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Air Pollution in the UK 2014

Compliance Assessment Summary

September 2015



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



A report prepared by Ricardo Energy & Environment for Defra and the Devolved Administrations.

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Executive Summary

The UK is required to report air quality data on an annual basis under the following European Directives:

- The Council Directive on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe (2008/50/EC).
- The Fourth Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC) under the Air Quality Framework Directive (1996/62/EC).

This document has been prepared to accompany and summarise the UK's 2014 submission on air quality to the European Commission. It presents a summary of the UK's compliance with the above Directives, based upon measurements from national air pollution monitoring networks and air pollution modelling. This includes details of the exceedances reported in 2014.

This document is an extract from a larger report, 'Air Pollution in the UK 2014', which, in addition to the compliance summary, also provides background information on the pollutants covered by these Directives and the UK's own Air Quality Strategy; their sources, effects, how they are measured and modelled in the UK, and details of their spatial distribution and changes over time.

These data are reported on behalf of Defra (the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) and the Devolved Administrations of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

For the purposes of air quality monitoring, the UK is divided into 43 zones. The 2014 results can be summarised as follows:

- The UK met the EU limit values for sulphur dioxide.
- The UK met the limit value for hourly mean nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) in all but two zones.
- 13 zones were compliant with the limit value for annual mean NO₂ (or the limit value plus margin of tolerance where a time extension was in place). Of these 13 compliant zones, five were within the limit value, and a further eight were covered by a time extension and were within the limit value plus the applicable margin of tolerance. The remaining 30 zones exceeded the limit value (or limit value plus margin of tolerance where applicable).
- After subtraction of the contribution from natural sources all zones met the limit value for daily mean concentration of PM₁₀ particulate matter.
- All zones met the limit value for annual mean concentration of PM₁₀ particulate matter.
- All zones met the target value for annual mean concentration of PM_{2.5} particulate matter, and the Stage 1 limit value, which came into force on 1st January 2015. After subtraction of the natural contribution, one zone did not meet the Stage 2 limit value which must be met by 2020.
- All zones met both the target values for ozone; the target value based on the maximum daily eight-hour mean, and the target value based on the AOT40 statistic.
- Thirty-two zones exceeded the long-term objective for ozone, set for the protection of human health. This is based on the maximum daily eight-hour mean.
- Three zones exceeded the long-term objective for ozone, set for the protection of vegetation. This is based on the AOT40 statistic.
- Three zones exceeded the target value for nickel in 2014.
- Six zones exceeded the target value for benzo[a]pyrene in 2014.

A summary of the air quality assessment for 2014, with a comparison of the submissions carried out in the previous years (since 2008 when the Air Quality Directive came into force) can be found in sections 3 and 4 of this Compliance Assessment Summary. Copies of those previous annual submissions can be found on the Commission website: <http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/gb/eu/annualair>. For more information on air quality in the UK visit the Defra website at www.gov.uk/defra and the UK Air Quality websites at <http://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/>, www.scottishairquality.co.uk, www.welshairquality.co.uk and www.airqualityni.co.uk.

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1 Introduction

A cleaner, healthier environment benefits people and the economy. Clean air is vital for people's health and the environment, essential for making sure our cities are welcoming places for people to live and work now and in the future, and to our prosperity. It is therefore important to monitor levels of air pollution. Furthermore, all Member States of the European Union (EU) must comply with Directive 2008/50/EC on Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe¹ (referred to as 'the Air Quality Directive') and the Fourth Air Quality Daughter Directive² (2004/107/EC). These Directives require all Member States, including the UK, to undertake air quality assessment, and to report the findings to the European Commission on an annual basis.

The UK has statutory monitoring networks in place to meet the requirements of these Directives, with air quality modelling used to supplement the monitored data. The results must be submitted to the European Commission each year. From 2013 onwards, the air quality compliance assessment has been submitted to the Commission via e-Reporting (a process developed by the European Commission, for reporting of compliance and provision of data). The UK's annual submission for 2014 can be found on the Commission website at <http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/gb/eu/aqd>. All the compliance results are reported under 'Information on the Attainment of Environmental Objectives' in e-Reporting Data Flow G. Submissions for years up to and including 2012 (which were in the form of a standard questionnaire) can be found at <http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/gb/eu/annualair>.

This document presents an assessment of the UK's compliance with the limit values, target values and long term objectives set out in the Air Quality Directive and the 4th Daughter Directive. It then provides a comparison with previous recent years. This is based upon the data submitted to the European Commission.

Links to the EU Directives on ambient air quality are provided on Defra's web pages at www.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/air/air-quality/eu/. The Air Quality Directive itself can also be found at <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:152:0001:0044:EN:PDF>.

Further information on air quality in the UK can be found on Defra's online UK Air Information Resource (UK-AIR), at <http://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/>.

2 Definition of Zones

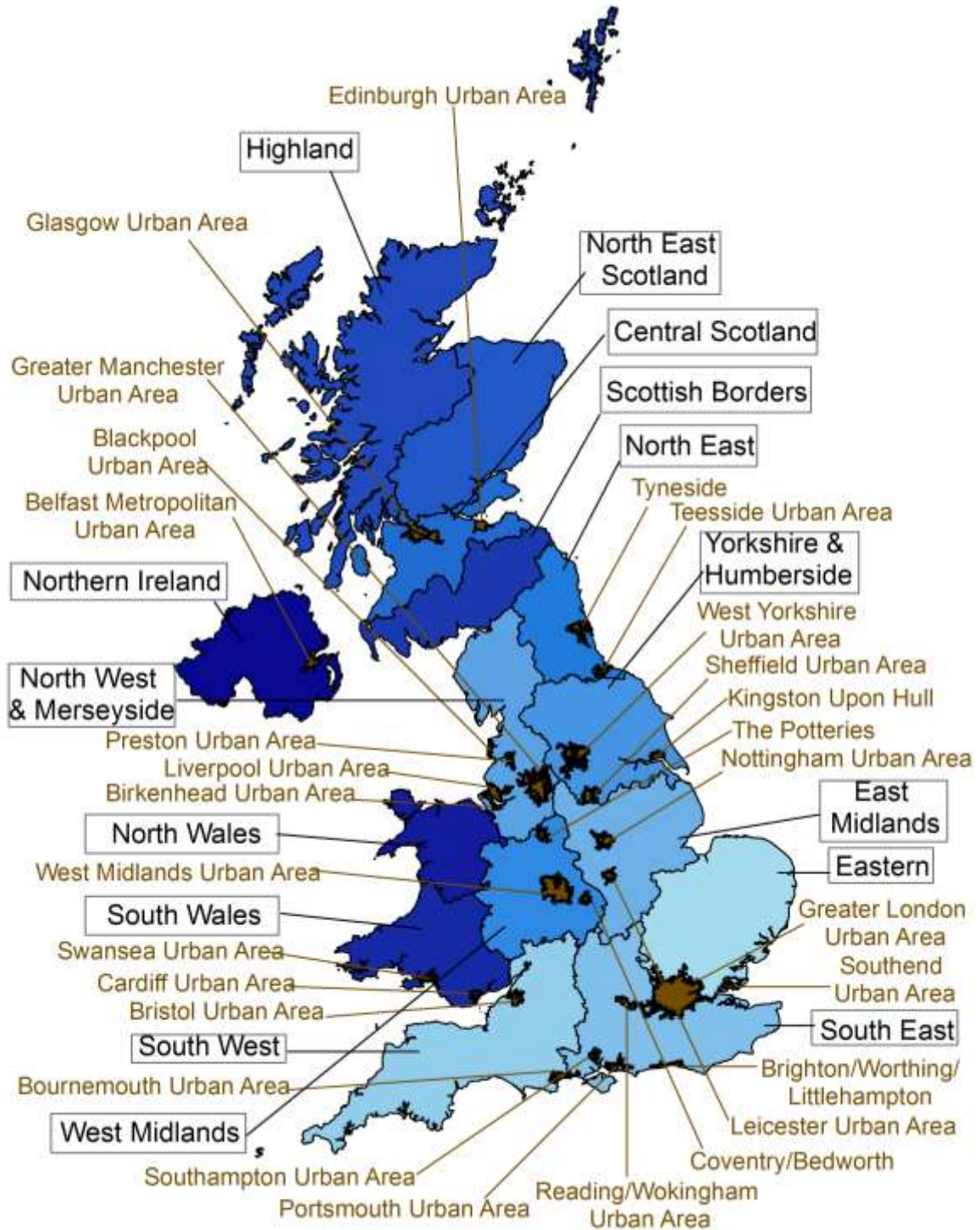
The UK is divided into 43 zones for air quality assessment. There are 28 agglomeration zones (large urban areas) and 15 non-agglomeration zones. Each zone is assigned an identification code. Zones are listed in Table 2-1 and shown in Figure 2-1.

Table 2-1 UK Zones and Agglomerations for Ambient Air Quality Reporting 2014

Zone	Zone code	Ag or Non-ag*
Greater London Urban Area	UK0001	Ag
West Midlands Urban Area	UK0002	Ag
Greater Manchester Urban Area	UK0003	Ag
West Yorkshire Urban Area	UK0004	Ag
Tyneside	UK0005	Ag
Liverpool Urban Area	UK0006	Ag
Sheffield Urban Area	UK0007	Ag
Nottingham Urban Area	UK0008	Ag
Bristol Urban Area	UK0009	Ag
Brighton/Worthing/Littlehampton	UK0010	Ag
Leicester Urban Area	UK0011	Ag
Portsmouth Urban Area	UK0012	Ag
Teesside Urban Area	UK0013	Ag
The Potteries	UK0014	Ag
Bournemouth Urban Area	UK0015	Ag
Reading/Wokingham Urban Area	UK0016	Ag
Coventry/Bedworth	UK0017	Ag
Kingston upon Hull	UK0018	Ag
Southampton Urban Area	UK0019	Ag
Birkenhead Urban Area	UK0020	Ag
Southend Urban Area	UK0021	Ag
Blackpool Urban Area	UK0022	Ag
Preston Urban Area	UK0023	Ag
Glasgow Urban Area	UK0024	Ag
Edinburgh Urban Area	UK0025	Ag
Cardiff Urban Area	UK0026	Ag
Swansea Urban Area	UK0027	Ag
Belfast Metropolitan Urban Area	UK0028	Ag
Eastern	UK0029	Non-ag
South West	UK0030	Non-ag
South East	UK0031	Non-ag
East Midlands	UK0032	Non-ag
North West & Merseyside	UK0033	Non-ag
Yorkshire & Humberside	UK0034	Non-ag
West Midlands	UK0035	Non-ag
North East	UK0036	Non-ag
Central Scotland	UK0037	Non-ag
North East Scotland	UK0038	Non-ag
Highland	UK0039	Non-ag
Scottish Borders	UK0040	Non-ag
South Wales	UK0041	Non-ag
North Wales	UK0042	Non-ag
Northern Ireland	UK0043	Non-ag

Ag = agglomeration zone, Non-ag = non-agglomeration zone

Figure 2-1 UK Zones and Agglomerations for Ambient Air Quality Reporting 2014



Agglomeration zones (brown)
Non-agglomeration zones (blue)

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3 Air Quality Assessment for 2014

The air quality assessment for each pollutant is derived from a combination of measured and modelled concentrations. Where both measurements and model results are available the assessment of compliance for each zone is based on the higher concentration of the two.

Starting with the 2013 dataset, the air quality compliance assessment has been submitted to the European Commission via e-Reporting. All the compliance results come under 'Information on the Attainment of Environmental Objectives' in e-Reporting Data Flow G.

The results of the air quality assessment submitted to the European Commission are summarised in the tables below. The tables have been completed as follows:

- Where all measurements were within the relevant limit values in 2014, the table shows this as 'OK'.
- Where a margin of tolerance is applicable, if some or all measurements were above the limit value, but within the limit value plus margin of tolerance, the table shows this as ' \leq LV +MOT'.
- In the above cases, where compliance was determined by modelling or supplementary assessment, this is indicated by '(m)' – i.e. 'OK (m)' or ' \leq LV +MOT (m)' as appropriate.
- Where locations were identified as exceeding a limit value, limit value plus margin of tolerance, target value or long-term objective, this is identified as '>LV', '>LV+MOT', '>TV' or '>LTO' as applicable.
- Where a non-compliance was determined by modelling or supplementary assessment, this is indicated by (m), as above.

Zones that complied with the relevant limit values, targets or long-term objectives are shaded blue, while those that did not are shaded red.

Where a time extension has been granted, and a margin of tolerance applies, zones that exceeded the relevant limit value but not the limit value plus margin of tolerance are shaded orange. For ozone, zones that met the relevant target value but not the long-term objective are shaded purple.

The abbreviation 'n/a' (not applicable) means that an assessment is not relevant for this zone, such as for the NO_x vegetation critical level in agglomeration zones.

3.1 Directive 2008/50/EC on Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe

Sulphur dioxide (SO₂): In 2014, all zones and agglomerations within the UK complied with the limit values for 1-hour mean and 24-hour mean SO₂ concentration, set for protection of human health.

All non-agglomeration zones within the UK also complied with the critical levels for annual mean and winter mean SO₂ concentration, set for protection of ecosystems. (These are not applicable to built-up areas).

Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂): not all zones and agglomerations were compliant with the limit values. The results of the air quality assessment for nitrogen dioxide for each zone are summarised in Table 3-1.

Two zones had locations where the 1-hour limit value (200 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) was exceeded on more than the permitted 18 occasions during 2014: Greater London Urban Area (UK0001) and South Wales (UK0041). The remaining 41 zones and agglomerations complied with the 1-hour mean NO₂ limit value.

Five zones **met** the annual mean limit value for NO₂ in 2014:

- Blackpool Urban Area (UK0022),

- Preston Urban Area (UK0023),
- Highland (UK0039),
- Scottish Borders (UK0040),
- Northern Ireland (UK0043).

The remaining 38 zones had locations with measured or modelled annual mean NO₂ concentrations higher than the annual mean limit value (40 µg m⁻³).

The UK was originally granted a time extension for compliance with the NO₂ annual mean limit value in the following 13 zones and agglomerations;

- Nottingham Urban Area (UK0008),
- Leicester Urban Area (UK0011),
- Portsmouth Urban Area (UK0012),
- Reading/Wokingham Urban Area (UK0016) – ended 1st January 2013,
- Birkenhead Urban Area (UK0020),
- Southend Urban Area (UK0021),
- Preston Urban Area (UK0023) – ended 1st January 2014,
- Edinburgh Urban Area (UK0025),
- Cardiff Urban Area (UK0026),
- Swansea Urban Area (UK0027) – ended 1st January 2014,
- Central Scotland zone (UK0037),
- North Wales zone (UK0042), and
- Northern Ireland zone (UK0043) – ended 1st January 2014.

Where a time extension is in place, Article 2 of the Commission Decision of 26th June 2012 requires the UK to provide the Commission with data indicating that the concentrations in these zones have remained below 60 µg m⁻³: this is the annual limit value (40 µg m⁻³) plus the maximum margin of tolerance specified in Annex XI to Directive 2008/50/EC (20 µg m⁻³).

As indicated above, the extension for Reading/Wokingham Urban Area ended on 1st January 2013, and extensions for Preston Urban Area, Swansea Urban Area and the Northern Ireland zone ended on 1st January 2014. These four zones' time extensions are therefore not relevant to the period covered by this report. The remaining nine zones' extensions ended on 1st January 2015: therefore 2014 was the last year for which any of the above time extensions applied. Consequently, the number of zones reported as exceeding this limit value may increase in 2015.

The following eight zones exceeded the annual mean limit value, but were within the annual mean limit value plus margin of tolerance in 2014:

- Leicester Urban Area (UK0011),
- Portsmouth Urban Area (UK0012),
- Birkenhead Urban Area (UK0020),
- Southend Urban Area (UK0021),
- Edinburgh Urban Area (UK0025),
- Cardiff Urban Area (UK0026),
- Central Scotland (UK0037), and
- North Wales (UK0042).

Therefore, a total of 13 zones and agglomerations were compliant either with the annual mean NO₂ limit value, or where applicable the annual mean limit value plus margin of tolerance. The remaining 30 zones and agglomerations exceeded the annual mean limit value, or annual mean limit value plus margin of tolerance.

All non-agglomeration zones within the UK complied with the critical level for annual mean NO_x concentration, set for protection of vegetation.

Table 3-1 Results of Air Quality Assessment for Nitrogen Dioxide in 2014

Zone	Zone code	NO ₂ LV for health (1hr mean)	NO ₂ LV for health (annual mean)	NO _x critical level for vegetation (annual mean)
Greater London Urban Area	UK0001	> LV	> LV	n/a
West Midlands Urban Area	UK0002	OK	> LV	n/a
Greater Manchester Urban Area	UK0003	OK	> LV (m)	n/a
West Yorkshire Urban Area	UK0004	OK	> LV	n/a
Tyneside	UK0005	OK	> LV	n/a
Liverpool Urban Area	UK0006	OK	> LV (m)	n/a
Sheffield Urban Area	UK0007	OK	> LV (m)	n/a
Nottingham Urban Area *	UK0008	OK	> LV + MOT (m)	n/a
Bristol Urban Area	UK0009	OK	> LV (m)	n/a
Brighton/Worthing/Littlehampton	UK0010	OK	> LV (m)	n/a
Leicester Urban Area *	UK0011	OK	≤ LV + MOT (m)	n/a
Portsmouth Urban Area *	UK0012	OK	≤ LV + MOT (m)	n/a
Teesside Urban Area	UK0013	OK	> LV (m)	n/a
The Potteries	UK0014	OK	> LV (m)	n/a
Bournemouth Urban Area	UK0015	OK	> LV (m)	n/a
Reading/Wokingham Urban Area	UK0016	OK	> LV (m)	n/a
Coventry/Bedworth	UK0017	OK	> LV (m)	n/a
Kingston upon Hull	UK0018	OK	> LV (m)	n/a
Southampton Urban Area	UK0019	OK	> LV (m)	n/a
Birkenhead Urban Area *	UK0020	OK	≤ LV + MOT (m)	n/a
Southend Urban Area *	UK0021	OK	≤ LV + MOT (m)	n/a
Blackpool Urban Area	UK0022	OK	OK	n/a
Preston Urban Area	UK0023	OK	OK	n/a
Glasgow Urban Area	UK0024	OK	> LV	n/a
Edinburgh Urban Area *	UK0025	OK	≤ LV + MOT (m)	n/a
Cardiff Urban Area *	UK0026	OK	≤ LV + MOT (m)	n/a
Swansea Urban Area	UK0027	OK	> LV (m)	n/a
Belfast Metropolitan Urban Area	UK0028	OK	> LV	n/a
Eastern	UK0029	OK	> LV (m)	OK
South West	UK0030	OK	> LV	OK
South East	UK0031	OK	> LV	OK
East Midlands	UK0032	OK	> LV (m)	OK
North West & Merseyside	UK0033	OK	> LV (m)	OK (m)
Yorkshire & Humberside	UK0034	OK	> LV (m)	OK
West Midlands	UK0035	OK	> LV (m)	OK (m)
North East	UK0036	OK	> LV (m)	OK (m)
Central Scotland *	UK0037	OK	≤ LV + MOT (m)	OK (m)
North East Scotland	UK0038	OK	> LV	OK (m)
Highland	UK0039	OK	OK	OK (m)
Scottish Borders	UK0040	OK	OK	OK
South Wales	UK0041	> LV	> LV	OK
North Wales*	UK0042	OK	≤ LV + MOT (m)	OK
Northern Ireland	UK0043	OK	OK	OK (m)

LV = limit value, MOT = margin of tolerance, (m) indicates that the compliance or exceedance was determined by modelling.

Asterisk (*) indicates a time extension in place during 2014.

PM₁₀ Particulate matter: all zones and agglomerations were compliant with the annual mean limit value of 40 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ for PM₁₀. After subtraction of the natural source contribution, all zones and agglomerations were compliant with the daily mean limit value. The results of the air quality assessment for PM₁₀ for each zone, with respect to the daily mean and annual mean limit values, are summarised in Table 3-2.

Under Section 20 of the Air Quality Directive, Member States are required to inform the Commission where exceedances of PM₁₀ limit values are due to natural sources, and where this is the case, the exceedance does not count as non-compliance. Prior to subtraction of contributions from natural sources the Greater London zone (UK0001) exceeded the daily limit value (50 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) on more than the permitted 35 occasions in 2014 (as assessed by modelling). Following subtraction of the natural source contribution, the number of exceedances was reduced from 37 to 27 days. Therefore, all zones were compliant with the daily mean limit value. *In Table 3-2, natural source contribution has only been subtracted for Greater London (UK0001).*

PM_{2.5} Particulate matter: All zones met the target value for annual mean concentration of PM_{2.5} particulate matter, and the Stage 1 limit value, which came into force on 1st January 2015. After subtraction of the natural contribution, one zone did not meet the Stage 2 limit value which must be met by 2020. Annual mean concentrations of PM_{2.5} were within the Stage 2 limit value of 20 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ in the remaining 42 zones and agglomerations.

The results of the air quality assessment for PM_{2.5} for each zone are summarised in Table 3-3. This table includes the target value (25 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ to be achieved by 1st Jan 2010), the Stage 1 limit value (25 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ to be achieved by 1st Jan 2015) and the Stage 2 limit value (20 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ to be achieved by 1st Jan 2020). All three apply to the calendar year mean.

PM_{2.5} contributions due to natural events (1999/30/EC Article 5(4)) or natural contributions (2008/50/EC Article 20) have been removed from the PM_{2.5} exceedance listed in Table 3-3 in the following case:

- Exceedance of the Stage 2 limit value in Greater London Urban Area (UK0001) based upon the modelling assessment only. This exceedance remains even after subtraction of the natural contribution (sea salt).

Natural contributions have *only* been removed where there was an exceedance, i.e. only for Greater London and only for the Stage 2 limit value.

Under the Air Quality Directive, Member States will be required to achieve a national exposure reduction target for PM_{2.5}, over the period 2010 to 2020. This is based on the Average Exposure Indicator (AEI) statistic. The AEI for the UK is calculated as follows: the arithmetic mean PM_{2.5} concentration at appropriate UK urban background sites only is calculated for three consecutive calendar years, and the mean of these values taken as the AEI.

The AEI for the reference year (2010) was used to determine the National Exposure Reduction Target (NERT), to be achieved by 2020 (see Annex XIV of the Air Quality Directive). The UK's reference year AEI was 13 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$; on this basis, the Air Quality Directive sets an exposure reduction target of 15%. This equates to reducing the AEI to 11 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ by 2020. (The detailed methodology and results of this calculation are presented in Defra's technical report on UK air quality assessment³.)

The AEI for the reference year 2015 is set at 20 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ as an Exposure Concentration Obligation (ECO) in the Air Quality Directive. The UK already meets this obligation. There are no obligations or target values for the years *between* 2010, 2015 and 2020, but the running AEIs for these intervening years give an indication of progress towards the 2020 target. The running year AEI for 2014 was calculated as follows:

- 2012: 12 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$
- 2013: 12 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$
- 2014: 12 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$.

The mean of these three values (to the nearest integer) is 12 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$.

Table 3-2 Results of Air Quality Assessment for PM₁₀ in 2014 (after subtraction of contribution from natural sources where applicable).

Zone	Zone code	PM ₁₀ LV (daily mean)	PM ₁₀ LV (annual mean)
Greater London Urban Area	UK0001	OK	OK
West Midlands Urban Area	UK0002	OK	OK
Greater Manchester Urban Area	UK0003	OK	OK
West Yorkshire Urban Area	UK0004	OK	OK
Tyneside	UK0005	OK	OK
Liverpool Urban Area	UK0006	OK	OK
Sheffield Urban Area	UK0007	OK	OK
Nottingham Urban Area	UK0008	OK	OK
Bristol Urban Area	UK0009	OK	OK
Brighton/Worthing/Littlehampton	UK0010	OK (m)	OK (m)
Leicester Urban Area	UK0011	OK (m)	OK (m)
Portsmouth Urban Area	UK0012	OK	OK
Teesside Urban Area	UK0013	OK	OK
The Potteries	UK0014	OK	OK
Bournemouth Urban Area	UK0015	OK (m)	OK (m)
Reading/Wokingham Urban Area	UK0016	OK	OK
Coventry/Bedworth	UK0017	OK (m)	OK (m)
Kingston upon Hull	UK0018	OK	OK
Southampton Urban Area	UK0019	OK	OK
Birkenhead Urban Area	UK0020	OK (m)	OK (m)
Southend Urban Area	UK0021	OK (m)	OK (m)
Blackpool Urban Area	UK0022	OK (m)	OK (m)
Preston Urban Area	UK0023	OK (m)	OK (m)
Glasgow Urban Area	UK0024	OK	OK
Edinburgh Urban Area	UK0025	OK	OK
Cardiff Urban Area	UK0026	OK	OK
Swansea Urban Area	UK0027	OK	OK
Belfast Metropolitan Urban Area	UK0028	OK	OK
Eastern	UK0029	OK	OK
South West	UK0030	OK	OK
South East	UK0031	OK	OK
East Midlands	UK0032	OK	OK
North West & Merseyside	UK0033	OK	OK
Yorkshire & Humberside	UK0034	OK	OK
West Midlands	UK0035	OK	OK
North East	UK0036	OK	OK
Central Scotland	UK0037	OK	OK
North East Scotland	UK0038	OK	OK
Highland	UK0039	OK	OK
Scottish Borders	UK0040	OK (m)	OK (m)
South Wales	UK0041	OK	OK
North Wales	UK0042	OK	OK
Northern Ireland	UK0043	OK	OK

Prior to the subtraction of natural source contribution Greater London (UK0001) exceeded the daily mean limit value on more than the permitted 35 occasions (based upon the modelling assessment only). However, subtraction of the contribution from natural sources reduced the number of exceedances of this limit value from 37 to 27. Natural sources have only been subtracted for zone UK0001 in this table and only for the daily mean limit value.

LV = limit value, (m) indicates that the compliance or exceedance was determined by modelling.

Table 3-3 Results of Air Quality Assessment for PM_{2.5} in 2014 (after subtraction of contribution from natural sources where applicable).

Zone	Zone code	PM _{2.5} target value (annual mean, for 1 st Jan 2010)	PM _{2.5} Stage 1 limit value (annual mean, for 1 st Jan 2015)	PM _{2.5} Stage 2 limit value (annual mean, for 1 st Jan 2020)
Greater London Urban Area	UK0001	OK	OK	> LV (m)
West Midlands Urban Area	UK0002	OK	OK	OK
Greater Manchester Urban Area	UK0003	OK	OK	OK
West Yorkshire Urban Area	UK0004	OK	OK	OK
Tyneside	UK0005	OK	OK	OK
Liverpool Urban Area	UK0006	OK	OK	OK
Sheffield Urban Area	UK0007	OK	OK	OK
Nottingham Urban Area	UK0008	OK	OK	OK
Bristol Urban Area	UK0009	OK	OK	OK
Brighton/Worthing/Littlehampton	UK0010	OK	OK	OK
Leicester Urban Area	UK0011	OK	OK	OK
Portsmouth Urban Area	UK0012	OK	OK	OK
Teesside Urban Area	UK0013	OK	OK	OK
The Potteries	UK0014	OK	OK	OK
Bournemouth Urban Area	UK0015	OK	OK	OK
Reading/Wokingham Urban Area	UK0016	OK	OK	OK
Coventry/Bedworth	UK0017	OK	OK	OK
Kingston upon Hull	UK0018	OK	OK	OK
Southampton Urban Area	UK0019	OK	OK	OK
Birkenhead Urban Area	UK0020	OK	OK	OK
Southend Urban Area	UK0021	OK	OK	OK
Blackpool Urban Area	UK0022	OK	OK	OK
Preston Urban Area	UK0023	OK	OK	OK
Glasgow Urban Area	UK0024	OK	OK	OK
Edinburgh Urban Area	UK0025	OK	OK	OK
Cardiff Urban Area	UK0026	OK	OK	OK
Swansea Urban Area	UK0027	OK	OK	OK
Belfast Metropolitan Urban Area	UK0028	OK	OK	OK
Eastern	UK0029	OK	OK	OK
South West	UK0030	OK	OK	OK
South East	UK0031	OK	OK	OK
East Midlands	UK0032	OK	OK	OK
North West & Merseyside	UK0033	OK	OK	OK
Yorkshire & Humberside	UK0034	OK	OK	OK
West Midlands	UK0035	OK	OK	OK
North East	UK0036	OK	OK	OK
Central Scotland	UK0037	OK	OK	OK
North East Scotland	UK0038	OK	OK	OK
Highland	UK0039	OK	OK	OK
Scottish Borders	UK0040	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)
South Wales	UK0041	OK	OK	OK
North Wales	UK0042	OK	OK	OK
Northern Ireland	UK0043	OK	OK	OK

Prior to subtraction of natural source contribution, the Greater London Urban Area (UK0001) exceeded the Stage 2 limit value (to be met by 1st Jan 2020). The exceedance of the Stage 2 limit value remained after the subtraction of the natural PM_{2.5} contribution. Natural sources have only been subtracted for zone UK0001 in this table, and only for the Stage 2 limit value.

LV = limit value, (m) indicates that the compliance or exceedance was determined by modelling.

Carbon monoxide (CO), benzene and lead: all zones and agglomerations were compliant with the limit values for these three pollutants in 2014.

The 2014 compliance assessment for CO was based on objective estimation (explained in Defra's technical report on UK air quality assessment, referenced above) underpinned by National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory trends, Automatic Urban and Rural Network measurement trends and historical modelling.

Ozone: all zones and agglomerations met the target values but some exceeded long-term objectives. The results of the air quality assessment for ozone are summarised Table 3-4.

Table 3-4 Results of Air Quality Assessment for Ozone in 2014

Zone	Zone code	O ₃ TV and LTO for health (8hr mean)	O ₃ TV and LTO for vegetation (AOT40)
Greater London Urban Area	UK0001	Met TV, > LTO	OK
West Midlands Urban Area	UK0002	Met TV, > LTO	OK
Greater Manchester Urban Area	UK0003	OK	OK
West Yorkshire Urban Area	UK0004	Met TV, > LTO (m)	OK
Tyneside	UK0005	Met TV, > LTO (m)	OK
Liverpool Urban Area	UK0006	OK	OK
Sheffield Urban Area	UK0007	Met TV, > LTO (m)	OK
Nottingham Urban Area	UK0008	Met TV, > LTO (m)	OK
Bristol Urban Area	UK0009	OK	OK
Brighton/Worthing/Littlehampton	UK0010	OK	OK
Leicester Urban Area	UK0011	Met TV, > LTO	OK
Portsmouth Urban Area	UK0012	Met TV, > LTO	OK
Teesside Urban Area	UK0013	Met TV, > LTO	OK
The Potteries	UK0014	Met TV, > LTO (m)	OK
Bournemouth Urban Area	UK0015	Met TV, > LTO (m)	OK
Reading/Wokingham Urban Area	UK0016	Met TV, > LTO (m)	OK
Coventry/Bedworth	UK0017	Met TV, > LTO (m)	OK
Kingston upon Hull	UK0018	Met TV, > LTO (m)	OK
Southampton Urban Area	UK0019	OK	OK
Birkenhead Urban Area	UK0020	OK	OK
Southend Urban Area	UK0021	Met TV, > LTO	OK
Blackpool Urban Area	UK0022	OK	OK
Preston Urban Area	UK0023	OK	OK
Glasgow Urban Area	UK0024	Met TV, > LTO	OK
Edinburgh Urban Area	UK0025	OK	OK
Cardiff Urban Area	UK0026	OK	OK
Swansea Urban Area	UK0027	OK	OK
Belfast Metropolitan Urban Area	UK0028	Met TV, > LTO (m)	OK
Eastern	UK0029	Met TV, > LTO	Met TV, > LTO
South West	UK0030	Met TV, > LTO	OK
South East	UK0031	Met TV, > LTO	Met TV, > LTO
East Midlands	UK0032	Met TV, > LTO	Met TV, > LTO
North West & Merseyside	UK0033	Met TV, > LTO (m)	OK
Yorkshire & Humberside	UK0034	Met TV, > LTO	OK
West Midlands	UK0035	Met TV, > LTO	OK
North East	UK0036	Met TV, > LTO (m)	OK
Central Scotland	UK0037	Met TV, > LTO (m)	OK
North East Scotland	UK0038	Met TV, > LTO (m)	OK
Highland	UK0039	Met TV, > LTO (m)	OK
Scottish Borders	UK0040	Met TV, > LTO	OK
South Wales	UK0041	Met TV, > LTO	OK
North Wales	UK0042	Met TV, > LTO	OK
Northern Ireland	UK0043	Met TV, > LTO (m)	OK

TV = target value, LTO = long-term objective, (m) indicates that the compliance or exceedance was determined by modelling.

For ozone, there is a target value based on the maximum daily 8-hour mean. All 43 zones and agglomerations were compliant with this target value. There is also a long-term objective for protection of human health, based on the maximum daily 8-hour mean. Thirty-two of the 43 zones and agglomerations were *above* the long-term objective (LTO) for health, the 11 exceptions being Greater Manchester Urban Area (UK0003), Liverpool Urban Area (UK0006), Bristol Urban Area (UK0009), Brighton/Worthing/Littlehampton (UK0010), Southampton Urban Area (UK0019), Birkenhead Urban Area (UK0020), Blackpool Urban Area (UK0022), Preston Urban Area (UK0023), Edinburgh Urban Area (UK0025), Cardiff Urban Area (UK0026) and Swansea Urban Area (UK0027).

There is also a target value based on the AOT40 statistic. The AOT40 statistic (expressed in $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}\cdot\text{hours}$) is the sum of the difference between hourly concentrations greater than $80 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ (= 40 ppb) and $80 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ over a given period using only the hourly mean values measured between 08:00 and 20:00 Central European Time each day. All 43 zones and agglomerations met the target value based on the AOT40 statistic. There is also a long-term objective, for protection of vegetation, based on this statistic. Three zones were above the long-term objective for vegetation: these were the Eastern zone (UK0029), the South East (UK0031), and the East Midlands (UK0032).

In 2014 there were five measured exceedances of the ozone information thresholds (at three sites) but no exceedances of the alert threshold. The information threshold exceedances are detailed in Table 3-5. All five occasions were in the late afternoon and early evening of the same day (18th July 2014).

Table 3-5 Measured Exceedances of the Ozone Information Threshold Value in 2014

Site name	Zone code	Number of 1-hour exceedances of information threshold	Maximum 1-hour concentration ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)
Market Harborough	UK0032	1	186
Sibton	UK0029	2	194
St Osyth	UK0029	2	188

3.2 Fourth Daughter Directive 2004/107/EC

All zones met target values for arsenic and cadmium but some zones exceeded target values for nickel and benzo[a]pyrene. The results of the air quality assessment for arsenic (As), cadmium (Cd), nickel (Ni) and benzo[a]pyrene (B[a]P) for each zone are summarised in Table 3-6.

All zones and agglomerations met the target values for arsenic and cadmium. Three zones (Sheffield Urban Area, Swansea Urban Area and South Wales - zones UK0007, UK0027 and UK0041 respectively) exceeded the target value for nickel. In these zones, the exceedance has been attributed to industrial sources.

Concentrations of B[a]P were above the target value in six zones; Teesside Urban Area (UK0013), Swansea Urban Area (UK0027), the East Midlands (UK0032), Yorkshire and Humberside (UK0034), the North East (UK0036) and South Wales (UK0041). In Teesside, Swansea and the North East, the exceedances are attributed to emissions from industrial sources. In the East Midlands, the exceedance is attributed to domestic fuel use. In South Wales, the exceedance results from a combination of industrial sources and domestic solid fuel use, while in Yorkshire and Humberside it is predominantly due to industrial emissions with some contribution from domestic sources. The remaining 37 zones were compliant with the target value for B[a]P, as shown in Table 3-6.

Table 3-6 Results of Air Quality Assessment for As, Cd, Ni and benzo[a]pyrene in 2014

Zone	Zone code	As TV	Cd TV	Ni TV	B[a]P TV
Greater London Urban Area	UK0001	OK	OK	OK	OK
West Midlands Urban Area	UK0002	OK	OK	OK	OK
Greater Manchester Urban Area	UK0003	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK
West Yorkshire Urban Area	UK0004	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK
Tyneside	UK0005	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK
Liverpool Urban Area	UK0006	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK
Sheffield Urban Area	UK0007	OK	OK	> TV	OK (m)
Nottingham Urban Area	UK0008	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)
Bristol Urban Area	UK0009	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)
Brighton/Worthing/ Littlehampton	UK0010	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK
Leicester Urban Area	UK0011	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)
Portsmouth Urban Area	UK0012	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)
Teesside Urban Area	UK0013	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	> TV (m)
The Potteries	UK0014	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)
Bournemouth Urban Area	UK0015	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)
Reading/Wokingham Urban Area	UK0016	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)
Coventry/Bedworth	UK0017	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)
Kingston upon Hull	UK0018	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)
Southampton Urban Area	UK0019	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)
Birkenhead Urban Area	UK0020	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)
Southend Urban Area	UK0021	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)
Blackpool Urban Area	UK0022	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)
Preston Urban Area	UK0023	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)
Glasgow Urban Area	UK0024	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK
Edinburgh Urban Area	UK0025	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK
Cardiff Urban Area	UK0026	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK
Swansea Urban Area	UK0027	OK	OK	> TV	> TV (m)
Belfast Metropolitan Urban Area	UK0028	OK	OK	OK	OK
Eastern	UK0029	OK	OK	OK	OK
South West	UK0030	OK	OK	OK	OK (m)
South East	UK0031	OK	OK	OK	OK
East Midlands	UK0032	OK	OK	OK	> TV (m)
North West & Merseyside	UK0033	OK	OK	OK	OK
Yorkshire & Humberside	UK0034	OK	OK	OK	> TV
West Midlands	UK0035	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)
North East	UK0036	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	> TV (m)
Central Scotland	UK0037	OK	OK	OK	OK
North East Scotland	UK0038	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)
Highland	UK0039	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK
Scottish Borders	UK0040	OK	OK	OK	OK (m)
South Wales	UK0041	OK	OK	> TV (m)	> TV (m)
North Wales	UK0042	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)
Northern Ireland	UK0043	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK (m)	OK

TV = target value, (m) indicates that the compliance or exceedance was determined by modelling.

4 Comparison with Previous Years

Table 4-1 to Table 4-5 summarise the results of the air quality assessment for 2014 and provide a comparison with the results of the assessments carried out in previous years since 2008 (the year in which the Air Quality Directive came into force). For information on compliance with the 1st and 2nd Daughter Directives in earlier years, please see the 2012 or earlier reports in this series. There are no longer any margins of tolerance (MOT) in force for these pollutants except where granted by a time extension. Table 4-1 shows the number of zones exceeding the limit value plus any agreed margin of tolerance (i.e. the numbers of zones that were non-compliant). If any additional zones were within the limit value plus an agreed MOT (and therefore compliant), this is shown in the footnotes.

Table 4-1 (Part 1 of 2) Non-Compliances with the Limit Values of the Air Quality Directive

Pollutant	Averaging time	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
SO ₂	1-hour	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
SO ₂	24-hour	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
SO ₂	Annual ⁱ	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
SO ₂	Winter ⁱ	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
NO ₂	1-hour ⁱⁱ	3 zones measured (London, Glasgow, NE Scotland)	2 zones measured (London, Glasgow)	3 zones measured (London, Teesside, Glasgow)	3 zones measured (London, Glasgow, South East)	2 zones measured (London, South East)	1 zone measured (London)	2 zones measured (London, South Wales)
NO ₂	Annual	40 zones (10 measured + 30 modelled)	40 zones (9 measured + 31 modelled)	40 zones (11 measured + 29 modelled)	35 zones (8 measured, + 27 modelled) ⁱⁱⁱ	34 zones (10 measured + 24 modelled) ^{iv}	31 zones (9 measured + 22 modelled) ^v	30 zones (10 measured + 20 modelled) ^{vi}
NO _x	Annual ⁱ	None	None	None	None	None	None	None

ⁱ Applies to vegetation and ecosystem areas only. Critical Levels are already in force, no MOT.

ⁱⁱ No modelling for 1-hour LV.

ⁱⁱⁱ A further five zones exceeded the annual mean NO₂ LV in 2011 but were covered by time extensions and within the LV+ MOT, therefore compliant.

^{iv} A further four zones exceeded the annual mean NO₂ LV in 2012 but were covered by time extensions and within the LV+ MOT, therefore compliant.

^v A further seven zones exceeded the annual mean NO₂ LV in 2013 but were covered by time extensions and within the LV+ MOT, therefore compliant.

^{vi} A further eight zones exceeded the annual mean NO₂ LV in 2014 but were covered by time extensions and within the LV+ MOT, therefore compliant.

Table 4-1 is continued on the next page.

Table 4-1 (Part 2 of 2) Non-Compliances with the Limit Values of the Air Quality Directive

Pollutant	Averaging time	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
PM ₁₀	Daily	2 zones (1 measured + 1 modelled) 1 zone measured after subtraction of natural contribution	3 zones (1 measured + 2 modelled) 1 zone modelled after subtraction of natural contribution	None (after subtraction of natural contribution) ^{vii}	None (after subtraction of natural contribution) ^{viii}	None (after subtraction of natural contribution. No time extension.)	None (after subtraction of natural contribution. No time extension.)	None (after subtraction of natural contribution. No time extension.)
PM ₁₀	Annual	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Lead	Annual	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Benzene	Annual	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
CO	8-hour	None	None	None	None	None	None	None

^{vii} One zone exceeded the daily mean PM₁₀ limit value more than the permitted 35 times in 2010, after subtraction of natural contribution. This zone was covered by a time extension, and was within the LV+MOT so was therefore compliant.

^{viii} One zone exceeded the daily mean PM₁₀ limit value more than the permitted 35 times in 2011, after subtraction of natural contribution. This zone was covered by a time extension, and was within the LV+MOT so was therefore compliant.

The UK has been compliant with the limit values for both lead and CO since 2003, and for benzene since 2007: these limit values are the same as those contained in the 1st and 2nd Daughter Directives, which the Air Quality Directive superseded.

Table 4-2 Exceedances of Air Quality Directive Target Values for Ozone (Health)

Pollutant	Averaging time	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
O ₃	8-hour	1 zone measured (Eastern)	None	None	None	None	None	None
O ₃	AOT40	None	None	None	None	None	None	None

Table 4-3 Exceedances of Air Quality Directive Long Term Objectives for Ozone

Pollutant	Averaging time	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
O ₃	8-hour	43 zones (35 measured + 8 modelled)	39 zones (25 measured + 14 modelled)	41 zones (19 measured + 22 modelled)	43 zones (31 measured + 12 modelled)	41 zones (31 measured and 10 modelled)	33 zones (21 measured and 12 modelled)	32 zones (16 measured and 16 modelled)
O ₃	AOT40	41 zones (25 measured + 16 modelled)	10 zones (8 measured + 2 modelled)	6 zones (3 measured + 3 modelled)	3 zones (2 measured + 1 modelled)	3 zones (2 measured + 1 modelled)	8 zones (6 measured + 2 modelled)	3 zones (all measured)

Table 4-4 Exceedances of 4th Daughter Directive Target Values

Pollutant	Averaging time	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
As	Annual	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Cd	Annual	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Ni	Annual	1 zone (Swansea Urban area, measured but low data capture, so reported as m)	2 zones modelled (Swansea, S Wales, measured at non-network site, so reported as m)	2 zones modelled (Swansea, S Wales)	2 zones modelled (Swansea, S Wales)	2 zones, 1 measured 1 modelled (Swansea, S Wales)	2 zones, 1 measured 1 modelled (Swansea, S Wales)	2 zones, 1 measured 1 modelled (Swansea, S Wales)	3 zones, 2 measured (Sheffield, Swansea) ¹ modelled (S Wales)
B[a]P	Annual	1 zone measured (Yorkshire & Humberside)	6 zones, (3 zones measured Yorkshire & Humberside, Teesside, N Ireland + 3 zones modelled Swansea, S Wales, Belfast)	6 zones, (2 zones measured Yorkshire & Humberside, N Ireland + 4 zones modelled Teesside, Swansea, North East, S Wales)	8 zones, (2 zones measured: Yorkshire & Humberside, N Ireland + 6 zones modelled; Teesside, Belfast, W Midlands, North East, S Wales, N Wales.)	7 zones (2 measured; Yorkshire & Humberside, N Ireland, + 5 modelled; Teesside, Swansea, Belfast, North East, South Wales)	8 zones (1 measured; Yorkshire & Humberside, + 7 modelled; Teesside, Swansea, Belfast, the North East, South Wales, North Wales, Northern Ireland.)	6 zones (1 measured; Yorkshire & Humberside, + 5 modelled; Teesside, Swansea, the East Midlands, the North East, South Wales.)	6 zones (1 measured; Yorkshire & Humberside, + 5 modelled; Teesside, Swansea, the East Midlands, the North East and South Wales).

Table 4-5 Exceedances of Ambient Air Quality Directive Target Value for PM_{2.5}

Pollutant	Averaging time	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
PM _{2.5}	Annual	None	None	None	None	None	None

References

¹ European Parliament and Council of the European Union (2008) "*Council Directive on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe (2008/50/EC)*". [online]. Available at <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32008L0050:EN:NOT> (Accessed 30 Jul 2015)

² European Parliament and Council of the European Union (2004) "*Directive 2004/107/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 December 2004 relating to arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air*". [online]. Available at <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32004L0107:EN:NOT>, (Accessed 30 Jul 2015).

³ Brookes, D. M. et al. (2013) "*Technical report on UK supplementary assessment under the Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC), the Air Quality Framework Directive (96/62/EC) and Fourth Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC) for 2012*". Ricardo-AEA report number AEA/ENV/R/3380, pp101-102 [online]. Available at http://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/assets/documents/reports/cat09/1312231525_AQD_DD4_2012mapsrepv0.pdf (Accessed 17 Aug 2015).