

APPENDIX 10.1- DEFINITION OF AIR QUALITY TERMS AND UNITS

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ppm	parts per million - defines the units of pollution in every million (10^6) units of air.
ppb	parts per billion - defines the units of pollution in every billion (10^9) units of air.
$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	microgrammes per cubic metre - one microgramme is one millionth of a gram.
ng/m^3	nanogrammes per cubic metre – one nanogramme is one milliardth (i.e. one thousand millionth of a gram (10^{-9}))
Annual mean	the average of the concentrations measured for one year.
1-hour mean	the average of the concentrations measured for one hour.
24-hour mean	the average of the concentrations measured for twenty four hours.
Running mean	the mean or series of means calculated for overlapping time periods. For example, an 8-hour running mean is calculated every hour and averages the values for eight hours. The period of averaging is stepped forward by one hour for each subsequent value so that a degree of overlap exists between successive values. Non-running means are calculated for consecutive time periods so that there is no overlap.
Percentile	a value that establishes a particular threshold in a collection of data. For example, the 90 th percentile of yearly values is the value that 90% of all the data in the year fall below or equal.
Exceedance	a period of time when the concentration of a pollutant is greater than, or equal to, the relevant air quality standard.