

Environmental targets consultation 2021 Royal Society of Chemistry response

About us

With about 50,000 members in over 100 countries and a knowledge business that spans the globe, the F cmU⁺⁺ GcWJYhmicZ 7 \Ya]glfmi]g⁺ h Y⁺ I ? D⁺ dfcZygg]cbU⁺⁺ VcXmi Zcf⁺ W Ya]WU⁺⁺ gQ U⁺⁺⁺⁺ igQ

on environmental target proposals in the areas cZïU]feiU`]mĐ and ïfYgci fWrYZ]WYbWmUbX'k UghY'fYXi WjcbĐ.

The Royal Society of Chemistry would be happy to discuss any of the issues raised in our submission in more detail. Any questions should be directed to policy@rsc.org.

Air quality target proposals

Chemical scientists have an important role to play in reducing outdoor and indoor air pollution as well as helping to understand and monitor it. Scientists and engineers worldwide are tackling this issue, and $k Y U_a$ 'hc 'gi ddcfh W Ya]ghm@ j]hU fc Y]b i bXYfghUbX]b[UbX a YUgi ring air pollution, its impact on human health, and developing solutions to improve air quality. We look forward to providing support and advice to Defra as they develop the interim PM_{2.5} targets, the policy choices to achieve the maximum benefit in air quality and the review of the Clean Air Strategy in the Autumn of 2022.

Evidence from the scientific community suggests that an annual average mean concentration target (AMCT) of 10 μ g/m³ is technically feasible in the UK by 2040 and will support the aim of benefitting human health by reducing the maximum exposure to PM_{2.5}.

The RSC believes ambitious action should be taken at all levels of society to reduce $PM_{2.5}$ and the associated health burden quickly. This will be supported by reducing both the maximum $PM_{2.5}$ levels in

⁴ https://uk-

⁵ https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-profile-for-england-2018/chapter-7-current-and-emerging-health-protection-issues#fn:10

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air.defra.gov.uk/assets/documents/reports/cat09/2107150951_Modelling_PM25_workshop_summary_15_03_21. pdf

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