

Odour from Poultry Units

Lumgair Poultry made application to Angus Council for planning permission to construct an intensive livestock unit to house 23,000 broiler chickens at Bractullo Farm, Letham, Angus as an extension to an established poultry business.

The local Environmental Health Department insisted that a quantitative odour impact assessment would be required to enable the application to be determined. The nearest sensitive receptor off-site was approximately 190m from the proposed new poultry house.

Odour impacts were based on pessimistic emission assumptions. An advanced dispersion model (ADMS 4.1) was used to predict odour at sensitive receptors using five years of hourly sequential meteorological data. The local topography had a slight beneficial effect in aiding dispersion.

There is significant uncertainty in the odour emissions that may arise from the normal operation of a poultry unit. Accordingly a conservative approach was adopted in the study. The worst case impact assessment indicated that odour from the proposed unit (including existing operations) was unlikely to exceed $3 \text{ OU}_E/\text{m}^3$ 1 hour 98%ile at the nearest receptor, based on these pessimistic assumptions.

The application was approved by Angus Council. The applicant subsequently commissioned The Airshed to conduct a further assessment for a second unit. The Airshed advised on the optimum location and capacity constraints for this second unit to minimise potential cumulative impacts and this further application was also successful.

