



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
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Dear Consultee

Consultation on the Plant Biosecurity Strategy for Great Britain and Additional Biosecurity Measures for High-Risk Tree Species.

1. As the Head of the UK Plant Health Service, and on behalf of Defra, the governments of Scotland and Wales, our agencies and delivery partners, I am writing to invite you to participate in the consultation on a refreshed Plant Biosecurity Strategy for Great Britain. We are seeking your views on the next steps we should collectively take to improve our plant biosecurity regime for Great Britain. The consultation is aimed at a wide range of audiences including the general public, and those working in the plant sectors. We are seeking views on the range of biosecurity initiatives, and approaches, as well as seeking information about people's general biosecurity behaviour. Your response will help inform our biosecurity approach over the next five years and inform the joint commitments we take forward with our stakeholders in the new strategy, which will be published in 2022.
2. We are also writing to invite your views on additional biosecurity measures associated with specific risks from trees. Your response will help inform policy thinking around pre-border, at the border and inland biosecurity measures for high-risk trees. We will ask respondents about their views on the range of biosecurity measures currently in place and whether measures could be introduced in the future to strengthen our biosecurity regime
3. The following documents may be found on GOV.UK: GB PBS Consultation Document, GB PBS Consultation Document – Welsh Version.
4. We welcome your views and comments on the proposals. If you wish to obtain a copy of this consultation. Please contact plantbiosecuritystrategy@defra.gov.uk

Responses

5. To submit your consultation response please complete the consultation questionnaire provided through Citizen Space (Citizen Space is an online consultation tool). If you require a copy of the consultation, please contact us at plantbiosecuritystrategy@defra.gov.uk

Responses or additional information or documents can be sent to:
Consultation on Plant Biosecurity Strategy for Great Britain
Coordinator
Second floor
Foss House
Kings Pool
1 to 2 Peasholme Green
York
YO1 7PX 5

6. Responses should be received by 30 November 2021.

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 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:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultationprinciplesguidance.

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

Consultation Coordinator
Second floor
Foss House
Kings Pool
1 to 2 Peasholme Green
York
YO1 7PX 5

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

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

Yours Faithfully,

Professor Nicola Spence
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs