

Privacy Notice – SSSI Notification Process



Who is collecting my data?

The data controller is Natural England, Foss House, Kings Pool, 1-2 Peasholme Green, York, YO1 7PX. You can contact the Natural England Data Protection Manager at: Natural England, County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP; foi@naturalengland.org.uk.

Any questions about how we are using your personal data and your associated rights should be sent to the above contact. The Data Protection Officer responsible for monitoring that Natural England is meeting the requirements of the legislation is: Defra Group Data Protection Officer, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, SW Quarter, 2nd floor, Seacole Block, 2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF. DefraGroupDataProtectionOfficer@defra.gsi.gov.uk.

Which of my data are being collected and how are they used? What is the legal basis for the processing?

Natural England collects (typically via a search of HM Land Registry records) and stores names and postal addresses of owners and occupiers of land within sites of special scientific interest (SSSI). We also store telephone numbers and email addresses where provided to us by owners and occupiers at their discretion. These data are stored and processed on a computer database.

The data are used for the purposes of: seeking permission to access land to determine whether it should be notified as a SSSI; liaising with land owners and occupiers about our proposals prior to formal SSSI notification; serving formal notification and confirmation of a new or amended SSSI under sections 28 to 28D of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981; and liaising with owners and occupiers over the management, monitoring and protection of SSSIs.

Processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the data controller, specifically to enable Natural England to discharge its statutory duties and powers with respect to SSSIs.

Who will my data be shared with?

Natural England does not routinely share your information with other organisations. However, there is significant public interest in knowing who owns or occupies protected sites and Natural England is subject to transparency obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. So your details will be publicly available during the notification process and on consenting and agreement documents.

We will respect personal privacy, whilst complying with access to information requests to the extent necessary to enable Natural England to comply with its statutory obligations under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

If you are relying on my consent to process my data, can I withdraw my consent?

No, because the processing is not based on consent.

How long will my data be held for?

Your personal data will be kept by us in perpetuity.

What will happen if I don't provide the data?

Failure to provide this information will mean that we may be less able to work effectively with you to help you to discharge your obligations with respect to the management and protection of SSSIs.

We will continue to use information already held by us (for instance from HM Land Registry) but these may be out of date and will not include telephone numbers or email addresses. Owners of land included in a SSSI have a legal obligation (section 28Q of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) to notify Natural England within 28 days if the ownership or occupancy of the land changes.

Will my data be used for automated decision-making or profiling?

The information you provide is not connected with individual decision making (making a decision solely by automated means without any human involvement) or profiling (automated processing of personal data to evaluate certain things about an individual).

Will my data be transferred outside of the EEA? If it will, how will it be protected?

The data you provide will not be transferred outside the European Economic Area.

What are my rights?

A list of your rights under the General Data Protection Regulation, the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA 2018), is accessible at: <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr/individual-rights/>

How do I complain?

You have the right to lodge a complaint with the ICO (supervisory authority) at any time. Should you wish to exercise that right full details are available at: <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr/individual-rights/>

Personal Information Charter

Details of our Personal Information Charter can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/natural-england/about/personal-information-charter>.