



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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Date: 25 May 2023

Dear Consultee

Consultation on introducing penalty notices for animal health and welfare offences in England

I am writing to invite your views on the scope of animal health and welfare offences that could be covered by penalty notices and elements on how the penalty regime might work in practice to ensure the guidance is clear and transparent to enforcers and the general public.

The following documents may be found on GOV.UK:

- consultation letter
- consultation document
- privacy notice

We welcome your views and comments on the proposals.

Responses

To submit your consultation response, please complete the consultation questionnaire provided through Citizen Space (Citizen Space is an on-line consultation tool) at:

<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/animal-health-and-welfare/penalty-notices-for-ahw-offences-in-england>

Alternatively, please post your response to:

Consultation Coordinator
2nd floor
Foss House
Kings Pool
1 to 2 Peasholme Green
York
YO1 7PX

Or email: ahwenforcement@defra.gov.uk

Responses should be received by **20 July 2023**.



Consultation criteria

This consultation will be conducted in line with the Cabinet Office Consultations Principles. These can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultationprinciples-guidance>

This consultation will remain open for 8 weeks.

A summary of responses to this consultation will be published on the government website at www.gov.uk within 12 weeks of the consultation closing. The summary will include a list of organisations that responded but not personal names, addresses or other contact details.

If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, please address them to:

Consultation Coordinator

2nd Floor

Foss House

Kings Pool

1 to 2 Peasholme Green

York

YO1 7PX

Or email: consultation.coordinator@defra.gov.uk

Confidentiality and data protection

Please find the Consultations Privacy Notice uploaded alongside this consultation.

This consultation document and consultation process have been planned to adhere to the Consultation Principles issued by the Cabinet Office.

Representative groups are asked to give a summary of the people and organisations they represent and where relevant who else they have consulted in reaching their conclusions when they respond.

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal data, may be published or disclosed in accordance with the access to information regimes. These are primarily the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs), the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA).

We have obligations, mainly under the EIRs, FOIA and DPA, to disclose information to particular recipients or to the public in certain circumstances.

If you want the information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, as a public authority, the Department is bound by the Freedom of Information Act and may therefore be obliged to disclose all or some of the information you provide.

In view of this it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential.

If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department.

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Thank you for your help in this matter. If you have any queries, please contact us as above.

Yours faithfully

Better Enforcement Team

Transforming Farm Animal Health and Welfare

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs