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Date: 4 October 2018

**Dear Consultee** 

## Consultation on establishing UK Geographical Indications (GI) schemes after EU exit.

We are writing to invite views on the introduction of the UK's geographical indications (GI) schemes to be in place after we leave the EU. Our proposals for the UK GI schemes are based on retaining the existing EU regulations within UK law via the EU Withdrawal Act. This will maintain the four separate GI schemes for; agri-food products, wines, aromatised wines and spirit drinks. The retained EU regulations also include some wider wine and spirit sector standards, which the consultation addresses.

We are seeking input on the arrangements for a new UK GI logo and an appeals process, as well as views on the scheme more generally. We are particularly interested in hearing from existing GI producers, current and potential GI applicants, trade associations and enforcement bodies.

The consultation document can be found on Defra's citizen space: https://consult.defra.gov.uk/food/consultation-on-uk-geographical-indications-scheme/

## Responses

We welcome your views and comments on the proposals. We would prefer you to give us your answers to the consultation questions using the <u>online survey</u> on our consultation website. If you are unable to do so, you can email your responses to:

<u>GI scheme consultation@defra.gsi.gov.uk</u>

Alternatively, postal responses should be addressed to:

The GI team
Defra
2nd Floor
Horizon House
Deanery Road
Bristol
BS1 5TL

Responses should be received by 1st November 2018.



## Confidentiality and data protection

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.

This consultation is being conducted in line with the Cabinet Office "Consultation Principles" and be found at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultation-principles-guidance.

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

Consultation Coordinator Area 1C, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Nobel House 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR.

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

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

Yours sincerely

The GI team

**Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs**