

Seacole Building 4th Floor 2 Marsham Street London SW1P 4DF

T: 03459 33 55 77 helpline@defra.gov.uk www.gov.uk/defra

REDACTED

By email: REDACTED

Our ref: EIR2022/26298 20 January 2023

Dear REDACTED

# **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Environmental Targets Consultation Responses**

Thank you for your request for information of 19 December 2022 about the Environmental Targets consultation responses. We have handled your request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs).

The EIRs apply to requests for environmental information, which is a broad category of information defined in regulation 2 of the EIRs. Public authorities are required to handle requests for environmental information under the EIRs. They give similar access rights to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your information request and our response are set out below.

Please provide the full responses to the consultation submitted by the following organisations: Environmental Services Association, Viridor, SUEZ, CONFOR, BASC, National Farmers' Union (NFU), National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations, Country Land and Business Association, CropLife UK, Thakeham Homes, SMMT, Road Haulage Association, Anglian Water, Affinity Water, Yorkshire Water, Wessex Water, United Utilities, Thames Water, Southern Water, Severn Trent Water, Pennon Group, Office for Environmental Protection, Environment Agency and Natural England.

Consultation responses for the following organisations are attached at Annex C:

Viridor
SUEZ recycling and Recovery UK Ltd
National Farmers' Union (NFU)
National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations
Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders
Anglian Water
Affinity Water
Wessex Water
Thames Water
Severn Trent Water
Pennon Group
Natural England

Consultation responses for the following organisations are attached as follows:



British Association for Shooting and Conservation – Annex D
Croplife UK – Annex E
Environmental Services Association – Annex F
Road Haulage Association – Annex G
Southern Water – Annex H
Thakeham Homes – Annex I
United Utilities – Annex J
Yorkshire Water – Annex K

Please note the responses in Excel form are the exported versions of the responses give through the Citizen Space site (Defra's online consultation portal).

After careful consideration we have decided that some information should be withheld under regulations 12(3) and 13(1) and (2A) of the EIRs as the information constitutes personal data relating to persons other than you. These regulations exempt personal information from disclosure if that information relates to someone other than the applicant, and if disclosure of that information would breach any of the data protection principles in Article 5(1) of the UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

We consider that disclosure of this information is likely to breach the first data protection principle, which provides that personal data must be processed lawfully, fairly, and in a transparent manner. Disclosure would not constitute 'fair' processing of the personal data because the individuals concerned would not reasonably have expected their names and contact details to be made public.

Consultation responses for the following organisations are in the public domain and can be found at the links provided:

CONFOR
Country Land and Business Association
Office for Environmental Protection
Environment Agency

https://www.confor.org.uk/media/2678373/environmental-targets-consultation-conforsubmission.pdf

https://www.cla.org.uk/documents/535/CLA Consultation Response on Environmental T argets.pdf

https://www.theoep.org.uk/report/oep-response-consultation-environmental-targets

 $\underline{www.gov.uk/government/publications/defra-environmental-targets-consultation-environment-agency-response}$ 

As it is reasonable to make the information you have requested available in another form or format, regulation 6(1)(a) of the EIRs exempts Defra from providing you with the information in the form or format you have requested

Information disclosed in response to this EIRs request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the EIRs and the government's Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on GOV.UK, together with any related

information that will provide a key to its wider context. No information identifying you will be placed on the GOV.UK website.

We attach Annex A, explaining the copyright that applies to the information being released to you, and Annex B giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact me.

Yours sincerely

REDACTED

Information Rights Team
InformationRequests@defra.gov.uk

### Annex A

## Copyright

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including for private study and non-commercial research, and for any other purpose authorised by an exception in current copyright law. Documents (except photographs or logos) can be also used in the UK without requiring permission for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder.

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Copyright in other documents may rest with a third party. For information about obtaining permission from a third party see the Intellectual Property Office's website.

#### Annex B

### **Complaints**

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to Andrew Mobsby, Head of Information Rights via email at <a href="mailto:lnformationRequests@defra.gov.uk">lnformationRequests@defra.gov.uk</a> and he will arrange for an internal review of your case. Details of Defra's complaints procedure are on our website.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Please note that generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure.

The ICO can be contacted using the following link:

https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/official-information-concerns-report/official-information-concern/