



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

T: 03459 335577
helpline@defra.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/defra

Date: 12 June 2023

Dear Consultee

Consultation on Charging arrangements at government-run Border Control Posts

In the recently published draft [Target Operating Model](#), government outlined its plan to charge for eligible sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) consignments. The charge would recover operating costs for government-run border control posts (BCPs). As part of this plan, it committed to consulting on the proposed methodology and rates.

I am writing to invite views on Defra's intention to administer a single Common User Charge for eligible SPS consignments at government-run BCPs serving the Port of Dover and Eurotunnel Le Shuttle in England. We would like your views on the principles, methodology and indicative rates of the Common User Charge to determine fair and reasonable charges. We also want to get your feedback, in the form of evidenced examples, which show any potential impact and implications that these charges would have upon your trading.

The following documents may be found on GOV.UK:

<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/government-bcp-charging-strategy-implementation/charging-at-government-border-control-posts>

- Charging arrangements at government-run border control posts – Consultation

We welcome your views and comments on the proposals over the next four weeks. Given the concise nature of the document and the separate engagement that has taken place as part of the Draft Target Operating Model, we consider this four-week consultation timeframe to be proportionate. Consulting for this period will provide sufficient time for key stakeholders to respond and enable us to deliver the policy in a timely way.

Responses

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 document, please contact us at BCPcharging@defra.gov.uk

Responses or additional information or documents can be sent to:

Consultation - Charging arrangements at government-run border control posts

Coordinator

Second floor

Foss House Kings Pool

1 to 2 Peasholme Green York YO1 7PX

Responses should be received **by 11:59 pm on 09 July 2023**

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.

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

2nd floor

Foss House

Kings Pool

1-2 Peasholme Green

York

YO1 7PX

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,

Joanne Bradshaw

Director - Biosecurity, Borders & Trade Programme

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs