

# Integrated assessment modelling of future air quality in the UK to 2050, and synergies with net zero strategies.

Helen ApSimon <sup>1</sup>, Tim Oxley <sup>1,\*</sup>, Huw Woodward <sup>1</sup>, Daniel Mehlig <sup>1</sup>, Mike Holland <sup>2</sup>, Sarah Reeves <sup>3</sup>

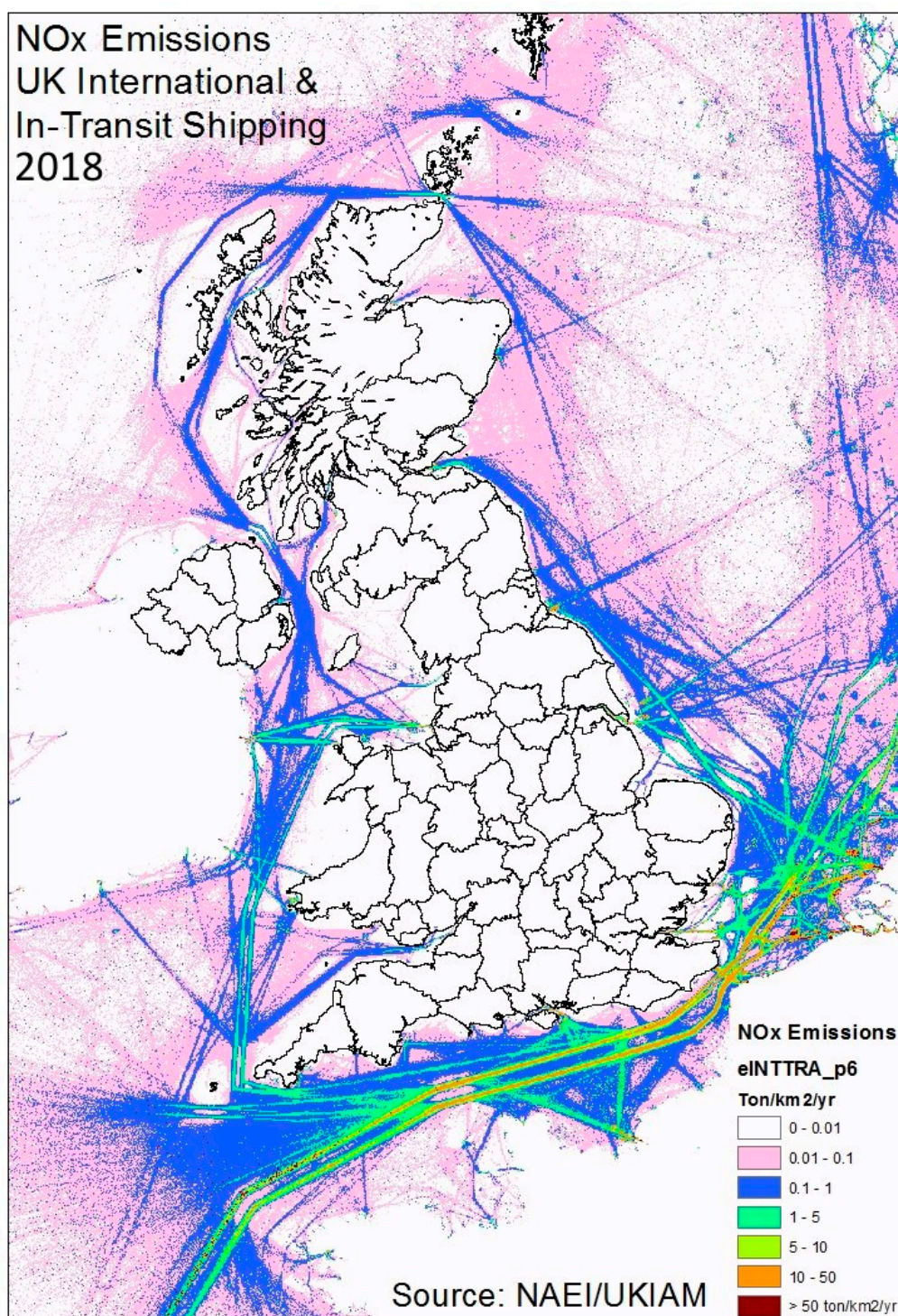
<sup>1</sup> Centre for Environmental Policy, Imperial College London, London SW7 2AZ, UK

<sup>2</sup> EMRC, 2 New Building, Whitechurch Hill, Reading RG8 7PW, UK

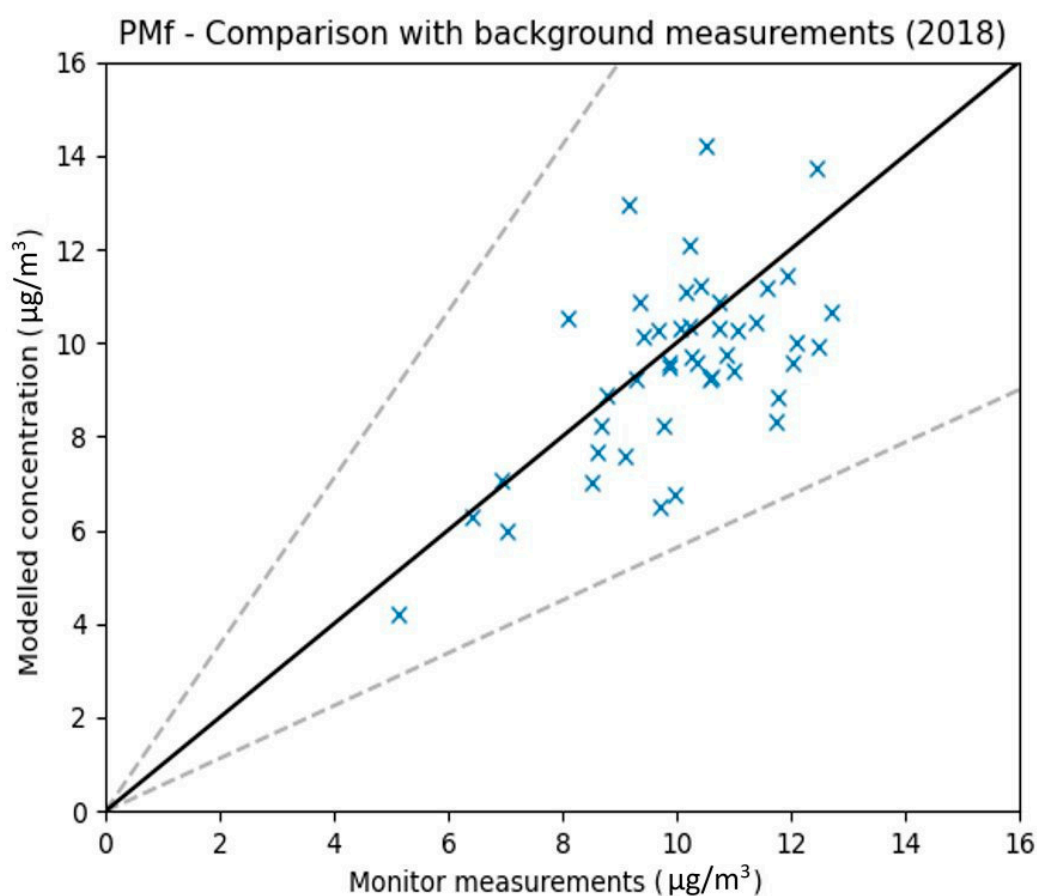
<sup>3</sup> Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF, UK

\* Correspondence: [t.oxley@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:t.oxley@imperial.ac.uk)

## Supplementary Information



**Figure S1** - NOx emissions from international and in-transit shipping in sea areas surrounding the United Kingdom, when combined with domestic shipping, exceed the UK land-based emissions of NOx in 2018.



**Figure S2** - Comparison modelled concentrations against AURN measurements for B2018

**Table S1** - (B2018) Statistical comparison at monitoring locations. N=number of measurements, Obs.=mean of all measurements, Mod.=mean of all modelled concentrations, r=Pearson correlation, FAC2=fraction of modelled values within a factor 2 of measured value, NMSE=Normalised Mean-Square Error, RMSE=Root Mean-Square Error, NAD=Normalised absolute difference.

Model	N	UKIAM	EMEP4UK	r	FAC2	FB	RMSE	NAD
Total PM <sub>2.5</sub>	51	9.41	9.43	0.83	1	0	1.09	0.04

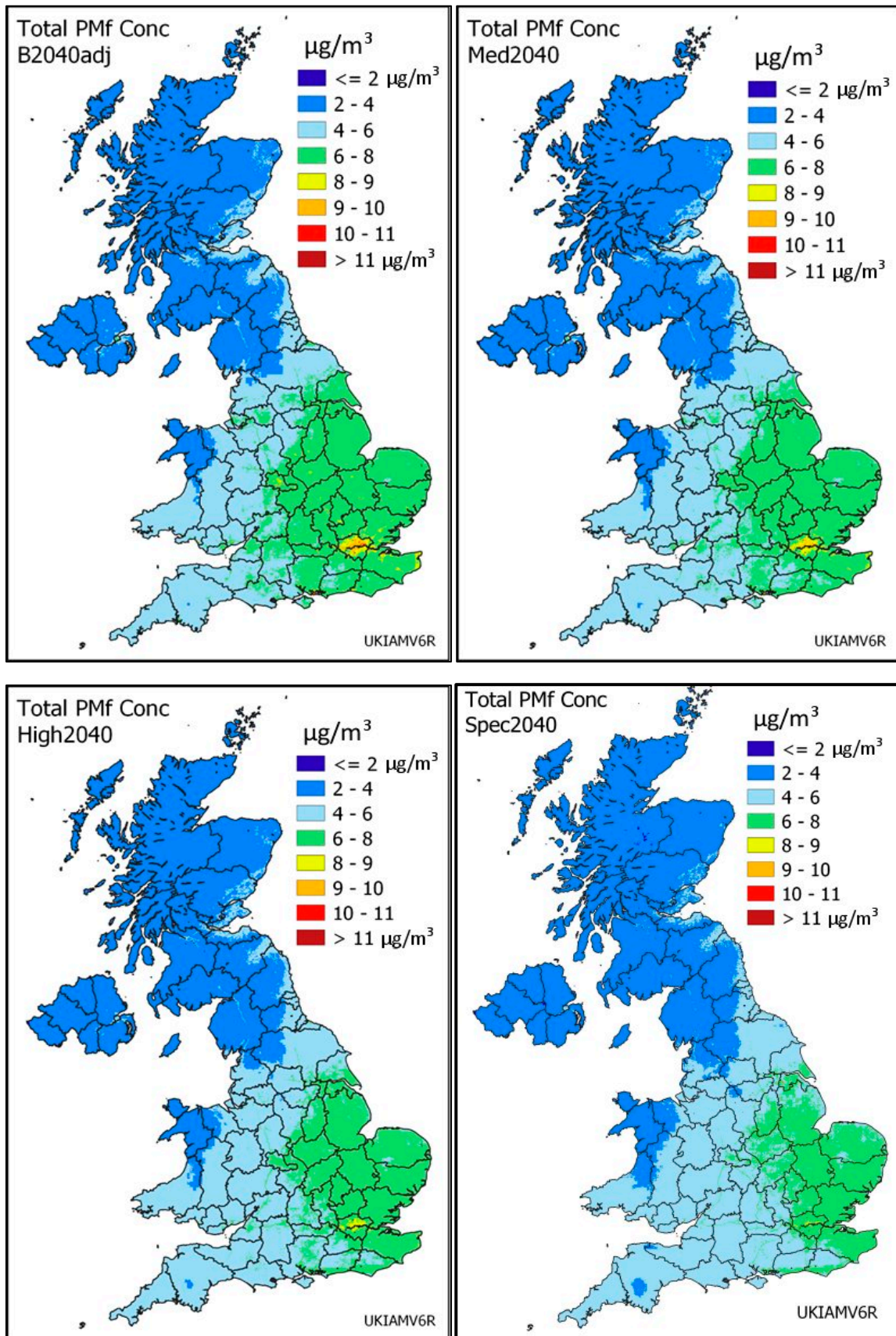
Fractional bias (FB): 
$$FB = \frac{2\overline{C_o - C_p}}{(\overline{C_o} + \overline{C_p})}$$

Normalised Mean-Square Error: 
$$NMSE = \frac{(\overline{C_o - C_p})^2}{(\overline{C_o C_p})}$$

Normalised Absolute Difference: 
$$NAD = \frac{|\overline{C_o - C_p}|}{(\overline{C_o} + \overline{C_p})}$$

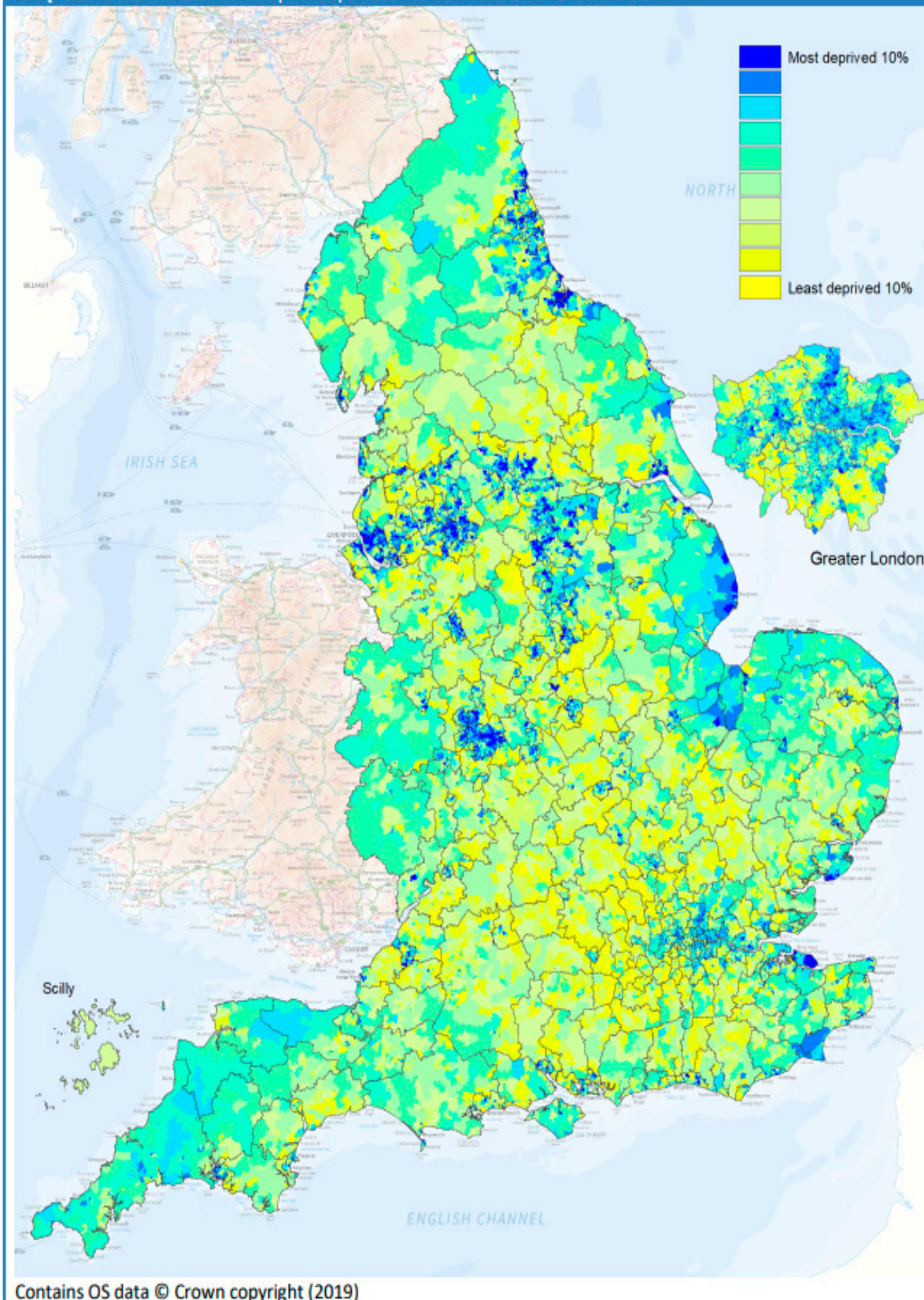
Here  $C_o$  is the measured, or observed, concentration and  $C_p$  is the modelled concentration. The overbar indicates that the mean is taken.





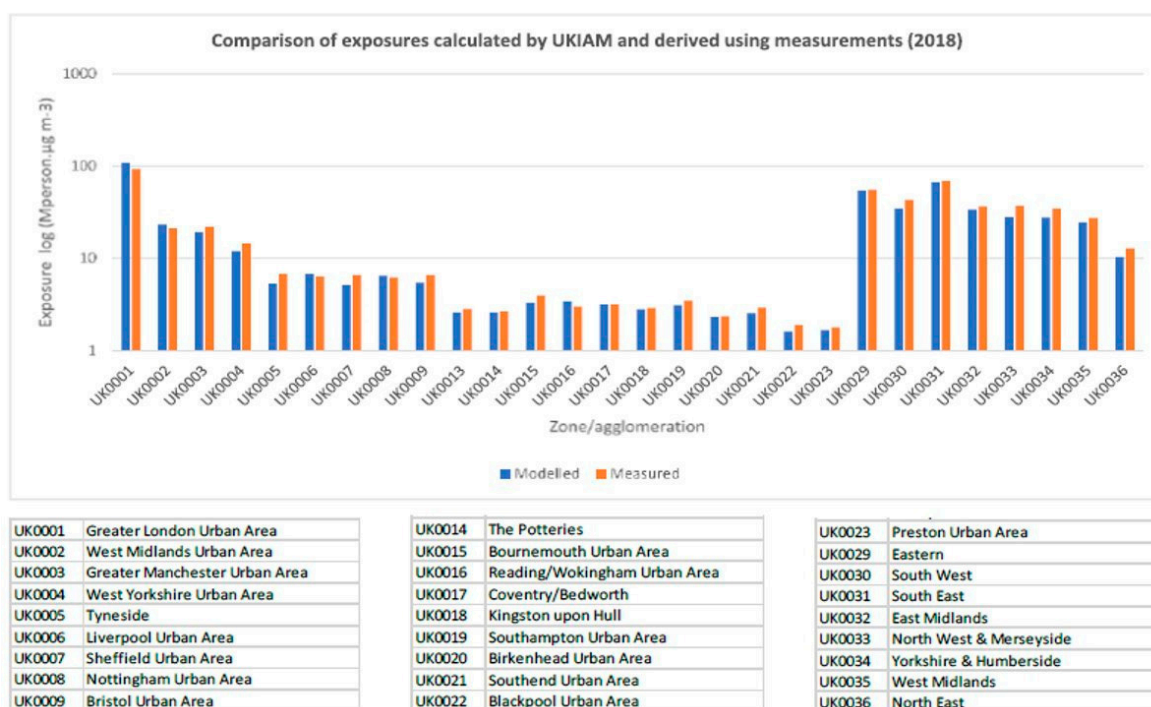
**Figure S3** – Maps of total PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations in 2040. There is already a clear reduction in concentrations relative to 2018 (see Figure 3) for the baseline (business-as-usual) scenario; Progressively more ambitious abatement strategies show a further significant reduction of concentrations across the UK.

**Map 4.1. The Index of Multiple Deprivation rank 2019 at LSOA level.**



**Figure S4 – Map of the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) at the LSOA level. Reproduced from <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2019>**



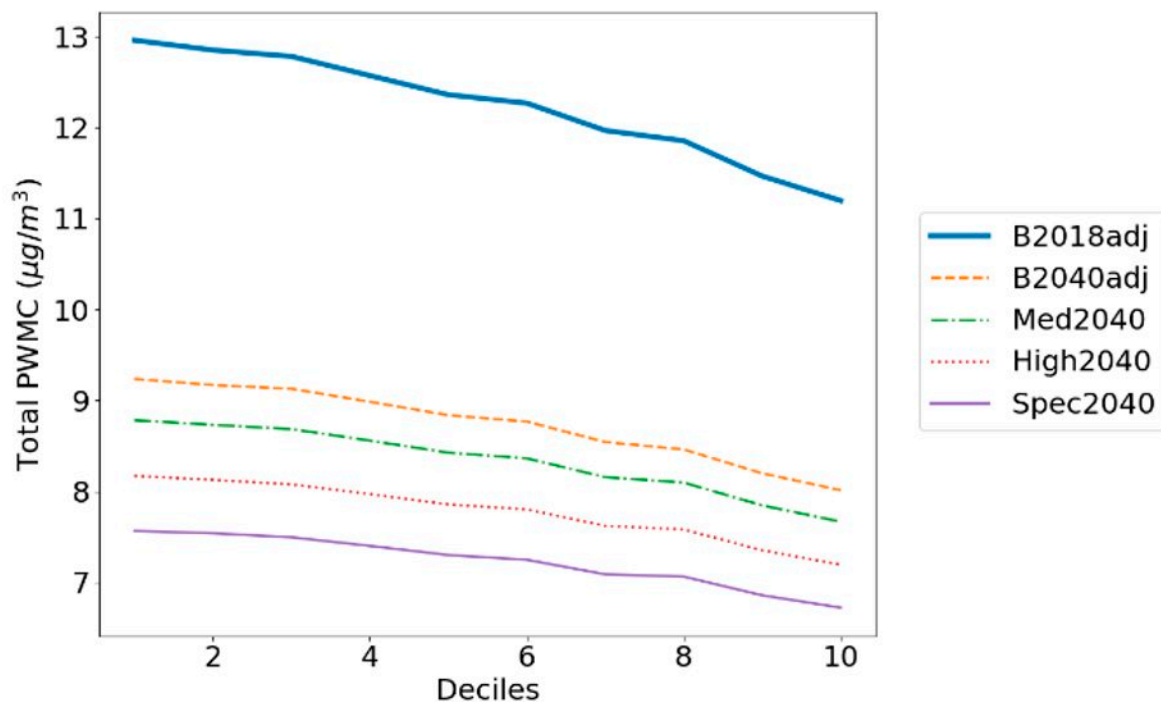


**Figure S5** – A comparison of modelled PPMC and PPMC derived from monitoring data for 2018 highlights the generally slightly higher exposures based on measurements since monitor locations tend to be in areas of higher concentrations.

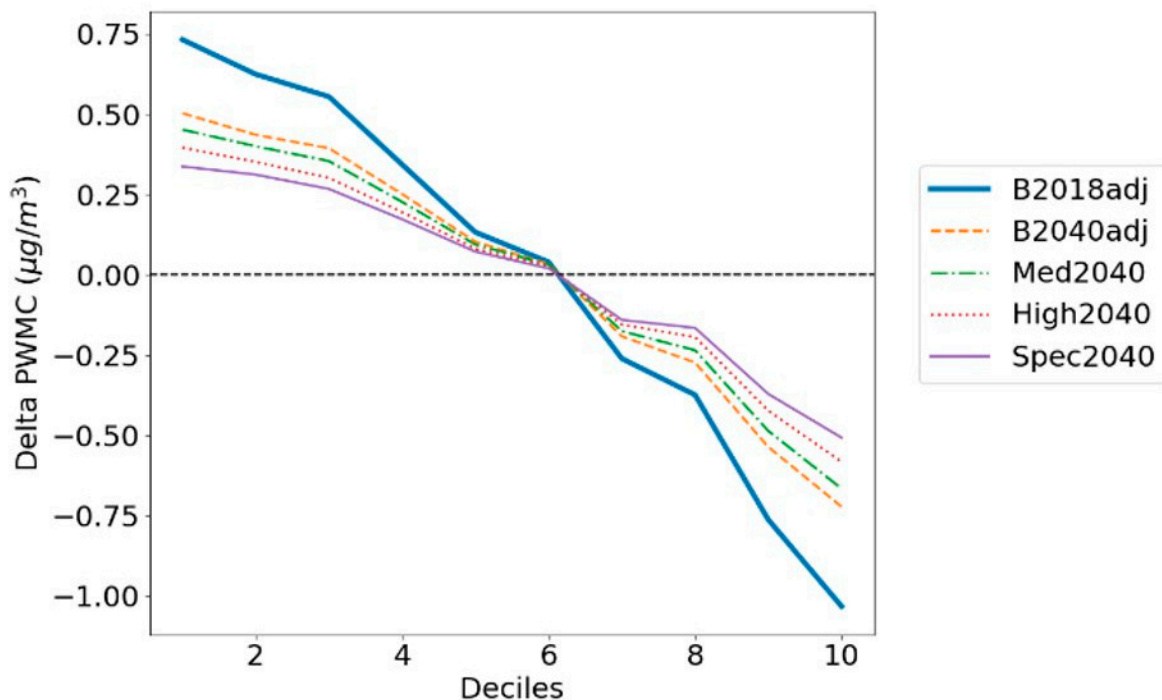
**Table S2** - Cumulative (2023-2040) air quality benefits in England from reduced damage to health, productivity, ecosystems and soiling of buildings, broken down by sensitivity (2020 prices, £m)

	Medium Scenario			High Scenario		
	Low	Central	High	Low	Central	High
<b>Total Air Quality Benefits</b>	£5,327	£23,150	£71,255	£9,142	£37,891	£114,332

(a) PWMC for each deprivation decile in London



(b) Delta PWMC for each deprivation decile in London



**Figure S6** - Population Weighted Mean Concentration (PWMC) and Delta PWMC for each deprivation decile across London, consistently showing higher concentrations in the most deprived deciles. The Delta PWMC shows that the disparity across all deciles reduces with the more ambitious abatement scenarios.

## **BOX S1 – Summary of key assumptions in the Medium, High & Speculative scenarios**

### Baseline scenario

The target Baseline reflects existing interventions and policies with a natural technology turnover. The baseline assumes NAEI2018 projections with some adjustments reflecting more recent findings.

### The Medium scenario

Includes the implementation of proven technologies and limited behavioural changes, with increasing levels of implementation and uptake in 2030, 2040 and 2050 relative to 2018, including:

- The use of eco-design stoves and reducing the use of open fires by 50%
- Up to 10% reduction in urban traffic, designed to capture behavioural changes resulting from increases in active travel, Clean Air Zones (CAZ), and road charging
- Uptake of electric/hydrogen non-road mobile machinery (NRMM) reaching 50% uptake by 2050
- Reduced industrial combustion and increased use of filtration technologies to reduce PM emissions

### The High Scenario

Includes uptake of technologies considered likely to be implementable in the future, an increased rate of behavioural change and more rapid uptake of measures, including:

- The banning of domestic indoor wood burning in smoke control areas
- Restrictions on domestic outdoor burning
- A 30% reduction in urban traffic, reflecting a need for CAZs and increased road charging
- Uptake of electric/hydrogen non-road mobile machinery (NRMM) reaching 95% uptake by 2050

### The Speculative Scenario

Includes all feasible measures including emerging technologies and assumptions of significant behaviour change, including:

- Up to a 100% ban on domestic indoor wood burning nationally
- Up to a 60% reduction in urban domestic car traffic
- New technologies designed to capture particulates from tyre wear
- Uptake of electric/hydrogen non-road mobile machinery (NRMM) reaching 95% uptake by 2040
- An assumption that the NO<sub>x</sub> emission control area (NECA) is expanded to include shipping in the Irish sea, implementable by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO).

### The Net Zero Scenario

This scenario is based on projections of future energy generation, derived by the DDM energy model for BEIS, with climate measures aimed at reaching net zero greenhouse gas emissions. This scenario reflects the commitment to achieve net zero emissions from electricity production by 2035, the year in which new ICE cars and vans are phased out with replacement by electric vehicles. This scenario does not include any of the additional abatement measures in the medium, high and speculative scenarios above.



**Table S3** - Population Weighted Mean Concentrations (PWMC) of PM<sub>2.5</sub> for all the target setting scenarios up to 2050. Includes PWMC for the Devolved Regions and London (µg/m<sup>3</sup>)

	Scenario	National	Urban	Rural	London	England*	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland
<b>2018</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	9.16	9.54	7.84	12.34	9.70	5.45	7.93	6.44
	<b>Baseline</b>	7.11	7.36	6.24	9.61	7.48	4.50	6.40	5.17
	<b>Medium</b>	6.86	7.09	6.09	9.19	7.22	4.38	6.23	5.00
<b>2030</b>	<b>High</b>	6.62	6.81	5.95	8.82	6.95	4.27	6.06	4.80
	<b>Speculative</b>	6.16	6.30	5.67	8.16	6.46	4.07	5.68	4.40
	<b>Net Zero</b>	7.06	7.30	6.23	9.46	7.44	4.47	6.36	5.09
	<b>Baseline</b>	6.93	7.18	6.05	9.40	7.29	4.43	6.24	5.04
	<b>Medium</b>	6.41	6.60	5.73	8.60	6.72	4.19	5.88	4.69
<b>2040</b>	<b>High</b>	6.03	6.18	5.52	8.03	6.32	4.02	5.61	4.37
	<b>Speculative</b>	5.64	5.76	5.24	7.47	5.90	3.84	5.29	4.10
	<b>Net Zero</b>	6.35	6.54	5.69	8.48	6.66	4.14	5.86	4.66
	<b>Baseline</b>	6.94	7.20	6.04	9.43	7.30	4.45	6.24	5.05
	<b>Medium</b>	6.12	6.28	5.55	8.12	6.41	4.05	5.69	4.55
<b>2050</b>	<b>High</b>	5.80	5.92	5.37	7.63	6.06	3.90	5.47	4.31
	<b>Speculative</b>	5.45	5.54	5.14	7.08	5.69	3.74	5.19	4.09
	<b>Net Zero</b>	6.08	6.25	5.50	8.08	6.37	4.03	5.69	4.48

\* excludes London