



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

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[www.gov.uk/defra](http://www.gov.uk/defra)

9 January 2018

Dear Consultee

### **Consultation on tackling Invasive Non-native Species: a new enforcement regime**

1. I am writing to invite views on a regime to enforce the EU Invasive Alien Species Regulation in England and Wales. The EU Invasive Alien Species Regulation came into force in 2015. It currently applies restrictions on 49 invasive non-native species of most concern in Europe including a ban on keeping and sale. This consultation sets out proposals for enforcing those restrictions through the use of civil and criminal penalties. It will be of relevance for businesses that import or trade in non-native species and individuals that keep them, as well as those working in zoos and aquaria and NGOs with an interest in protecting the environment from these species.

2. The following documents may be found on Defra's website  
<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/natural-environment-policy/invasive-non-native-species-enforcement>

- **Consultation document.**

3. We welcome your views and comments on the proposals. If you wish to obtain a paper copy of this consultation, please contact [invasivealienspecies@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:invasivealienspecies@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

### **Responses**

4. To submit your consultation response please complete the consultation questionnaire provided through Citizen Space (Citizen Space is an on-line consultation tool) or alternatively please email or post your response at the address above.

5. Responses should be received by **3 April 2018**.

6. This is a twelve week consultation.

### **Consultation Criteria**

7. This consultation is in line with the Consultation Principles. This can be found at <http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/resource-library/consultation-principles-guidance>



## **Confidentiality and data protection**

8. A summary of responses to this consultation will be published on the Government website at: [www.gov.uk/defra](http://www.gov.uk/defra). The summary will include a list of organisations that responded **but not** personal names, addresses or other contact details.

9. Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be made available to the public on request, in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs). Defra may also publish the responses to the FOIA/EIR requests on [www.gov.uk/defra](http://www.gov.uk/defra).

10. If you want information, including personal information such as your name, that you provide to be treated as confidential, please explain clearly in writing when you provide your response to the consultation why you need to keep these details confidential. If we receive a request for the information under the FOIA or the EIRs we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot guarantee that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. However, Defra will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will we act in contravention of our obligations under the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA). An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as a confidentiality request.

11. Defra will share the information you provide in response to the consultation, including any personal data, with a third party of contracted external analysts for the purposes of response analysis and provision of a report.

12. Defra is the data controller in respect of any personal data that you provide, and Defra's Personal Information Charter, which gives details of your rights in respect of the handling of your personal data, can be found at:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs/about/personal-information-charter>

13. This consultation is being conducted in line with the "Consultation Principles" as set out in the Better Regulation Executive guidance which can be found at:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultation-principles-guidance>

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

Consultation Co-ordinator  
8A  
8th Floor, Nobel House  
17 Smith Square,  
London, SW1P 3JR.  
Or email: [consultation.coordinator@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto: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 faithfully  
Invasive Alien Species team  
[invasivealienspecies@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:invasivealienspecies@defra.gsi.gov.uk)  
**Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs**