

**Table 2**

National air quality objectives and European Directive limit and target values for the protection of human health							
Pollutant	Applies	Objective	Concentration measured as <sup>10</sup>	Date to be achieved by and maintained thereafter	European obligations	Date to be achieved by and maintained thereafter	New or existing
Particulates (PM <sub>10</sub> )	UK	50µg.m <sup>-3</sup> not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	24 hour mean	31 December 2004	50µg.m <sup>-3</sup> not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	1 January 2005	Retain existing
	UK	40µg.m <sup>-3</sup>	annual mean	31 December 2004	40µg.m <sup>-3</sup>	1 January 2005	
	Indicative 2010 objectives for PM <sub>10</sub> (from the 2000 Strategy and 2003 Addendum) have been replaced by an exposure reduction approach for PM <sub>2.5</sub> (except in Scotland – see below)						
Particulates (PM <sub>2.5</sub> )	Scotland	50µg.m <sup>-3</sup> not to be exceeded more than 7 times a year	24 hour mean	31 December 2010			Retain existing
	Scotland	18µg.m <sup>-3</sup>	annual mean	31 December 2010			
	UK (except Scotland)	25µg.m <sup>-3</sup>		2020	Target value 25µg.m <sup>-3</sup> <sup>12</sup>	2010	
Particulates (PM <sub>2.5</sub> ) Exposure Reduction	Scotland	12µg.m <sup>-3</sup>	annual mean	2020	Limit value 25µg.m <sup>-3</sup>	2015	New (European obligations still under negotiation)
	UK urban areas	Target of 15% reduction in concentrations at urban background <sup>11</sup>		Between 2010 and 2020	Target of 20% reduction in concentrations at urban background	Between 2010 and 2020	
Nitrogen dioxide	UK	200µg.m <sup>-3</sup> not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	1 hour mean	31 December 2005	200µg.m <sup>-3</sup> not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	1 January 2010	Retain existing
	UK	40µg.m <sup>-3</sup>	annual mean	31 December 2005	40µg.m <sup>-3</sup>	1 January 2010	
Ozone	UK	100µg.m <sup>-3</sup> not to be exceeded more than 10 times a year	8 hour mean	31 December 2005	Target of 120µg.m <sup>-3</sup> not to be exceeded more than 25 times a year averaged over 3 years	31 December 2010	Retain existing

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Sulphur dioxide	UK	266 $\mu\text{g.m}^{-3}$ not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	15 minute mean	31 December 2005			
	UK	350 $\mu\text{g.m}^{-3}$ not to be exceeded more than 24 times a year	1 hour mean	31 December 2004	350 $\mu\text{g.m}^{-3}$ not to be exceeded more than 24 times a year	1 January 2005	Retain existing
	UK	125 $\mu\text{g.m}^{-3}$ not to be exceeded more than 3 times a year	24 hour mean	31 December 2004	125 $\mu\text{g.m}^{-3}$ not to be exceeded more than 3 times a year	1 January 2005	
Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons	UK	0.25 $\text{ng.m}^{-3}$ B[a]P	as annual average	31 December 2010	Target of 1 $\text{ng.m}^{-3}$	31 December 2012	Retain existing
Benzene	UK	16.25 $\mu\text{g.m}^{-3}$	running annual mean	31 December 2003			Retain existing
	England and Wales	5 $\mu\text{g.m}^{-3}$	annual average	31 December 2010	5 $\mu\text{g.m}^{-3}$	1 January 2010	
	Scotland, Northern Ireland	3.25 $\mu\text{g.m}^{-3}$	running annual mean	31 December 2010			
1,3- butadiene	UK	2.25 $\mu\text{g.m}^{-3}$	running annual mean	31 December 2003			Retain existing
Carbon monoxide	UK	10 $\text{mg.m}^{-3}$	maximum daily running 8 hour mean/in Scotland as running 8 hour mean	31 December 2003	10 $\text{mg.m}^{-3}$	1 January 2005	Retain existing
Lead	UK	0.5 $\mu\text{g.m}^{-3}$	annual mean	31 December 2004		1 January 2005	Retain existing
		0.25 $\mu\text{g.m}^{-3}$	annual mean	31 December 2008			

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National air quality objectives and European Directive limit and target values for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems							
Nitrogen oxides	UK	30µg.m <sup>-3</sup>	annual mean	31 December 2000	30µg.m <sup>-3</sup>	19 July 2001	Retain existing in accordance with 1 <sup>st</sup> Daughter Directive
Sulphur dioxide	UK	20µg.m <sup>-3</sup>	annual mean	31 December 2000	20µg.m <sup>-3</sup>	19 July 2001	Retain existing in accordance with 1 <sup>st</sup> Daughter Directive
	UK	20µg.m <sup>-3</sup>	winter average	31 December 2000	20µg.m <sup>-3</sup>	19 July 2001	
Ozone: protection of vegetation & ecosystems	UK	Target value of 18,000µg m <sup>-3</sup> based on AOT40 to be calculated from 1 hour values from May to July, and to be achieved, so far as possible, by 2010	Average over 5 years	1 January 2010	Target value of 18,000µg m <sup>-3</sup> based on AOT40 to be calculated from 1 hour values from May to July, and to be achieved, so far as possible, by 2010	1 January 2010	New EU target