



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

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September 2021

Dear Consultee,

**Consultation on changes to the regulatory framework for abstraction and impounding licensing in England: Moving into the Environmental Permitting Regulations regime**

I am writing to invite views on moving abstraction and impounding licensing into the Environmental Permitting Regulations.

The Consultation document can be found on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

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

**Responses**

To submit your consultation response please complete the consultation questionnaire provided through Citizen Space (Citizen Space is an online consultation tool).

Responses or additional information or documents can also be sent to [water.abstraction@defra.gov.uk](mailto:water.abstraction@defra.gov.uk) or to:

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

Responses should be received by 22<sup>nd</sup> December 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 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"](#).

Thank you for your help in this matter. If you have any queries, comments or complaints about the consultation process please contact us as above.

Yours faithfully,

Davide Minotti  
Deputy Director, Water Services  
**Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs**

Email-[water.abstraction@defra.gov.uk](mailto:water.abstraction@defra.gov.uk)