



Environment Agency charges consultation: water industry enforcement levy

April 2025

We are the Environment Agency. We protect and improve the environment.

We help people and wildlife adapt to climate change and reduce its impacts, including flooding, drought, sea level rise and coastal erosion.

We improve the quality of our water, land and air by tackling pollution. We work with businesses to help them comply with environmental regulations. A healthy and diverse environment enhances people's lives and contributes to economic growth.

We can't do this alone. We work as part of the Defra group (Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs), with the rest of government, local councils, businesses, civil society groups and local communities to create a better place for people and wildlife.

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Foreword

The Environment Agency carries out a wide range of regulatory services. They are fundamental to how we protect the environment. These include flood and coastal erosion risk management, regulation of water quality and abstraction, waste, pollution prevention and navigation.

We charge the businesses we regulate for the work we do to regulate them. We are committed to making sure our charges and levies are fair and transparent. We want them to reflect the full cost of the chargeable services we provide.

To achieve this, we propose to introduce a water industry enforcement levy to make sure we fully cover the cost of our activities.

Introduction

Healthy water quality is essential to life. People, plants, and animals all rely on it for survival. Beyond that, clean water contributes to a better environment for everyone to enjoy whether that be the stream at the end of a garden, lakes in our national parks, coastal waters, or rivers running through our towns and cities.

Part of the Environment Agency's role is to regulate the water industry discharging into these waters and make sure they do it in an environmentally responsible way. We issue permits for these discharges and [use our enforcement powers to hold water companies to account](#). We are transforming our approach to regulating the water industry to make sure we have a safe, reliable, resilient supply of clean and plentiful water. We know people want to see tougher, faster action taken against those who pollute the environment.

Under [managing public money guidance](#), we have a responsibility to recover the costs of our regulatory activity by setting charges for the work we do at the appropriate level. The [Water \(Special Measures\) Act 2025](#) allows us to recover all costs directly from water companies when carrying out water industry enforcement functions. This consultation proposes a new levy on certain water discharge activities carried out by water companies. The levy proposal is designed to fully recover the costs of our enforcement activities relating to the water industry. In line with our [enforcement and sanctions policy](#), we want to:

- stop illegal activity from occurring or continuing
- put right environmental harm or damage, also known as restoration or remediation
- bring illegal activity under regulatory control, and into compliance with the law
- punish offenders and deter them (and others) from offending in the future

This consultation sets out our proposals for a water industry enforcement levy and invites you to share your views.

Purpose of environmental permitting and enforcement

Discharges to water in England are covered by [The Environmental Permitting \(England and Wales\) Regulations 2016 \(Environmental Permitting Regulations\)](#). We issue permits for water discharge activities to manage the environmental risk of certain activities.

The permits outline where and how the activities can take place, this includes strict operational standards and limits for polluting or harmful substances. The limits are set against environmental quality standards of the receiving environment. Permit holders must follow these requirements to comply with the law and avoid causing harm to people or the environment. The permits contain standards or conditions which we use to assess compliance and take subsequent action, when necessary, to address any problems.

Water quality permits make sure we carefully regulate and manage the water environment. This is critical to protecting natural assets and the ecosystem. Water companies are regularly failing to comply with environmental obligations under their water quality permits. Sewage spills are a high-profile concern from both an environmental and public health aspect. Expectations for high performing water companies remain front and foremost for us as well as the public. The government is responding to concerns through the introduction of the [Water \(Special Measures\) Act 2025](#). It is important to make sure that the Environment Agency is adequately resourced to assess and respond where we have reason to believe a water industry offence has been committed. This includes enforcement in respect of permitted and unpermitted parts of the sewerage network.

What we are consulting on

Following the introduction of the [Water Special Measures Act 2025](#) we are now able to recover the full cost of our water industry regulation, including the cost of existing and new enforcement activities. For water discharges, we propose introducing a new levy that covers the cost of our enforcement activities. We could not previously recover these costs, and the proposed levy will help to fund an improved approach to regulation by resourcing our enforcement activity of the water industry.

The proposed levy is proportionate to the scale and complexity of water industry infrastructure. It will be calculated according to the number, type and volume of permits for operating the sewage discharge activities.

The levy will only impact the water industry, it will not impact other sectors at this time. For the purposes of the levy, the water industry is defined as the 'sewerage undertaker'.

We use the term 'sewerage undertaker' to refer specifically to statutory undertakers for sewage who operate the public sewerage system, holding appointments as sewerage undertakers in the [Water Industry Act 1991](#). They are currently:

- Anglian Water
- Northumbrian Water
- Severn Trent Water
- Southern Water
- South West Water
- Thames Water
- United Utilities
- Welsh Water
- Wessex Water
- Yorkshire Water

The levy will also apply to [new appointments and variations \(NAVs\)](#) appointed by Ofwat that provide sewerage services, if they hold relevant permits with the Environment Agency.

The proposed introduction of the water industry enforcement levy will only impact on sewerage undertakers who have permitted discharges with references 2.3.81 to 2.3.93 of the Environmental Permitting Subsistence Charge Tables in [The Environment Agency \(Environmental Permitting and Abstraction Licensing\) \(England\) Charging Scheme 2022](#). The levy rate is applied as a total annual levy, additional to annual permit charges with references 2.3.81 to 2.3.93.

The proposed levy will help to fund an improved approach to regulation by resourcing our enforcement activity of the water industry. This proposal enables us to recover enforcement costs based on our existing functions and duties. New enforcement duties enabled by the Water (Special Measures) Act, such as the ability to issue Automatic Penalties, are expected to commence from April 2026 subject to further regulations. We will carry out a further review to make sure our charges and levy cover the costs of any additional duties. If we believe our costs have increased, we will seek HM Treasury approval and carry out a public consultation.

About this consultation

We would like you to share your views on our proposal to introduce a water industry enforcement levy. The consultation is made up of this consultation document which lays out the proposals for updates to our charging scheme, and supporting documentation including our:

- guide to how we calculate our charges
- draft Environmental Permitting Regulations (EPR) charging scheme from July 2025

The supporting documents are available on the Environment Agency's consultation website, [Citizen Space](#).

What we aim to achieve

We have considered the levy against the need to fulfil our regulatory duties. We know the levy will affect those we regulate so we have considered our proposals carefully. We are always interested to hear how you think we can regulate more fairly, while safeguarding the environment more effectively.

Our aim is to achieve a consistent and transparent approach in how we charge and set levies for regulating the water industry.

Why we are proposing to introduce a water industry enforcement levy

We are now proposing to introduce an annual water industry enforcement levy, which will be payable in addition to annual permit charges.

We have a duty to deliver our regulatory functions of the water industry. These functions stem from the legal obligations placed on us and from policy objectives set by government. To date this has been funded through a combination of government funding and annual permit charges.

Water companies with permits must pay an annual permit charge. This covers the costs of regulating a permitted activity. For example, carrying out checks to make sure water companies are complying with the conditions in their permit. This work includes activities such as site inspections and audits, assessing data returns, providing advice and guidance, issuing warnings and serving compliance and information notices.

Following [a previous consultation in 2024](#), we increased our water quality permit charges to cover the cost of new regulatory duties. In line with water industry transformation targets we increased our annual inspections, with 4,000 to be carried out by the end of March 2025, and 10,000 the following year. In some cases, our follow-up to non-compliances identified through these inspections is classed as enforcement work, which is not covered by charges income. In addition to enforcing permit non-compliances, we also carry out enforcement work relating to unauthorised discharge activities from parts of the sewerage network that do not require permits, for example burst sewers or broken rising mains.

Historically we have not had the legal powers to charge water companies for the costs of enforcement, so it has been funded by government. Therefore, the cost of enforcement has ultimately been paid by the taxpayer. Where possible we have made efficiencies to sustain our enforcement activity but our ability to scale up our enforcement in response to the increased compliance work is limited by the government funding we currently receive.

The [Water \(Special Measures\) Act 2025](#) extends our charging power and now allows us to recover our enforcement costs directly from the water industry and reduce our reliance on government funding.

Inflationary increase to levy

We propose to update our water industry enforcement levy annually in line with inflation so that we maintain full cost recovery. The levy, under the environmental permitting and abstraction charging scheme, will be updated annually, The Office for National Statistics measure of Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation as of 30 September in the immediately preceding year will be used. Any increase to the levy will be equal to or less than this measure. Increases will be less if we believe our increased costs do not equate to the CPI measure. We would round the levy to the nearest pound.

We have chosen the CPI measure as this is widely recognised, understood, and accepted as a measure of cost inflation. It is used by:

- economic regulators to set regulated charges
- government to set taxes and benefits
- employers in wage bargaining
- private sector companies to set payment amounts in business contracts

We therefore believe it is the most appropriate measure of the increases in our own costs. If we believe our levy needs to increase by more than the CPI, we will commence another review (or seek to incorporate into any other planned review), seek HM Treasury approval, and carry out a public consultation.

Our powers to charge

We have powers to charge for water quality permits under section 41 and 42 of the Environment Act 1995. Our current charging scheme is [The Environment Agency \(Environmental Permitting and Abstraction Licensing\) \(England\) Charging Scheme 2022](#).

These powers were amended by section 11 of the [Water \(Special Measures\) Act 2025](#) to allow us to fund our water industry enforcement functions. We are proposing to do this by introducing a water industry enforcement levy based on the number, type and volume of permitted discharges operated by each sewerage undertaker.

Under [managing public money](#) guidance, we have a responsibility to recover the costs of our regulatory activity by setting charges for the work we do at the appropriate level. Our charges allow us to recover the cost of the work we carry out to undertake our enforcement function for the water industry. This work includes enforcement effort in respect of both permitted and unpermitted discharges, which cannot be recovered under annual permit charges.

Our enforcement effort includes:

- prosecutions, civil sanctions, and revocation of permits
- investigations and bringing enforcement proceedings, including those that result in no action or are unsuccessful
- cross cutting functions such as the provision of digital tools where they relate to water company enforcement

Our proposals are designed to create a fair charging scheme which will allow us to deliver an efficient and effective service by recovering the costs of our water industry enforcement work. We have provided a guide with this consultation that explains how we calculate our charges and the costs we incur.

Water industry enforcement levy

Our proposal for a water industry enforcement levy aims to generate a sustainable income to fund an improved approach to regulation for the water industry. This will address current and future challenges around water regulation.

The levy is a key step in us implementing government ambitions through the [Water Special Measures Act 2025](#) that identifies the need for these changes. Funding is essential to enable us to exercise our enforcement powers for the purpose of preventing, minimising, remedying or mitigating the effects of pollution of the environment. By doing this, we seek to drive the water industry to meet its environmental legislative requirements and related government priorities as set out in our [Water industry strategic environmental requirements](#) (WISER) document and the government's [Environmental Improvement Plan 2023](#).

The income we need to meet these aims is approximately £21 million for 2025 to 2026. This will be subject to review as further evidence and intelligence on the scale of non-compliance emerges, and in response to new duties expected to be introduced from April 2026 by regulations made under the [Water \(Special Measures\) Act 2025](#).

Our water industry enforcement effort is complex. We acknowledge that an approach whereby operators are directly charged the costs of our enforcement after the event (“reactively”) closely aligns with the “polluter pays” principle. However, our levy proposal facilitates upfront funding to put in place a trained and skilled workforce to assess the scale of offending and address the public’s demand for an improved water environment. Income we receive from the levy will be used to fund a consistent, intelligence-led and outcome-focused enforcement service to address both sector wide and company specific issues. We have only included essential activity in our costs to ensure the levy remains proportionate.

Where we can recover costs for formal enforcement action, we may continue to do so (for example, by seeking additional costs through the courts where our effort is above and beyond that embedded in the levy). We will only ever charge once for any costs we incur.

We recognise that our enforcement effort can be broadly (but not entirely) dependent on the scale and complexity of the sewerage network. However, our enforcement effort across the sewerage network is not directly correlated to our compliance on a particular permit type. Therefore, we do not think it is appropriate make the levy directly proportional to the annual permit charge.

To reflect these considerations, we intend to apply the levy on a per permit discharge and volume unit basis. This can be adapted over time according to the scale of offending in the sector. We would also use all available intelligence to consider moving to a performance-based mechanism to bring greater fairness. We have based the proposals on the same activity descriptions as sewerage undertaker annual permit charges. The amount paid will therefore vary from customer to customer based on the number, types, and volumes of permitted discharges.

The unit levy rates are based on the total number of permits in 2024 to 2025, and the total minimum volume threshold specified in the annual permit charge band description those permits fall into. Weightings have been applied to discharge and volume units on a roughly equal basis to meet the total funding required. However, the implications for individual water companies depend on the profile of the permits they hold as illustrated in the worked examples shown below.

These initial weightings can be reviewed and adjusted as we obtain further evidence of factors that influence our enforcement effort. The total permit stock is relatively stable. Calculating in this way avoids unnecessary annual re-calculations of the total weighted number of units in scope of the levy to meet the total funding required.

Using permits and volume as the metric for levy payments is a pragmatic solution. It reduces administration costs, as we already hold this data, whilst raising the required income. This provides an efficiency for us and our customers by avoiding the need for introducing new or excessive processing costs, whilst raising sufficient, sustainable funding for enforcement activity.

Proposed charge (water industry enforcement levy)

We intend to bill each sewerage undertaker annually with their total levy due. To establish this amount, we will first determine the number of permitted discharges for each sewerage undertaker held under references 2.3.81 to 2.3.93 (inclusive) of table 2.3 of [The Environment Agency \(Environmental Permitting and Abstraction Licensing\) \(England\) Charging Scheme 2022](#).

We will then apply the levy unit rates shown in Table 1 (below) to the permits held by each sewerage undertaker.

Table 1: Discharge permit and volume unit charges for the water industry enforcement levy

Unit charge	Charge
Discharge permit unit charge	£393
Volume unit charge	£0.51

The annual levy due from each sewerage undertaker will be calculated as the combined total of:

- the discharge permit unit charge (£393) multiplied by the total number of permitted discharges held within references 2.3.81 to 2.3.93 (inclusive) of the Environmental Permitting Subsistence Charge Table 2.3

Plus:

- the volume unit charge (£0.51) multiplied by the total volume units held by the sewerage undertaker

(Total volume units are determined by multiplying the number of permitted discharges held against each charge reference, by the lowest volume threshold specified in the activity description for that reference, for example 10,000m³ for 2.3.84, or 1,000m³ for 2.3.85. There is no volume range specified for 2.3.91 to 2.3.93, so the minimum volume unit charge element will not apply to these charge references).

Worked example 1

Sewerage undertaker 'X' has:

- 9 permitted discharges under reference 2.3.83 ('Sewage effluent: sewerage undertaker with a discharge volume greater than 50,000m³ and up to 150,000m³ a day')

So:

- total discharge permit units charge is $9 \times £393 = £3,537$
- total minimum volume discharge is $9 \times 50,000\text{m}^3 = 450,000\text{m}^3$
- total volume unit charge is $450,000 \times £0.51 = £229,500$

The total annual levy is the sum of the annual total discharge permit unit charge and the total volume unit charge: **£3,537 + £229,500 = £233,037**

Worked example 2

Sewerage undertaker 'Y' has:

- **5** permitted discharges under reference 2.3.82 ('Sewage effluent: sewerage undertaker with a discharge volume greater than **150,000m³** and up to 500,000m³ a day')
- **10** permitted discharges under reference 2.3.84 ('Sewage effluent: sewerage undertaker with a discharge volume greater than **50,000m³** and up to 150,000m³ a day')
- **20** permitted discharges under reference 2.3.86 ('Sewage effluent: sewerage undertaker with a discharge volume greater than **500m³** and up to 1000m³ a day'), **and**
- **30** permitted discharges under reference 2.3.92 ('Storm sewage discharge: sewerage undertaker')

So:

- total discharge permit units charge is $65 \times £393 = £25,545$
- total minimum volume discharge is $(5 \times 150,000\text{m}^3) + (10 \times 50,000\text{m}^3) + (20 \times 500\text{m}^3) = 1,260,000\text{m}^3$
- total volume unit charge is $1,260,000 \times £0.51 = £642,600$

The total annual levy is the sum of the annual total discharge permit unit charge and the total volume unit charge: **£25,545 + £642,600 = £668,145.**

Question 1: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed water industry enforcement levy?

- strongly agree
- agree
- neither agree nor disagree
- disagree
- strongly disagree
- do not know
- not applicable

Why do you think this?

Affordability and impacts

We have considered the affordability and impacts of the proposed levy set out in this consultation.

The levy will only impact the water industry. For the purposes of the levy, the water industry is defined as 'sewerage undertakers', including [new appointments and variations \(NAVs\)](#) appointed by Ofwat that provide sewerage services.

Method

Financial data from the publicly available accounts of the companies were used to calculate the impact of the levy. These were available for all the major water companies from the last financial year reported. For a few of the smaller water companies their financial data was not available even through Companies House. This was because of the size of business or the way the accounts were reported. Therefore, the analysis focuses on the main water companies and not those with NAVs.

Financial data was collected on the following: annual revenue, operating costs, cash generated from operations and revenue raised from residential customers. Operating profit was calculated by deducting operating costs from annual revenue to assess the affordability of the levy.

Data on liabilities, debt and equity were also collected. These were used to assess the likelihood of the levy being passed on to customers.

Affordability to water companies

Table 2 (below) shows the impact of the levy on water companies for different metrics. The impact on average revenue is likely to range between 0.02% and 0.24%. This increases to 0.65% and 1.02% of operating profits once operating costs are accounted for.

Cash generated from operations is shown in Table 2. This is also known as operating cash flow and is a measure of the cash that a company produces through its regular business activities. It indicates a company's financial health and its ability to generate sufficient cash to operate. Examining this metric gives an idea of impact on the financial health of water companies. The impact ranges between 0.05% and 0.76% of cash flow. Finally, in Table 2, revenue from households show that the impact is likely to be between 0.02% and 0.31%.

Table 2: Impact of water levy on the water companies

	Average	Minimum	Maximum
Annual revenue	0.16%	0.02%	0.24%
Operating costs	0.24%	0.02%	0.40%
Operating profit	0.65%	0.34%	1.02%
Cash generated from operations	0.38%	0.05%	0.76%
Revenue from households	0.20%	0.02%	0.31%

The relatively low values in Table 2 suggests that the impact of the water industry enforcement levy is likely to be minimal. However, it is helpful to understand if the water companies are likely to pass the levy on to their customers. To do this the water companies' current and debt-to-equity ratios were examined. The current ratio shows a company's ability to pay short-term obligations, such as the introduction of a levy. Whereas the debt-to-equity ratio shows how much leverage a company has and its ability to absorb additional costs due to an obligation to service debts.

Table 3 (below) shows the current and debt-to-equity ratios of water companies. For the current ratio a value of less than one suggests a company has more short-term liabilities than short-term assets. This, coupled with a high debt-to-equity ratio makes it difficult for them to absorb additional costs from the levy.

Table 3: Current and debt-to-equity ratios of water companies

	Median	Mean	Minimum	Maximum
Current ratio	0.9	1.0	0.6	2.1
Debt-to-equity ratio	7.8	16.3	4.6	94.6

Affordability to residential households

In our 2024 [consultation response summary: charge proposals for water quality permits](#) we received responses from water companies that explained increases to our charges would cause a downstream impact on their customers' bills. It was highlighted that cost and revenue allowances are set by Ofwat through the periodic price review process which ultimately determines customer bills.

Ofwat has a duty to set price controls allowing appointed water companies to finance the proper carrying out of their functions (section 2 of the [Water Industry Act 1991](#)). Ofwat may also authorise water companies to share out to their customers a proportion of costs that were not known at the time those price controls were initially set. As the proposed levy charges are based on permitted activities rather than a company's performance or frequency of enforcement action, this could mean companies opt to share those costs with their customers. Fines or penalties resulting from enforcement action are not to be shared with those customers.

Our charging powers only allow us to recover costs from water companies, and do not mandate these costs are passed directly onto customer bills. If water companies passed the proposed costs to customer bills, Defra estimates the impact would average around £0.60 per household per year, although the impact on customer bills would vary between companies. NAVs cannot charge customers any higher than the local incumbent water company's charges so any changes to charges made by the incumbent company could have an equivalent effect for customers of the NAV.

Proposal implementation, if agreed, will be due after the start of the first year of Asset Management Plan (AMP) 8 cycle (2025-26). Ofwat final determinations for the price review process for AMP8 will see customer annual bills increase by around £157 across 2025 – 2030 to fund long-term environment investment programmes. In comparison, introduction of a levy to fund our enforcement capacity is small.

Affordability conclusions

The costs of the levy will fall on those that are already regulated in the water industry, and we consider these additional costs to be affordable in the context of long-term water industry environment investment programmes. It is likely the impact of the levy will depend on the number of permits a company holds for the different activities and the level of operating profit the business is operating with. Water companies are unlikely to absorb the cost of the levy and more likely to pass it on to customers marginally raising their bills. Taken on their own, the increase to water company customers is likely to be affordable. However, the affordability aspect may be lost if it is part of a larger package of increases when customer bills are next changed.

Question 2: To what extent do you agree or disagree with our view on affordability and impacts?

- strongly agree
- agree
- neither agree nor disagree
- disagree
- strongly disagree
- do not know
- not applicable

Why do you think this?

Additional questions

We would like to keep you informed about the outcomes of this consultation.

If you would like to receive emails acknowledging your response and or telling you when we have published the summary of responses, please select from one of the options below. By giving us your email address you consent for us to email you about the consultation. We will keep your details until we have notified you about publication of the response document:

- yes, I would like to receive an email acknowledging my response
- yes, I would like to receive an email to let me know the consultation response document is published

- email address _____

We will not share your details with any other third party without your clear and full consent, unless required to by law.

You can withdraw your consent to receive these emails at any time by contacting us at: enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

Can we publish your response?

- yes
- no

If you answered no, please tell us why.

For further information on privacy and how we will use your information please refer to section 'Responding to this consultation' of this document.

To help us analyse and assess the consultation responses, we would like you to answer a few questions about:

- you or your organisation
- your business

Are you providing an individual or personal response or a response on behalf of an organisation?

Please choose one of the following:

- a) responding as an individual
- b) responding on behalf of an organisation or group
- c) other

If you chose (b) what is the name of the organisation?

How did you find out about this consultation?

- from Environment Agency
- from another organisation
- through an organisation, group, or trade association you are a member of
- press article
- social media, for example, Facebook
- through a meeting you attended
- other

If you selected 'other,' please tell us how you found out about the consultation.

Responding to this consultation

How to respond

This consultation runs from 14 April 2025 until midnight on 26 May 2025. You can view the consultation and supporting documents on [Citizen Space](#), which is the Environment Agency's consultation website.

Please submit your response on Citizen Space, as it provides an easy and efficient way to respond. It will also help us to:

- gather all responses in one place
- summarise responses quickly and accurately
- reduce the cost of the consultation

Respond by email

If you prefer, you can submit your response by email using the response form, which you will find under the "Related" section of the consultation on Citizen Space. Please email your completed response form with the subject header of 'charges consultation: water industry enforcement levy' to: enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk.

Ask for a printed copy of the consultation document

Please contact us if you would like a printed version of the consultation document sent to you.

You can do this by contacting our:

National Customer Contact Centre
Telephone: 03708 506 506
Minicom for the hard of hearing: 03702 422 549
Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm

The consultation will close on 26 May 2025. We will consider all responses received by this date before finalising our proposals to submit for approval by government.

How we'll use your information

After the consultation has closed, the Environment Agency will summarise responses in a consultation response document and make this publicly available on GOV.UK. We may include comments or quotes, unless you specifically request that we keep your response confidential.

We will not publish names of individuals or personal data, but we will publish the name of the organisation for those responses made on behalf of organisations. We will not respond individually to responses. If you have asked to be notified, we will contact you to let you know when the consultation response document is published.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we may be required to publish your response to this consultation but will not include any personal information. If you have requested your response to be kept confidential, we may still be required to provide a summary of it.

Privacy notice

The Environment Agency would like to keep you informed about the outcomes of this consultation. If you would like to receive an email acknowledging your response and telling you when we have published the consultation response document, please provide your email address with your response.

By giving us your email address, you consent for us to email you about the consultation. We will keep your details until we have notified you of the response document publication.

We will not share your details with any other third party without your clear and full consent, unless required to by law.

You can withdraw your consent to receive these emails at any time by contacting us at: enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk.

The Environment Agency is the data controller for the personal data you provide. For more information on how we deal with your personal data please see our [personal information charter](#) on GOV.UK.

You can email our Data Protection team: dataprotection@environment-agency.gov.uk.

Publishing our consultation response

We will publish our response to the consultation on GOV.UK within 12 weeks of this consultation closing and before we implement any changes. It will include a summary of the comments and queries we received. A link to this document will be added to the consultation page of Citizen Space.

Consultation principles

We are running this consultation in accordance with the guidance set out in the government's [consultation principles](#).

If you believe the consultation has not been run in accordance with these principles, please email consultation.enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk.

Otherwise, for all other queries or complaints relating to this consultation please email enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk.

Would you like to find out more about us or your environment?

Then call us on

03708 506 506 (Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm)

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