undertaking complex assessments in the aviation, road and rail traffic and construction sectors. We also have experience in identifying and resolving odour nuisance issues at wastewater treatment works. Our project portfolio includes assessments of the 2012 Olympic Park, Oxford City Centre redevelopment and the production of an air quality action plan for BAA Gatwick.

Our specialist services include:

- air quality management strategy development
- atmospheric dispersion modelling
- construction impact assessments
- monitoring strategy development and Implementation
- nuisance management
- screening assessments

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## Screening Assessments

The team has extensive experience in assessing existing air quality in relation to the likely impacts of new developments. This enables us to recommend the most cost effective assessment strategy. We have proven expertise in the government recognised DMRB and WebTAG transport screening methodologies.



## Monitoring Strategy Development and Implementation

Monitoring regimes are increasingly becoming a requirement of planning permission. Our team has hands-on experience in the development and deployment of monitoring networks, incorporating both passive and automatic equipment to measure nitrogen dioxide, particulates and dust deposition levels.

## Construction Impact Assessment

Construction activities need to be carried out with minimal impact on surrounding communities. We examine such schemes and recommend mitigation measures to reduce potential impacts on air quality to an acceptable level. Such assessments involve the cooperation of the developer, local authorities and the local communities and we help facilitate this cooperation for air quality issues associated with a construction project.



## Atmospheric Dispersion Modelling

Modelling is undertaken to quantify existing baseline conditions and predict the likely impacts of new developments. Such modelling is used to comply with planning guidance note PPS23, IPPC regulations and individual local authority requirements. The team has the skills and experience to use advanced models (ADMS and AERMOD) to assess the impact of proposed changes in traffic, industrial and nuisance sources on local receptors.

## Air Quality Management Strategy Development

Our skills and experience are used to understand the factors affecting air quality and to identify points of intervention which will deliver improvements. This work requires consultation with all relevant stakeholders to ensure the delivered strategy can be implemented in a cost effective and timely manner. Air quality management strategies are essential tools in ensuring compliance with national and international air quality objectives and standards and in the control of nuisance.



## Nuisance Management

The team has extensive experience in analysing and resolving airborne nuisance issues associated with odour and dust. We provide guidance as to whether a particular issue can be regarded as a nuisance, where and how the nuisance is being generated and how the nuisance can be mitigated. Our independent status allows us to act on behalf of either those who may be responsible for, or those subjected to, a nuisance.

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