Air Quality Objectives

National air quality objectives and European Directive limit and target values for the protection of human health						
Pollutant	**Applies**	**Objective**	**Concentration measures as^1**	**Date to be achieved by (and maintained thereafter)**	**European Obligations**	**Date to be achieved by (and maintained thereafter)EO**
Particles (PM_{10})	UK	50 µg/m³ not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	24 hour mean	31 December 2004	50 µg/m³ not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	01 January 2005
Particles (PM_{10})	UK	40 µg/m³	annual mean	31 December 2004	40 µg/m³	01 January 2005
Particles (PM_{10})	Scotland	50 µg/m³ not to be exceeded more than 7 times a year	24 hour mean	31 December 2010	50 µg/m³ not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	01 January 2005
Particles (PM_{10})	Scotland	18 µg/m³	annual mean	31 December 2010	40 µg/m³	01 January 2005
Particles ($PM_{2.5}$) Exposure reduction	UK (except Scotland)	25 µg/m³	annual mean	01 January 2020	Target value - 25µg/m³	01 January 2010
Particles ($PM_{2.5}$) Exposure reduction	Scotland	10 µg/m³	annual mean	31 December 2020	Limit value - 25µg/m³	01 January 2015
Particles ($PM_{2.5}$) Exposure reduction	UK urban areas	Target of 15% reduction in concentrations at urban background	annual mean	Between 2010 and 2020	Target of 20% reduction in concentrations at urban background	Between 2010 and 2020
Nitrogen dioxide	UK	200 µg/m³ not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	1 hour mean	31 December 2005	200 µg/m³ not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	01 January 2010
Nitrogen dioxide	UK	40 µg/m³	annual mean	31 December 2005	40 µg/m³	01 January 2010
Ozone	UK	100 µg/m³ not to be exceeded more than 10 times a year	8 hour mean	31 December 2005	Target if 120 µg/m³ not to be exceeded by my more than 25 times a year averaged over 3 years	31 December 2010
Sulphur dioxide	UK	266 µg/m³ not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	15 minute mean	31 December 2005	-	-
Sulphur dioxide	UK	350 µg/m³ not to be exceeded more than 24 times a year	1 hour mean	31 December 2004	350 µg/m³ not to be exceeded more than 24 times a year	01 January 2005
Sulphur dioxide	UK	125 µg/m³ not to be exceeded more than 3 times a year	24 hour mean	31 December 2004	125 µg/m³ not to be exceeded more than 3 times a year	01 January 2005
Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons	UK	0.25 ng/m³ B[a]P	as annual average	31 December 2012	1.0 ng/m³	31 December 2012
Benzene	UK	16.25 µg/m³	running annual mean	31 December 2003	-	-
Benzene	England and Wales	5 µg/m³	annual average	31 December 2010	5 µg/m³	01 January 2010
Benzene	Scotland and Northern Ireland	3.25 µg/m³	running annual mean	31 December 2010	-	-
1,3-butadiene	UK	2.25 µg/m³	running annual mean	31 December 2003	-	-
Carbon monoxide	UK	10 mg/m³	maximum daily running 8 hour mean/in Scotland as running 8 hour mean	31 December 2003	10 mg/m³	01 January 2005
Lead	UK	0.5 µg/m³	annual mean	31 December 2004	0.5 µg/m³	01 January 2005
Lead	UK	0.25 µg/m³	annual mean	31 December 2008	-	-
Nitrogen oxides	UK	30 µg/m³	annual mean	31 December 2000	30 µg/m³	19 July 2001
Sulphur dioxide	UK	20 µg/m³	annual mean	31 December 2000	20 µg/m³	19 July 2001
Sulphur dioxide	UK	20 µg/m³	winter average	31 December 2000	20 µg/m³	19 July 2001
Ozone - protection of vegetation and ecosystems	UK	Target value of 18,000 µg/m³ based on AOT40 to be calculated from 1 hour values from May to July and to ve achieved so far as possible by 2010	Average over 5 years	01 January 2010	Target value of 18,000 µg/m³ based on AOT40 to be calculated from 1 hour values from May to July and to ve achieved so far as possible by 2010	01 January 2010