Draft Regulations laid before Senedd Cymru under section 29(3) of the Environment (Air Quality and Soundscapes) (Wales) Act 2024, for approval by resolution of Senedd Cymru.

DRAFT WELSH STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2026 No. (W.)

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, WALES

The Air Quality Targets (Fine Particulate Matter) (Wales)
Regulations 2026

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations, which apply in Wales, set—

—a target for the annual mean concentration of PM_{2.5} (fine particulate matter) in ambient air in Wales under section 2 of the Environment (Air Quality and Soundscapes) (Wales) Act 2024 (asc 2) ("the annual mean concentration target"), and

—a target to reduce population exposure to PM_{2.5} (fine particulate matter) in ambient air in Wales under section 2 of that Act ("the population exposure reduction target").

These Regulations set the targets that are to be achieved and the date by which they are to be achieved.

Part 2 of these Regulations is concerned with the annual mean concentration target. Regulation 4 sets the target to ensure that the annual mean concentration of PM_{2.5} in ambient air in Wales is equal to or less than 10 micrograms per cubic metre by 31 December 2035. Regulation 5 makes provision about how this is to be measured.

Part 3 is concerned with the population exposure reduction target. Regulation 7 sets the target to ensure that there is at least a 25% reduction in population exposure to PM_{2.5} in ambient air in Wales by 31 December 2035 as compared with a baseline period of 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2019. Regulation 8 makes provision about how this is to be measured.

Schedule 1 sets out calculations the Welsh Ministers are to carry out for the purposes of determining whether the target is met and to measure progress made towards meeting the target.

Regulations 6 and 9 set the reporting date for each target, as required by section 5(1) of the Environment (Air Quality and Soundscapes) (Wales) Act 2024.

Part 4 and Schedule 2 contain provisions about monitoring and assessment, which apply to both targets.

Part 5 and Schedule 3 set out the Welsh Ministers obligations in relation to the publication of information.

The Welsh Ministers' Code of Practice on the carrying out of Regulatory Impact Assessments was considered in relation to these Regulations. As a result, a regulatory impact assessment has been prepared as to the likely costs and benefits of complying with these Regulations. A copy can be obtained from the Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ and is published on www.gov.wales.

Draft Regulations laid before Senedd Cymru under section 29(3) of the Environment (Air Quality and Soundscapes) (Wales) Act 2024, for approval by resolution of Senedd Cymru.

DRAFT WELSH STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2026 No. (W.)

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, WALES

The Air Quality Targets (Fine Particulate Matter) (Wales) Regulations 2026

Made ***

Laid before Senedd Cymru ***

Coming into force ***

The Welsh Ministers make the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 2, 5(1), 29(1) and 29(3) of the Environment (Air Quality and Soundscapes) (Wales) Act 2024 (1) ("the 2024 Act").

In accordance with section 3(1) of the 2024 Act, the Welsh Ministers have sought advice from persons the Welsh Ministers consider to be independent and to have relevant expertise and the Welsh Ministers have had regard to scientific knowledge on air pollution.

In accordance with section 3(2) of the 2024 Act, the Welsh Ministers have had regard to the most recent guidelines in relation to PM_{2.5} published by the World Health Organisation.

In accordance with section 3(3) of the 2024 Act, the Welsh Ministers are satisfied that the targets in these Regulations can be met.

In accordance with section 3(11) of the 2024 Act, these Regulations have been laid within 3 years of the 2024 Act receiving Royal Assent.

^{(1) 2024} asc 2.

In accordance with section 29(3) of the 2024 Act, a draft of these Regulations has been laid before, and approved by the resolution of, Senedd Cymru.

PART 1

Introduction

Title and coming into force

- 1.—(1) The title of these Regulations is The Air Quality Targets (Fine Particulate Matter) (Wales) Regulations 2026.
 - (2) These Regulations come into force on [TBC] 2026.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these Regulations-

"the 2024 Act" ("Deddf 2024") means the Environment (Air Quality and Soundscapes) (Wales) Act 2024;

"the 2010 Regulations" ("*Rheoliadau 2010*") means the Air Quality Standards (Wales) Regulations 2010(1);

"ambient air" ("aer amgylchynol") means outdoor air in the troposphere, excluding the air in workplaces where members of the public do not have regular access;

"AQSR monitoring station" ("gorsaf fonitro RhSAA") means a monitoring station which is used to measure PM_{2.5} levels for the purposes of the 2010 Regulations;

"fixed measurement" ("mesuriad sefydlog") means a measurement taken at a fixed location, continuously or by sampling at regular intervals to determine levels of PM_{2.5}:

"minimum annual data capture requirement" ("gofyniad cipio data blynyddol sylfaenol") has the meaning given in regulation 14;

"monitoring station" ("gorsaf fonitro") is to be interpreted in accordance with regulation 12(4);

"ratified" ("wedi eu cadarnhau") has the meaning given in regulation 14(5);

"year" ("blwyddyn") means a calendar year;

"zone" ("parth") means one of the zones or agglomerations into which Wales is divided for air quality monitoring purposes, as determined under regulation 4 of the 2010 Regulations.

- (2) For the purpose of these Regulations—
 - (a) "particulate matter" means particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter not exceeding 2.5 micrometres:
 - (b) a reference to the "level" of PM_{2.5} means the mass concentration of PM_{2.5} measured in micrograms per cubic metre (μg/m³).

Air quality targets

- 3.—(1) Regulation 4 specifies a target for the annual mean level of PM_{2.5} in ambient air in Wales ("the annual mean concentration target") for the purposes of the Welsh Ministers' duty in section 2 of the 2024 Act.
- (2) Regulation 7 specifies a further target for the reduction of population exposure to PM_{2.5} in ambient air in Wales ("the population exposure reduction target") for the purposes of the Welsh Ministers' duty in section 2 of the 2024 Act.

PART 2

Annual Mean Concentration Target for PM2.5

Annual mean concentration target

4. The annual mean concentration target is that by 31 December 2035 the annual mean level of PM_{2.5} in ambient air in Wales must be equal to or less than 10 μ g/m³.

Measurement

- **5.**—(1) The annual mean concentration target is met by 31 December 2035 if, at all relevant monitoring stations, the annual mean level of $PM_{2.5}$ in ambient air in Wales, calculated in accordance with regulation 15 is equal to or less than the target level when rounded to the nearest whole number of $\mu g/m^3$.
- (2) In paragraph (1), "relevant monitoring station" means a monitoring station from which fixed measurements of PM_{2.5} are taken—
 - (a) throughout the whole of the year 2035, disregarding any periods during that year in which the monitoring station is out of operation, for example for repair or maintenance, and
 - (b) which meet the annual data capture requirement in that year.

Reporting date

6. For the purposes of section 5(1) of the 2024 Act, the reporting date for the annual mean concentration target is 15 July 2036.

PART 3

Population exposure reduction target

Target

7. The population exposure reduction target is that there is at least a 25% reduction in population exposure by the end of 31 December 2035 ("the target date"), as compared with the average population exposure in the three-year period from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2019 ("the baseline period"), determined in accordance with regulation 8.

Measurement

- **8.**—(1) The percentage change in population exposure between the baseline period and the target date is to be measured by—
 - (a) determining, for each year from 2019 to 2035, the amount (in μg/m³) by which the Population Exposure Indicator for that year is greater or less than the Reference Indicator for that year,
 - (b) determining the sum of the annual changes in population exposure between the baseline period and the target date, by adding together the amounts determined under sub-paragraph (a) for all years from 2019 to 2035, and
 - (c) expressing the sum of annual changes in population exposure, as represented by the amount determined under sub-paragraph (b), as a percentage of the Population Exposure Indicator for the baseline period, rounded to the nearest whole number.
- (2) Schedule 1 sets out calculations the Welsh Ministers are to carry out to make the determinations in paragraph (1) and to measure progress made towards meeting the population exposure reduction target.

Reporting date

9. For the purposes of section 5(1) of the 2024 Act, the reporting date for the population exposure reduction target is 15 July 2036.

Interpretation of this Part

10. In this Part and in Schedule 1—

"the baseline period" ("y cyfnod gwaelodlin") has the meaning given in regulation 7;

"population exposure" ("cysylltiad y boblogaeth") means population exposure to PM_{2.5};

"the Population Exposure Indicator" ("Dangosydd Cysylltiad y Boblogaeth")—

- (a) for the baseline period is a measure of average population exposure in that period;
- (b) for a year from 2019 onwards is a measure of average population exposure in the three-year period ending on 31 December in the preceding year, calculated in accordance with Schedule 1 and to be used only for the purposes of making the determination required by regulation 8(1)(a) and the calculations required by paragraphs 1(d) and 2(c) of Schedule 1.

PART 4

Monitoring and assessment

Scope of this Part

11. This Part applies to the monitoring and assessment of $PM_{2.5}$ levels carried out for the purposes of the annual mean concentration target and the population exposure reduction target.

Monitoring stations

- 12.—(1) The Welsh Ministers must ensure that the requirements in Schedule 2 (relating to the location and number of monitoring stations and position of monitoring equipment) are met.
- (2) Subject to any determination under paragraph (3)(b), every AQSR monitoring station which was in operation immediately before the coming into force of this regulation is a monitoring station for the purposes of these Regulations.
 - (3) The Welsh Ministers may from time to time—
 - (a) establish new monitoring stations to measure PM_{2.5} levels for the purposes of these Regulations, or
 - (b) determine that a monitoring station is to cease to be used for the purposes of these Regulations, provided that the requirements in paragraph 3 of Schedule 2 (minimum number of monitoring stations) continue to be met.

(4) References to monitoring stations in these Regulations are to monitoring stations for the measurement of $PM_{2.5}$ levels to which paragraph (2) applies or which are established by the Welsh Ministers under paragraph (3)(a) except where specific provision is made regarding the meaning of "monitoring station" in relation to a time before these Regulations came into force (see regulation 14(5) and the definition of "background monitoring station" in paragraph 5 of Schedule 1).

Assessment

- 13.—(1) The Welsh Ministers must ensure that $PM_{2.5}$ levels at each monitoring station are assessed as follows.
- (2) Fixed measurements of PM_{2.5} must be taken either continuously or at hourly or other regular intervals which are not less frequent than once per day—
 - (a) in accordance with the method described in [BS EN 12341:2023] ("the reference method") or
 - (b) by another method which is equivalent to the reference method ("an equivalent method").
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph (2)(b), a method of assessing PM_{2.5} levels is an equivalent method if it gives results which—
 - (a) are equivalent to the results which would be given by the reference method, or
 - (b) otherwise bear a consistent relationship with the results which would be given by the reference method, disregarding any change to that relationship as a result of changes in the composition of PM_{2.5} in ambient air in Wales over time.
- (4) If PM_{2.5} levels are assessed by a method to which paragraph 3(b) applies, the results must be adjusted to produce results equivalent to the results which would have been given by the reference method.
- (5) If PM_{2.5} levels are assessed otherwise than in accordance with paragraph 2(a), the Welsh Ministers must keep under review whether that method satisfies the requirements in paragraph (3).
- (6) In this regulation "BS EN 12341:2023" means the British Standard so numbered and titled 'Ambient Air standard gravimetric measurement method for the determination of PM_{10} or $PM_{2.5}$ mass concentration of suspended particulate matter'(1).

^{(1) [}Details for accessing BS EN 12341:2023 TBC].

Measurement, data ratification and minimum annual data capture requirement

- 14.—(1) For the purposes of these Regulations, $PM_{2.5}$ levels are to be measured in $\mu g/m^3$ to at least one decimal place.
- (2) The data obtained from fixed measurements of PM_{2.5} must be independently checked, and not used for the purposes of any calculations if it is determined they are likely to be incorrect.
- (3) The data obtained from fixed measurements of PM_{2.5} at a monitoring station in a year must only be used where the minimum annual data capture requirement is met by the monitoring station in that year.
- (4) The minimum annual data capture requirement for a monitoring station is that fixed measurements of PM_{2.5} levels are taken, and the data from such measurements are ratified, for at least 85% of the hours in a year, or if measurements are taken at periodic intervals less frequently than hourly, for at least 85% of those periods in a year.
 - (5) In this regulation—

"monitoring station" ("gorsaf fonitro") in relation to any time before these Regulations came into force includes any AQSR monitoring station that was in operation at that time;

"ratified" ("wedi eu cadarnhau") means that data have been checked in accordance with paragraph (2) and not excluded from being used in calculations.

Calculation of annual mean PM_{2.5} level at monitoring station

- **15.**—(1) The Welsh Ministers must ensure that, as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of each year, the annual mean PM_{2.5} level is calculated for each monitoring station.
- (2) If PM_{2.5} levels are measured at periodic intervals, the annual mean PM_{2.5} level at a monitoring station is to be calculated as the mean of all the ratified periodic measurements taken in a year.

Contributions from natural sources

- 16.—(1)Where the Welsh Ministers consider that a target has not been met for a reason attributable to contributions from natural sources, the Welsh Ministers may assess and subtract the contributions from natural sources when assessing whether a target has been met.
- (2) Where the Welsh Ministers determine that a target has not been met for a reason attributable to contributions from natural sources in accordance with

- paragraph (1), the Welsh Ministers must publish information demonstrating that the failure to meet the target is attributable to natural sources.
- (3) In this regulation, "contributions from natural sources" means emissions of pollutants not caused directly or indirectly by human activities, including natural events such as volcanic eruptions, seismic activities, geothermal activities, wild-land fires, highwind events, sea sprays or the atmospheric resuspension or transport of natural particles from dry regions.

PART 5

Supplementary

Information

- **17.**—(1) The Welsh Ministers must publish the information set out in Schedule 3.
- (2) The information must be published within a reasonable time after—
 - (a) the information is available to the Welsh Ministers, and
 - (b) the Welsh Ministers are satisfied that the data set out in paragraphs 8 to 11 of Schedule 3 are correct.

Name

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs, one of the Welsh Ministers Date

SCHEDULE 1 Regulation 8(2)

Population exposure reduction target calculations

Initial calculations

- **1.** The following are to be calculated by 15 July 2027—
 - (a) the Population Exposure Indicator for the baseline period ("PEIbase");
 - (b) the Population Exposure Indicator for each of the years 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026;
 - (c) the Reference Indicator for each of the years 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026;

(d) Δ for each of years 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026, where Δ for a year means the amount by which the Population Exposure Indicator for that year is greater or lesser than the Reference Indicator for that year.

Annual calculations

- **2.** The following are to be calculated for each year from 2027 onwards ("year n"), by 15 July in the following year—
 - (a) the Population Exposure Indicator for year n;
 - (b) the Reference Indicator for year n;
 - (c) Δ for year n;
 - (d) the sum of Δ for each of the years beginning with 2020 up to and including year n (" Δ sum");
 - (e) the cumulative total of the annual changes to the Population Exposure Indicator from the baseline period up to and including year n, expressed as a percentage of PEIbase as determined by the calculation—

$$\frac{\Delta sum}{PEIbase} \times 100$$

Calculation of PEIbase, Population Exposure Indicator and Reference Indicator

- **3.**—(1) PEIbase is to be calculated by carrying out the following steps—
- —step 1: calculate the mean of the annual mean PM_{2.5} level in 2017 for each baseline monitoring station which was in operation throughout that year and met the minimum annual data capture requirement in that year:
- —step 2: repeat step 1 for the years 2018 and 2019;
- —step 3: calculate the mean of the values calculated under steps 1 and 2 for the years 2017, 2018 and 2019 to obtain PEIbase.
- (2) The Population Exposure Indicator for a year ("PEIyear") is to be calculated by carrying out the following steps—
- —step 1: calculate the mean of the annual mean PM_{2.5} levels in that year for each PEI monitoring station, excluding any monitoring station which did not meet the minimum annual data capture requirement in that year;
- —step 2: repeat step 1 for each of the two preceding years;
- —step 3: calculate the mean of the values calculated under steps 1 and 2 to obtain PEIyear.

- (3) The Reference Indicator for a year ("RIyear") is to be calculated by carrying out the following steps—
- —step 1: calculate the mean of the annual mean PM_{2.5} levels in the preceding year for each PEI monitoring station, excluding any PEI monitoring station which did not meet the minimum annual data capture requirement in that year;
- —step 2: repeat step 1 for each of the two previous years;
- —step 3: calculate the mean of the values calculated under steps 1 and 2 for those three years to obtain RIyear.

Calculation and rounding

- **4.**—(1) The calculations in this Schedule are to be made using $PM_{2.5}$ levels in $\mu g/m^3$ to at least one decimal place.
- (2) Any amount or value to be calculated under this Schedule is to be calculated to at least two decimal places, and if it used for any subsequent calculation under this Schedule, the unrounded amount or value is to be used.
- (3) For the purpose of publication under paragraphs 9 to 11 of Schedule 3 (information required to be published)—
 - (a) PEIbase and PEIyear are to be expressed to two decimal places;
 - (b) the percentage calculated under paragraph 2(e) is to be rounded to the nearest whole number.

Interpretation of Schedule 1

5.—(1) In this Schedule—

"background monitoring station" ("gorsaf fonitro gefndir") means a monitoring station which is at an urban background site or a suburban background site, within the meanings given in paragraph 1 of Schedule 2, and for this purpose "monitoring station" in relation to any time before these Regulations came into force includes any AQSR monitoring station which was in operation at that time;

"baseline monitoring station" ("gorsaf fonitro waelodlin") means a background monitoring station which in one or more of the years 2017, 2018 and 2019—

- (a) was in operation throughout that year, and
- (b) met the minimum annual data capture requirement in that year;

"PElbase" ("DCBgwaelodlin") has the meaning given in paragraph 1(a);

- "PEImonitoring station" ("gorsaf fonitro DCB"), in relation to the measurement of the Population Exposure Indicator or the Reference Indicator for a year, means a monitoring station which—
- (a) is or was in operation throughout that year and the three preceding years, and
- (b) met the minimum annual data capture requirement in at least three of those four years;

" Δ " has the meaning given in paragraph 1(d).

SCHEDULE 2 Regulation 12

Monitoring stations

Site descriptions: interpretation

1. In this Schedule, the following descriptions of site of monitoring stations have the following meanings—

"near source" ("ger ffynhonnell") means a site in a location where the PM_{2.5} level is likely to be elevated above the background level due to the influence of one or more sources of pollution in close proximity to the site, such as emissions from traffic from a major road or from nearby industrial sources;

"suburban background" ("cefndir maestrefol") means a site—

- (a) in a partially built-up area which is mixed with non-urbanised areas, and
- (b) where the PM_{2.5} level is not significantly influenced by a source or sources of pollution in close proximity to the site, and is therefore representative of the background level of PM_{2.5} to which the population is likely to be exposed across a wider area than the immediate vicinity of the site;

"urban background" ("cefndir trefol") means a site—

- (a) in a continuously or predominantly built-up area which is mixed with non-urbanised areas except for urban parks, and
- (b) where the PM_{2.5} level is not significantly influenced by a source or sources of pollution in close proximity to the site, and is therefore representative of the background level of PM_{2.5} to which the population is likely to be exposed across a wider area than the immediate vicinity of the site.

Location of monitoring stations

- **2.**—(1) All monitoring stations must be located at a site which—
 - (a) the public or a section of the public have access and are likely to frequent;
 - (b) is not within the boundary of a factory or other industrial premises;
 - (c) is not on the carriageway of a road, or on a central reservation of a road to which there is not normally pedestrian access.
- (2) Subject to complying with sub-paragraph (1), and to the requirements in paragraphs 4 and 5, a monitoring station may be located at a site of any description (and not only at a site of a description in paragraph 1).

Minimum numbers of monitoring stations

- **3.**—(1) Until 31 December 2032—
 - (a) the total number of monitoring stations in each zone must be not less than the number of AQSR monitoring stations in that zone immediately before the coming into force of these Regulations;
 - (b) at least one monitoring station in each zone must be at an urban background or suburban background site.
- (2) From 1 January 2033—
 - (a) the total number of monitoring stations in each zone, and
 - (b) the number of those monitoring stations which are—
 - (i) at urban background or suburban background sites;
 - (ii) at near-source sites,

must not be less than the minimum numbers specified in the following table.

Population of zone (thousands)	Minimum total number of monitoring stations	Minimum number of monitoring stations at urban backgroun d or suburban backgroun d sites	Minimum number of monitoring stations at near- source sites
\geq 6,000	15	10	5
4,750 – 5,999	11	7	4

3,750 -	10	6	4
4,749	9		2
2,750- 3,749	9	6	3
1,000 –	6	4	2
2,749	2		
250 – 999	3	2	1
≤ 250	2	1	1

Siting criteria

- **4.**—(1) Monitoring stations must be sited in accordance with the criteria in sub-paragraphs (2) to (4).
- (2) Monitoring stations must be sited to avoid measuring $PM_{2.5}$ levels within very small microenvironments in their immediate vicinity.
- (3) Monitoring stations at near-source sites, as a group, must include stations which are sited to provide data that are representative of locations where the highest PM_{2.5} concentrations are likely to occur to which the population is exposed for significant periods.
- (4) Monitoring stations that are at near-source sites where the main nearby source of pollution is traffic emissions from a road must be—
 - (a) not more than 10 metres from the kerbside of the road,
 - (b) not less than 25 metres from the edge of any junction which interrupts the traffic flow and causes different levels of vehicular $PM_{2.5}$ emissions from the rest of the road, and
 - (c) representative of PM_{2.5} levels in a length of the road of not less than 100 metres.

Position of monitoring equipment

- **5.** Equipment for measuring levels at monitoring stations must be positioned in accordance with the following criteria—
 - (a) the flow of air around the sampling inlet must be unrestricted (free in an arc of at least 180° if the equipment is affixed or adjacent to a building or 270° otherwise);
 - (b) the sampling inlet must—
 - (i) be not less than 0.5 metres from the nearest building, tree or other obstacle, and
 - (ii) not be positioned in the immediate vicinity of a source of PM_{2.5} emissions;

- (c) the height of the inlet sampling probe must be not less than 1.5 metres and not more than 8 metres above the ground;
- (d) the sampler's exhaust outlet must be positioned so that recirculation of exhaust air to the sampler inlet is avoided.

SCHEDULE 3 Regulation 17

Publication of information

Monitoring stations: general information

- 1. In relation to each monitoring station—
 - (a) its zone and location;
 - (b) the date on which it first started to be used for the monitoring of PM_{2.5} levels;
 - (c) the description of the site (as listed in paragraph 1 of Schedule 2), if any, at which it is located;
 - (d) whether $PM_{2.5}$ levels measured at the monitoring station are used for the purposes of—
 - (i) the annual mean concentration target and the population exposure reduction target, or
 - (ii) the annual mean concentration target only.

Monitoring stations: location details

- 2. In relation to each monitoring station—
 - (a) a map of its location and photographs of the surrounding area;
 - (b) the precise location of the sampling inlet including its height above the ground.
- **3.** In relation to each monitoring station at a near-source site—
 - (a) a description of the predominant nearby source of emissions:
 - (b) the distance of the monitoring station from that source.

Monitoring stations: temporary or permanent impacts

4. In relation to each monitoring station, a description of any local influences (such as construction or roadworks) which have led to a temporary or permanent change in the extent to which PM_{2.5} levels measured at the site are representative of PM_{2.5} levels in the surrounding area.

Assessment methods and quality control

- **5.** In relation to each monitoring station, a narrative description of the method used to take fixed measurements of $PM_{2.5}$ levels.
- **6.** An explanation of how any equivalent methods used are equivalent to the reference method.
- **7.** A description of any quality assurance and quality control systems used to ensure the continued accuracy of measuring devices and the data obtained from them.

Data

- **8.** In relation to each monitoring station—
 - (a) for each period in which a fixed measurement of PM_{2.5} was taken and ratified, the measured value, or the mean of the measured values if more than one measurement was taken and ratified;
 - (b) the annual data capture rate;
 - (c) the annual mean PM_{2.5} level in each year.
- **9.** PEIbase (that is, the Population Exposure Indicator, as defined in regulation 10, for the baseline period as defined in regulation 7).
- **10.** The Population Exposure Indicator for the most recent year for which it has been calculated.
- 11. The result of the calculation in paragraph 2(e) of Schedule 1 (that is, the percentage of PEIbase which represents the cumulative sum of annual changes to the Population Exposure Indicator since the baseline period), for the most recent year for which it has been calculated.