



Department  
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Food & Rural Affairs

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

**Date:** 21 January 2012

## **Consultation on a proposal to use a Legislative Reform Order to simplify procedures in the Land Drainage Act 1991**

Dear Consultee ,

I am writing to invite your views on a proposal to make a Legislative Reform Order to simplify a number of procedures in the Land Drainage Act 1991.

Some Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs) may wish to make structural changes to improve their operational effectiveness and benefit from efficiencies of scale. However, the process contained in the Land Drainage Act 1991 is lengthy and bureaucratic. Defra is keen to remove any unnecessary regulatory burdens which make it harder for IDBs to operate or adapt to changing circumstances.

We are consulting on proposals to streamline the Order making process for IDB structural reforms under section 3 and Schedule 3 of the 1991 Act. The changes would remove unnecessary delays and reduce burdens for IDBs.

The consultation also sets out proposals to amend specific sections of the 1991 Act relating to advertisement of notices in newspapers by IDBs and the Environment Agency. The changes would allow more flexibility in the way notices are advertised so IDBs and the EA can choose appropriate cost effective mechanisms to reach their target audience.

The following documents are available to view at: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/consult/open> .

Consultation letter  
Consultation document  
Separate copy of the response form  
Impact Assessment  
List of Consultees

We would welcome your views and comments on the proposals contained in the consultation document. Please see the questions in the response form in Annex B which is also attached separately to the consultation document.

Responses

Responses should be received by **18 March 2013**. These should be sent by email to [floodreports@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:floodreports@defra.gsi.gov.uk), or by post to: Kilie Mpopo, Flood Management Team,



Defra, 2D Ergon House, Horseferry Road , London SW1P 2AL. In your response, please provide your full name and appropriate contact details, including whether your response is on behalf of an organisation. All responses will be given due consideration.

If you would like a hard copy of the consultation document, please contact Kilie Mpopo by email at [kilie.mpopo@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:kilie.mpopo@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

This consultation is in line with the Government's Consultation Principles. These can be found at [www.bis.gov.uk/policies/bre/consultation-guidance](http://www.bis.gov.uk/policies/bre/consultation-guidance).

When this consultation ends, we intend to put a copy of the responses in the Defra library at Ergon House, London. This is in order that the public can see them. Also, members of the public may ask for a copy of responses under freedom of information legislation.

If you do not want your response - including your name, contact details and any other personal information – to be publicly available, please say so clearly in writing when you send your response to the consultation. Please note, if your computer automatically includes a confidentiality disclaimer, that won't count as a confidentiality request. Please explain why you need to keep details confidential. We will take your reasons into account if someone asks for this information under freedom of information legislation. But, because of the law, we cannot promise that we will always be able to keep those details confidential.

We will summarise all responses and place this summary on our website at [www.defra.gov.uk/consult/](http://www.defra.gov.uk/consult/). This summary will include a list of names of organisations that responded but not people's personal names, addresses or other contact details.

To see consultation responses and summaries, please contact the library at:

Defra  
Information Resource Centre  
Lower Ground Floor  
Ergon House  
17 Smith Square  
London SW1P 3JR  
Telephone: 020-7238-6575  
Email: [defra.library@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:defra.library@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

Please give the library 24 hours' notice. There is a charge for photocopying and postage.

If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, please address them to Defra Consultation Co-ordinator, Area 2D Ergon House, Horseferry Road, 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,

Carol Tidmarsh  
Flood Risk Management Team  
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs  
Email: [carol.tidmarsh@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:carol.tidmarsh@defra.gsi.gov.uk)