

RPS

Air Quality & Climate Change



Air Quality and Climate Change

RPS offers independent expert consultancy advice on all aspects of air quality, odour and climate change to planners and developers, industry, local authorities and government. Air quality is one of the UK Government's headline indicators of sustainability and is often a material consideration for planning applications.

As well as air pollutants having important effects on the health of people and natural ecosystems, we know that the public's expectation for high levels of amenity in their environment has led to less tolerance of nuisance caused by odours and dusts. Added to this, the effects of climate change are predicted to lead to a worsening of some local air quality effects.

RPS Air Quality and Carbon-Footprinting Assessments give:

- Enhanced prospects for obtaining planning permission
- Negotiation of Section 106 agreements for air quality, dust and odour
- Provision of expert witness evidence at Public Inquiries and other proceedings
- Full awareness of regulatory obligations, legal constraints and penalties
- Efficient environmental permitting for industrial processes and waste facilities
- Cost-effective air pollution and greenhouse-gas mitigation options

Practical Solutions to Complex Problems

Our assessments may cover the impact of developments on the surrounding environment or the suitability of the proposed site for the type of development in question. The RPS Air Quality and Climate Change Team can address the full range of air pollutants, including industrial emissions, road traffic, odour, bioaerosols, construction dust, and greenhouse gases using sophisticated modelling and monitoring tools. RPS' Carbon Footprinting assessments are a powerful tool in your Carbon Risk Management process, allowing you to focus on reducing the most significant sources of carbon and showing you the implications of different design options over a building's lifetime. Provision of a carbon footprint with a planning application demonstrates commitment to climate-change objectives.

Our clients work in:

- Planning and development
- Local authorities
- Waste management companies
- Manufacturing and process industries
- Transport and infrastructure
- Power generation
- Oil and gas
- Water and wastewater
- Government and legal

RPS is delighted to work with clients of all sizes, including some of the best-known businesses in their sectors.

RPS' Air Quality and Climate Change Team prides itself on a speedy, effective response:

"Many thanks indeed from all our clients for pulling out all the stops to get the Assessment to us by last Friday, enabling us to copy it straight to the planning authority. We are happy with the Assessment and your efforts are greatly appreciated".

*Anthony John Moore, ATP, RIBA, DipTP,
The Moore Project - Consultant Architects*

What sets us apart

What sets RPS' Air Quality and Climate Change consultants apart is that we go out of our way to understand every client's specific needs and apply our expert knowledge in practical ways.

We recommend real, practical solutions, ranging from dust mitigation measures during construction, to advice on building ventilation solutions to safeguard future occupants from exposure to road traffic pollution.

Our practical advice for industrial developments covers day-to-day good practice, such as Odour Management Plans (OMPs), Dust Action Plans for quarries and minerals works, Construction Environmental Management Plans (CEMPs), and complex assessments of Best Available Techniques (BAT) to abate emissions from installations falling under the Environmental Permitting Regulations. To help our clients with their Carbon Risk Management, we have developed bespoke methods to quantify carbon in operational, transport and waste-management activities, as well as embodied carbon.

By providing bespoke solutions and recommendations backed-up by the resources and diversity of the wider RPS Group, we ensure that our clients can really benefit.

RPS Modelling Capabilities:

- Screening models, such as DMRB
- Advanced atmospheric dispersion models
- Human health risk and population exposure assessments
- Critical load/level assessments for sensitive ecosystems
- Reverse modelling of odour sources from field measurements
- Waste facilities, including EfWs, composting, MBT and landfill
- Minerals extraction, quarries
- Aircraft emissions
- Stack height determinations
- Regional air quality modelling

RPS Monitoring Capabilities:

- Design of monitoring strategies and protocols
- Baseline and post-development ambient monitoring surveys
- Monitoring of the full range of particulate and gaseous pollutants
- Monitoring of odour impacts
- Monitoring of nuisance dust
- MCERTS-qualified stack emission monitoring

Expert witness and Consultation

- Provision of expert witness evidence at Public Inquiries and other proceedings
- Negotiation of Section 106 agreements for air quality, dust and odour
- Consultation with regulatory technical specialists
- Independent peer review



RPS is a corporate member of Environmental Protection UK (EPUK) and the International Air Pollution Standing Conference (IAPSC), an assessor member of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA), and is accredited under the UK Environment Agency's Monitoring Certification Scheme (MCERTS). All RPS projects are undertaken in accordance with quality standard BS EN ISO 9001.

Related services

- Health Impact Assessments
- Sustainability
- Environmental Permitting
- Acoustics, Noise and Vibration

Contact us

- Please call us on 01273 546800 with your outline needs for an informal discussion on how we can meet your requirements.
- If you would like more detail about any of the specific services we offer, email your particular area of interest to us at air@rpsgroup.com and we will provide, by return, a detailed fact sheet.

