



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Defra
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

T: 03459 335577
www.gov.uk/defra

Date: 06 May 2022

Dear Consultee

Consultation on environmental targets

1. I am writing to invite views on new proposed targets under the Environment Act 2021 to improve the natural environment.
2. The Environment Act 2021 requires the government to set at least one long-term target in each of the following areas: air quality; water; biodiversity; and resource efficiency and waste reduction. It also requires targets to be set for fine particulate matter (PM2.5) and species abundance. We are proposing targets that we think will deliver environmental outcomes in the areas where there are some of the where we face some of greatest threats and pressures. This is why we are considering targets beyond the minimum required, with additional proposals on: biodiversity; water; marine; and woodland cover.
3. The following documents have been published on GOV.UK:
<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/natural-environment-policy/consultation-on-environmental-targets>
 - Environmental targets consultation document
 - Overarching Impact Assessment and individual target area Impact Assessments
 - Environment Act 2021 targets evidence reports

Responses

4. To submit your consultation response please complete the consultation questionnaire provided through Citizen Space (Citizen Space is an online consultation tool).
5. If you have already responded to the consultation and want to provide an additional response, please use the same email address that you used in your first response. This will help in our consultation analysis. If you require a copy of the consultation, please contact us at environmentaltargets@defra.gov.uk. Responses or additional information or documents can be sent to:

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

6. Responses should be received by **27 June 2022**.

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

Environmental Targets Team

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs