

CONSULTATION ON NESTA

A proposal to reconstitute as a
charity and trust

OCTOBER 2011

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Consultation on NESTA: A proposal to reconstitute as a charity and trust

Issued: 18 October 2011

Respond by: 29 November 2011

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2nd Floor, Orchard 2
1 Victoria Street
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Tel: 020 7215 5322
Email: NESTAconsultation@bis.gsi.gov.uk

This consultation is relevant to: employees and trustees of NESTA and anyone who has an interest in their work. In particular we are seeking views from partners of NESTA in the public, private and voluntary sectors, including central and local government and the devolved administrations.

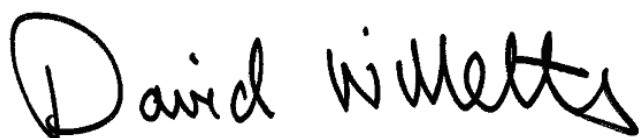
1. Foreword from the Minister for Universities and Science

Over the past year, the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and other departments have been reviewing their public bodies and their functions to see firstly, whether their functions are really necessary and secondly, whether they are configured in the way that maximises accountability and value.

This document is a consultation covering the National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts (NESTA), a body we want to reform through the Public Bodies Bill, currently going through Parliament, which creates legislative powers to enable us to make reforms to the public bodies landscape.

NESTA has been in existence since 1998 when it was created as an executive non-departmental public body with a remit to support and promote talent, innovation and creativity in the fields of science, technology and the arts. NESTA and its activities are considered highly valuable to the UK growth and innovation agenda and we were clear in considering NESTA's future that it was an organisation that we needed to retain, but that it did not need to remain a public body.

We welcome your views on the proposal in this paper.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Willetts". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

The Right Honourable David Willetts MP

Minister for Universities and Science

2. Executive summary

The Government has decided that it needs to reform the crowded public bodies landscape in the UK in order to enable the Government to deliver public services more efficiently. The status of the National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts (NESTA) is therefore being considered as part of this wider reform of public bodies.

NESTA is an executive non-departmental public body (NDPB) with a remit to support and promote talent, innovation and creativity in the fields of science, technology and the arts. It promotes innovation and creativity to help tackle social and economic problems and provides an independent, well-informed voice and commentary on innovation policy.

NESTA has a large amount of independence from Government as its programmes and strategy are determined by its trustees and it is funded by the return on its National Lottery endowment, currently valued at £321 million. The Government view is that NESTA performs a valuable function and it wants to see NESTA's activities continue but that it is not necessary for NESTA to remain an NDPB or to be part of the public sector in order to carry out its functions. Much of NESTA's work could be carried out by a charitable body and the Government view is that NESTA's activities are better suited to the voluntary sector. There is no anticipated negative impact on NESTA's work as a result of a change in status to a charity.

The Government is minded to use the powers in the Public Bodies Bill to implement the proposal outlined in this consultation to abolish NESTA as an NDPB and establish it as an independent charity with a separate charitable trust to hold the National Lottery endowment, subject to the approval of the Charity Commission. The Public Bodies Bill, as currently drafted, requires that Ministers consult on their proposal before laying a draft order, and the Government accepts this requirement. Responses to this consultation will therefore be used to inform the Government's decision.

The Government is seeking your views on its proposal, in particular:

- Do you agree that NESTA should have increased independence from Government?
- Do you consider the Government's proposal to be the most suitable option to allow NESTA to continue with its current work?
- Do you consider that the Government has explored all the options relevant to NESTA?

This consultation is aimed at employees and trustees of NESTA and anyone who has an interest in their work; in particular we are seeking views from partners of NESTA in the public, private and voluntary sectors, including central and local government and the devolved administrations. As the scope of this consultation is narrow, the Government is conducting a focused and targeted consultation which will last six weeks. Although the consultation is not a formal public consultation, the general principles of the Code of Practice for Consultations will be followed as far as practicable. The consultation

document is widely available to all interested stakeholders and the wider public who have been alerted to the consultation by statements on both the BIS and NESTA websites.

An impact assessment for the preferred policy option is available at <http://www.bis.gov.uk/assets/biscore/innovation/docs/p/11-1304-proposal-nesta-charity-and-trust-impact-assessment>.

3. How to respond

The consultation will begin on 18 October 2011 and run for six weeks, closing at 5pm on 29 November 2011.

When responding, please state whether you are responding as an individual or representing the views of an organisation. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please make it clear who the organisation represents by selecting the appropriate interest group on the consultation response form and, where applicable, how the views of members were assembled.

A copy of the consultation response form is at Annex C, or available electronically at <http://www.bis.gov.uk/assets/biscore/innovation/docs/c/11-1303rf-consultation-nesta-reconstitute-charity-and-trust-form>. The form can be submitted by letter or email to:

Laura Hart
Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
2nd Floor, Orchard 2
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

Tel: 020 7215 5322
Email: NESTAconsultation@bis.gsi.gov.uk

A list of organisations consulted is at Annex B. We would welcome suggestions of others who may wish to be involved in this consultation process.

4. Additional copies

You may make copies of this document without seeking permission.

Printed copies of the consultation document are available on request from:

BIS Publications Orderline
ADMAIL 528
London
SW1W 8YT
Tel: 0845 015 0010
Fax: 0845 015 0020
Minicom: 0845 015 0030
www.bis.gov.uk/publications

An electronic version can be found at <http://www.bis.gov.uk/assets/biscore/innovation/docs/c/11-1303-consultation-nesta-reconstitute-charity-and-trust>.

Other versions of the document in Braille, other languages or audio cassette are available on request.

5. Confidentiality & data protection

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be subject to publication or release to other parties or to disclosure in accordance with the access to information regimes (these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004). If you want information, including personal data that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, under the FOIA, there is a statutory Code of Practice with which public authorities must comply and which deals, amongst other things, with obligations of confidence.

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.

6. Help with queries

Questions about the policy issues raised in the document can be addressed to:

Laura Hart
Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
2nd Floor, Orchard 2
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

Tel: 020 7215 5322
Email: NESTAconsultation@bis.gsi.gov.uk

A copy of the Code of Practice on Consultation is attached at Annex A.

7. The proposal

The National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts (NESTA) is an executive non-departmental public body (NDPB) sponsored by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills. NESTA was established by the National Lottery Act 1998 with objects to “support and promote talent, innovation and creativity in the fields of science, technology and the arts”. NESTA has a National Lottery endowment currently valued at £321 million and receives no funding from Government.

As part of the Government’s public bodies reform programme, the Government announced in October 2010 that it would seek to establish NESTA as an independent charity with the National Lottery endowment held in a separate charitable trust. The Government is now consulting on its proposal to achieve this transfer out of the public sector to the voluntary sector by abolishing NESTA as an NDPB and creating two new charities to continue NESTA’s activities:

- a charitable trust in the public sector to hold NESTA’s National Lottery endowment; and
- a charity in the voluntary sector which would apply the endowment in its capacity as trustee of the charitable trust.

Both of these are subject to Charity Commission approval.

NESTA’s background

The National Lottery Act 1998 states that NESTA’s objects are to be achieved by the following means, namely:

- helping talented individuals (or groups of such individuals) in the fields of science, technology and the arts to achieve their potential;
- helping persons to turn inventions or ideas in the fields of science, technology and the arts into products or services;
 - which can be effectively exploited; and
 - the rights to which can be adequately protected; and
- contributing to public knowledge and appreciation of science, technology and the arts.

In recent years, NESTA has focused on supporting and promoting talent, innovation and creativity by developing models of innovation for the wider public benefit. It achieves its objects by running practical experiments and commissioning policy and research work for wider dissemination and adoption by policy makers. NESTA’s portfolio of projects changes from year to year as NESTA experiments and adapts to changing societal and economic challenges. NESTA’s current strategy is focused on the role of innovation in three main areas:

- delivering more effective public services;

- the creative economy; and
- improving economic growth in the UK.

NESTA also provides access to early stage capital through NESTA Investments to help innovative and creative businesses turn their ideas into commercial success.

NESTA does not receive funding from Government. NESTA's endowment from the National Lottery Distribution Fund, currently valued at £321 million, provides approx. £15 million per annum in income. The majority of NESTA's endowment (approx. £200 million) is invested in gilts by the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt. The remaining endowment is invested in equity, cash, property and the NESTA Investments portfolio. NESTA also raises income from external sources, e.g. for delivery of specific programmes. This, along with the return on the endowment, provided NESTA with a total income of £18.8 million in 2010/11.

NESTA is governed by a board of trustees appointed by Ministers from the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills. The Chair and Arts Trustee are appointed jointly with Ministers from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.

NESTA is a UK-wide body and is headquartered in London, with a programmes office in Dundee. Many of its activities, particularly programmes run by the Public Services Lab, take place outside of London in partnership with local or devolved government bodies or other, often voluntary sector or community-led organisations. There is no intention to change the geographical scope of NESTA.

NESTA already has a large degree of independence from Government; it has financial independence by virtue of its endowment and while the sponsor department has a role to support and challenge NESTA, it does not direct NESTA or its work.

Further information about NESTA can be found at www.nesta.org.uk.

Public bodies reform

The Government is committed to reforming the public bodies landscape and on 14 October 2010, the Government announced a number of proposals to take forward this commitment¹. These proposals followed a review of public bodies, the aim of which was to reduce the number and cost of public bodies as set out in the Coalition's programme for government².

On 28 October 2010, the Government introduced the Public Bodies Bill in the House of Lords; an enabling bill which will provide the legislative framework for enacting many of the public bodies reform proposals. Once the Bill has come into force, Ministers will be able to make orders under the Bill's powers to take forward the detail of their proposals. Such an order will be required to effect any changes to NESTA as it is a statutory body, established by the National Lottery Act 1998.

¹ <http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/resource-library/public-bodies-reform-proposals-change>

² <http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/news/coalition-documents>

Why is the Government proposing to change NESTA's status?

The Government considered several factors when reviewing public bodies. First, we asked if the function of the public body needed to be carried out at all. The Government then applied three tests to determine whether a public body is the right delivery mechanism:

- Does it perform a technical function?
- Do its activities require political impartiality?
- Does it need to act independently to establish facts?

In our view, NESTA did not meet these three criteria to remain a public body. However, the Government believes that NESTA performs a valuable function and wants to see its activities continue. NESTA promotes innovation and creativity to help tackle social and economic problems and provides an independent and well-informed voice and commentary on innovation policy, as well as generating ideas that have real impact. The Government's view is that NESTA would be better placed to deliver this experimental work outside the public sector.

Reconstitution of NESTA as a charity and a charitable trust

To enable NESTA to operate from the voluntary sector, the Government proposes to abolish NESTA the NDPB as set up under the National Lottery Act 1998 and, subject to the approval of the Charity Commission, reconstitute it as two charities:

- a charitable trust in the public sector which would hold NESTA's National Lottery endowment; and
- a charity in the voluntary sector which would apply the endowment in its capacity as trustee of the trust.

This would allow NESTA to continue its valuable work while protecting the endowment and further distancing NESTA from Government. This structure is based on the successful precedent of the Millennium Awards Trust created in 2003; an endowment established by the Millennium Commission and funded by National Lottery funds whose activities are carried out by the Foundation for Social Entrepreneurs (known as UnLtd).

The endowment would be held in a separate charitable trust in the public sector rather than directly transferred to the charity in the voluntary sector, which will be a private sector entity. The majority of the endowment is currently invested in gilts which sits as a liquid asset benefitting Public Sector Net Debt (PSND). For National Accounts purposes transferral of the endowment out of the public sector would have a detrimental effect on PSND, as this would reduce the stock of government's assets and for that reason, the endowment is required to remain within the public sector. A charitable trust in the public sector would ensure that Ministers maintain assurance for propriety of the way in which the National Lottery endowment is used; the Protector has the power to report matters of serious concern to the Secretary of State if the Protector considers it appropriate, but the trust would not be directly monitored by Government.

While discussions between NESTA and the Charity Commission are still ongoing, the Government believes that the majority of NESTA's current activities could be carried out by

a charitable body to promote charitable objects for the wider public benefit in accordance with charity law. NESTA already enjoys some of the benefits of charitable status as it has the same tax exemptions as those granted to charities. NESTA will also be engaging with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator about the activities of the new charity in Scotland.

In assessing NESTA's future in the context of the wider Government reform of public bodies, other options were explored, including:

- **Abolition** – NESTA could be abolished and the endowment returned to the National Lottery Distribution Fund for redistribution. This option was rejected as there is currently no other suitable body to perform NESTA's functions. NESTA's valuable programmes for wider public benefit would cease and the public investment in NESTA via the National Lottery Distribution Fund would be lost.
- **Merger** – NESTA the NDPB could merge with another body which carries out similar functions or operates in a similar policy area. This option might enable NESTA to enhance its impact by providing a wider array of stakeholders and opportunities for future programmes and could include efficiencies and savings from sharing accommodation and back office costs. However, this option was rejected as there is no comparable organisation with which NESTA could merge without considerably altering its direction, brand, mission and activities.
- **Reconstitution of NESTA as a private sector body** – NESTA's activities could be transferred to another type of body: either a company limited by guarantee incorporated under the Companies Act 2006 or a company incorporated by royal charter. The body should be non-profit as the Government considers the potential for private shareholders to profit from National Lottery funds in the form of the endowment to be inappropriate. This option was ultimately rejected as the need for suitable controls to ensure propriety of expenditure of the endowment is at odds with ensuring the level of Government control does not cause the new body to be classified as public sector.

The Government's preference is to see NESTA's work continue outside of the public sector while ensuring propriety of expenditure of the endowment. Neither abolition nor reconstitution as a private sector body would achieve this and a merger could dilute NESTA's effectiveness and mission. However, the proposal to reconstitute NESTA as a charitable trust and a charity enables protection of the endowment and enables NESTA to continue its work while enhancing NESTA's independence from Government. There is no anticipated negative impact on NESTA's work as a result of a change in status to a charity.

This option is therefore the preferred option of the Government and will be explored in more detail in the subsequent sections. In a statement released by NESTA in October 2010, Sir John Chisholm, NESTA's Chair, said that the Board welcomed the proposal and described it as a positive move for NESTA.

The charitable trust

A charitable trust would be created to hold the endowment in the public sector, subject to Charity Commission approval. The endowment would be used to achieve the objects of the trust in the same way as NESTA's endowment is currently used to achieve the objects set

out in the National Lottery Act 1998. The proposed objects of the charitable trust have been discussed with the Charity Commission and are:

“For the public benefit -

1. To advance education, and in particular the study of innovation, by the promotion of research and the publication of the useful results thereof, in:

- Science and technology
- The arts
- The efficiency of public services
- The Voluntary sector and social enterprise
- Industry and commerce

2. To advance:

- Science and technology
- The arts
- The efficiency of public services
- The voluntary sector
- Industry and commerce and social enterprise which
 - Relieves poverty
 - Relieves unemployment
 - Advances health
 - Advances environmental protection or improvement and sustainable development
 - Advances citizenship or community development

through or by encouraging and supporting innovation.”

The trust would be governed by its trust deed which would set out its objects and seek to reflect the current situation with regard to NESTA’s endowment; it would enable investment of the endowment by the charity as trustee of the trust and enable return from the endowment to be used by the charity to promote the trust’s objects. The trust would comply with charity law requirements for accounts, annual reports and audits, and be subject to regulation by the Charity Commission. The trust would also have oversight by a Protector, a person who has a fiduciary duty to ensure the integrity of the administration of the trust and the propriety of its procedures. This would ensure that Ministers maintain assurance for propriety of the way in which the endowment is used but the trust would not be directly monitored by Government. The trust is likely to be classified to the public sector.

Following the Millennium Awards Trust model, the Protector would be a senior solicitor, a barrister (or advocate in Scotland and the Isle of Man) or chartered accountant and would be appointed by the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills. The powers of the Protector would be defined in the trust deed and the proposed powers include:

- To receive notice and papers from all meetings of the charity, committees of the directors of the charity and members of the charity;
- To attend and speak at such meetings and table items for discussion (but not vote);
- To call for information and seek professional advice wherever his or her consent is required to any matter under the trust deed; and
- To remove the charity as trustee of the trust and appoint a new trustee, or to appoint an additional trustee or trustees to act jointly with the charity if the Protector considers that the charity has acted in material breach of its duties as trustee.

If the Protector considers it necessary, he or she can report matters of serious concern to the Charity Commission and, if the Protector considers it appropriate, the Secretary of State.

It is also intended that NESTA's portfolio of venture capital investments will be transferred to the new charitable trust. The portfolio and follow-on funding for the portfolio will be managed for the trust by the charitable company in its role as trustee. Any new investments will be assessed in the context of the Charity Commission's guidance on investment by charities.

An order and transfer scheme under the Public Bodies Bill would transfer the endowment to the charitable trust.

The charity

A second independent charity would be set up as a charitable company limited by guarantee. The objects of the charity would be the same as those of the charitable trust but would include an additional object to advance any other purpose which is recognised as exclusively charitable. This would enable the charity to use funds raised from other sources for wider charitable purposes, but not the endowment.

The charitable company would receive the return from the endowment and use this to fund projects and activities to promote the objects of the trust in the same way that NESTA uses the endowment to fund its current activities. This would be achieved by appointing the charitable company as sole trustee of the trust. The charity would be governed by its Articles of Association. Its only members would be its trustees and, like the trust, it would be required to comply with charity law requirements for accounts, annual reports and audits and be subject to regulation by the Charity Commission. As the charity will be a company limited by guarantee, the charity will also have to prepare a directors' report and accounts under the Companies Acts and file these with Companies House. The first trustees of the charity would be appointed through an open recruitment process and subsequent trustees would be appointed by existing trustees of the charity.

An order and transfer scheme under the Public Bodies Bill would transfer the current assets, liabilities and staff of NESTA to the new charity.

Requirements for secondary legislation

In order to achieve the transfer to charity and charitable trust, NESTA is listed in the Public Bodies Bill as a body to be abolished. Although the Government and NESTA are taking steps in preparation for the transition and in particular have started the process to register the new charity and trust with the Charity Commission, no changes will be made to NESTA until the Bill becomes an Act and an order is laid by a Minister, having regard to the outcome of this consultation, to effect these changes and that order is approved by Parliament. The conditions required for a Minister to make an order under the Public Bodies Bill are stated in Clause 8 of the Bill:

“(1) A Minister may make an order under sections 1 to 5 only if the Minister considers that the order serves the purpose of improving the exercise of public functions, having regard to:

- (a) efficiency,
- (b) effectiveness,
- (c) economy, and
- (d) securing appropriate accountability to Ministers.

(2) A Minister may make an order under those sections only if the Minister considers that:

- (a) the order does not remove any necessary protection, and
- (b) the order does not prevent any person from continuing to exercise any right or freedom which that person might reasonably expect to continue to exercise.”

We believe the proposed change in status meets these conditions. It is not necessary for NESTA to be part of the public sector to carry out its functions; NESTA already enjoys a large amount of independence from Government as it is funded by the return on its endowment, and its programmes and strategy are determined by NESTA's board of trustees. NESTA does not need to remain an NDPB to continue its activities and it does not need to be accountable to Ministers. The Government does not anticipate any negative impact on NESTA's work as a consequence of the proposed change in status and believes that by reconstituting NESTA as a charity in the voluntary sector, NESTA's functions would be performed by a more appropriate vehicle whilst maintaining suitable oversight of propriety of expenditure of the endowment via the Charity Commission and Protector.

The proposal would allow the sponsor team resources in the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills to be allocated to other Government priorities, providing better value for money for the tax payer.

Subject to the outcome of this consultation, Charity Commission approval and enactment of the Public Bodies Bill, the Government intends to lay an order to reconstitute NESTA as a charity and charitable trust in January 2012 with an estimated transition date of 1 April 2012. The order would abolish NESTA as an NDPB, transfer the endowment to the charitable trust and transfer the current property, rights and liabilities of NESTA to the new charity.

The Government seeks your views on the proposal to reconstitute NESTA as a charity with a charitable trust to hold the endowment, in particular:

Question 1: Do you agree that NESTA should have increased independence from Government?

Question 2: Do you consider the Government's proposal to be the most suitable option to allow NESTA to continue with its current work?

Question 3: Do you consider that the Government has explored all the options relevant to NESTA?

Please let us know if you have any other comments on the proposal.

If you have wider views on the work of NESTA and where it directs its priorities, please let us know and we will pass your comments on to NESTA.

The response form is at Annex C.

8. What happens next?

The Government will publish the consultation response within 12 weeks of the close of the consultation period. This response will take the form of a decision made for NESTA's future in light of the consultation, a summary of the views expressed and reasons given for the decision finally taken. This document will be published on the BIS website with paper copies available on request.

If the Government decides to pursue its proposal following the outcome of this consultation, the explanatory document accompanying an order under the Public Bodies Bill will contain a summary of representations received in the consultation.

Annex A: The Consultation Code of Practice criteria

Formal consultation should take place at a stage when there is scope to influence policy outcome.

Consultation should normally last for at least 12 weeks with consideration given to longer timescales where feasible and sensible.

Consultation documents should be clear about the consultation process, what is being proposed, the scope to influence and the expected costs and benefits of the proposals.

Consultation exercise should be designed to be accessible to, and clearly targeted at, those people the exercise is intended to reach.

Keeping the burden of consultation to a minimum is essential if consultations are to be effective and if consultees' buy-in to the process is to be obtained.

Consultation responses should be analysed carefully and clear feedback should be provided to participants following the consultation.

Officials running consultations should seek guidance in how to run an effective consultation exercise and share what they have learned from the experience.

Comments or complaints

If you wish to comment on the conduct of this consultation or make a complaint about the way this consultation has been conducted, please write to:

Sameera De Silva
Better Regulation Team
Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

Tel: 020 7215 2888

Email: Sameera.De.Silva@bis.gsi.gov.uk

Annex B: List of organisations consulted

We have sent the consultation document to the following organisations:

00:/	Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	NESTA employees, trustees and committee members
AHRC	ESRC	National Measurement Office
Amadeus Capital Partners	The Federation of Small Businesses	NHS Northwest
BBSRC	Goldman Sachs	Northern Ireland Executive
Big Lottery Fund	Greater London Authority	Oxford Capital Partners
British Chambers of Commerce	HM Treasury	Pentech
British Standards Institution	Imperial College London	The People's Supermarket
BVCA	Imperial Innovations	Reform Scotland
Cabinet Office	Innovation Unit	Research Councils UK
Cambridge University	Institute for Government	Revolution Software
CBI	Institute of Directors	Scottish Government
Coventry University	Intellectual Property Office	Seedcamp
Creativity, Culture and Education	IPPR	Sidekick Studios
Department for Communities and Local Government	Lambeth Council	STFC
Department for Culture, Media and Sport	Lastminute.com	TATE
Department of Health	Lein Diagnostics	Technology Strategy Board
Design Council	Light Blue Optics	The United Kingdom Accreditation Service
Dyson	Local Government Association	UnLtd
Eidos	Local Government Improvement and Development Agency	Warwick University
EPSRC	Medical Research Council	Welsh Government
EOSemi	National Theatre	The Work Foundation
	NERC	

Annex C: Consultation response form

This consultation closes at 5pm on 29 November 2011.

The consultation response form is also available electronically at <http://www.bis.gov.uk/assets/biscore/innovation/docs/c/11-1303rf-consultation-nesta-reconstitute-charity-and-trust-form>.

Please provide your details:

Name:	
Organisation (if applicable):	
Address:	

Please mark the relevant box from the list of options below that best describes you as a respondent:

☐	Business representative organisation/trade body
☐	Central government
☐	Charity or social enterprise
☐	Individual
☐	Large business (over 250 staff)
☐	Legal representative
☐	Local Government
☐	Medium business (50 to 250 staff)
☐	Micro business (up to 9 staff)
☐	Small business (10 to 49 staff)
☐	Trade union or staff association
☐	Other (please describe)

If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please describe how the views of members were assembled:

Question 1: Do you agree that NESTA should have increased independence from Government?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not sure

Comments:

Question 2: Do you consider the Government's proposal to be the most suitable option to allow NESTA to continue with its current work?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not sure

Comments:

Question 3: Do you consider that the Government has explored all the options relevant to NESTA?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not sure

Comments:

Please let us know if you have any other comments on the proposal:

Comments:

If you have wider views on the work of NESTA and where it directs its priorities, please let us know and we will pass your comments on to NESTA:

Comments:

Thank you for taking the time to let us have your views. We do not intend to acknowledge receipt of individual responses unless you tick the box below:

Please acknowledge this reply ☐

Please note: the Department may, in accordance with the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information, make individual responses available on public request.

Please return completed forms to:

Laura Hart
Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
2nd Floor, Orchard 2
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

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