

## [Guidance: WEEE: list of local authority designated collection facilities](#)

*Updated:* List updated with the latest information.

This document is published for compliance schemes and lists local authority designated collection facilities. Designated collection facilities are places where some household waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) is collected before being sent for treatment, reuse and recycling.

If you aren't a business then [find out how to recycle your household waste](#).

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## [Collection: Renewable Heat Incentive statistics](#)

*Updated:* September 2018 RHI deployment stats published.

This statistical series provides deployment data for:

- the non-domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) introduced in Great Britain in November 2011 to support the uptake of renewable heat in the non-domestic sector
- the domestic RHI introduced in Great Britain in April 2014 to encourage a switch to renewable heating systems in the domestic sector.

Datasets are published on a monthly basis with supplementary statistical information published quarterly.

For further information or questions about these statistics, email [Chris.Fairbanks@beis.gov.uk](mailto:Chris.Fairbanks@beis.gov.uk).

Historical releases are available on the [National Archives](#).

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## [Collection: Environmental Stewardship: guidance and forms for agreement holders](#)

*Updated:* Link to guidance for those finding it difficult to meet scheme requirements due to hot and dry weather conditions.

### **Hot and dry weather conditions**

See the [guidance](#) for farmers finding it difficult to meet scheme requirements.

The deadline for Natural England to receive Environmental Stewardship (ES) revenue claims and amendments was 11 June 2018. Natural England will not accept any further revenue claims in 2018.

The extension of the Countryside Stewardship payment claim deadline does not apply to ES claims.

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## [Detailed guide: Planning and transport authorities: get environmental advice on planning](#)

*Updated:* Guidance includes spatial development strategy considerations.

This guide explains what consultations you must do with the Environment Agency and Natural England. It applies to:

- local planning authorities
- combined authorities (Greater Manchester, Liverpool City Region, West of England and Greater London)
- transport authorities
- elected mayors

### **Spatial development strategies, local plans and**

## neighbourhood plans

Before you start your plan, you must consult the relevant agency if you think it affects their environmental interests.

Use this table to find out which agencies you must consult:

Your plan	Consult Natural England	Consult the Environment Agency
requires a <a href="#">sustainability appraisal</a>	Yes	Yes
requires a <a href="#">strategic environmental assessment</a>	Yes	Yes
affects <a href="#">protected sites and areas</a> , such as sites of special scientific interest, national parks or marine protected areas	Yes	No
affects the <a href="#">best and most versatile agricultural land</a>	Yes	No
includes <a href="#">reclaiming land previously used for mining or waste management to agricultural use</a>	Yes	No
affects <a href="#">protected species</a>	Yes	No
affects <a href="#">ancient woodland and veteran trees</a>	Yes	No
affects flooding and coastal erosion	No	Yes
affects waterbodies identified in <a href="#">river basin management plans</a> by including plans to develop next to water bodies, restore water bodies to a more natural state or increase water efficiency	No	Yes
involves land that may be affected by <a href="#">contamination</a> from a previous use such as disused railways	No	Yes
affects land for waste management or mineral extraction	No	Yes
includes sites that the Environment Agency regulates, such as intensive agricultural activity	No	Yes
identifies environmental opportunities that could be achieved such as <a href="#">‘green infrastructure’</a> and biodiversity improvements	Yes	Yes

Check the impact risk zone (IRZ) around a protected site to help you assess potential effects that the development proposal may have on the site. You can:

- download the [SSSI Impact Risk Zones \(England\)](#) dataset for geographic information systems (GIS)
- use the government’s [Magic website](#)

See the [Magic map to show the location of protected areas](#) such as national parks and areas of outstanding natural beauty.

## Spatial development strategies and local plans

What you need to send and how soon you’ll hear back will vary depending on your situation.

What you're doing	What you need to send	When you'll get a response
Deciding on the extent of the issues to be assessed in a <a href="#">sustainability appraisal</a> (known as 'scoping')	Details on scope and level of detail of information to be included in sustainability appraisal	5 weeks
Doing a <a href="#">sustainability appraisal</a> for your plan	Draft plan Environmental report Draft Habitats Regulations appropriate assessment (if required)	Agencies will agree a time with you – usually 5 weeks
Preparing your draft local plan	Information about the content of the plan Draft local plan	Minimum 6 weeks
Asking for comments on your early draft local plan	Environmental report with evidence such as a <a href="#">strategic flood risk assessment</a> Draft Habitat Regulations appropriate assessment (if required)	Agencies will agree a time with you – usually 6 weeks
Asking for comments on your final draft plan (known as the 'publication stage')	local plan Environmental report with evidence such as a <a href="#">strategic flood risk assessment</a> Habitats Regulations appropriate assessment (if required)	Agencies will agree a time with you – usually 6 weeks
Asking for comments on your draft spatial development strategy	Draft plan Environmental report Habitats Regulations appropriate assessment (if required) Draft spatial development strategy	12 weeks
Asking for comments on proposed modifications to your plan	Details of proposed changes	6 weeks

## Neighbourhood plans

What you're doing	What you need to send	When you'll get a response
Giving an opinion on a plan's environmental effects (known as 'screening')	A map of the plan area and the purpose of the plan	Agencies will agree a time with you – usually 6 weeks
Asking for comments from the agencies about a new plan	The plan	Agencies will agree a time with you – usually 6 weeks
<a href="#">Strategic environmental assessment</a> (if required)	Evidence as an environmental report	Agencies will agree a time with you – usually 5 weeks

## Considering planning applications, permission in principle, technical details consent and development orders

Use this table to find out which agencies you must consult. You can consult the agencies on issues not covered in this table if the proposals affect their environmental interests.

The proposal	Consult Natural England	Consult the Environment Agency
requires an <a href="#">environmental impact assessment (EIA)</a>	Yes	Yes
requires a habitats regulation appropriate assessment of the effect it may have on European protected sites	Yes	No
is in or likely to affect a site of special scientific interest (SSSI), check the <a href="#">impact risk zone around an SSSI</a> to help assess potential impacts that the proposal might have on the site	Yes	No
will result in a loss of over 20 hectares (ha) of the <a href="#">best and most versatile agricultural land</a> , unless the land is included in policies or proposals in a local or neighbourhood plan	Yes	No
<a href="#">reclaims land previously used for mining or waste management to agricultural use</a>	Yes	No
is for development involving <a href="#">hazardous substances</a> in a naturally sensitive area, such as an SSSI	Yes	No
is for development that will be used to handle, produce, use or store <a href="#">hazardous substances</a> and is within the area at risk if a major accident happens nearby (see the Health and Safety Executive guidance on <a href="#">development near hazardous sites</a> )	No	Yes
is in flood zones 2 and 3 (first read the Environment Agency's <a href="#">flood risk guidance, known as 'standing advice'</a> )	No	Yes
is in flood zone 1 – with critical drainage problems (the Environment Agency will have told your LPA if this is the case)	No	Yes
is for a cemetery or cemetery extension	No	Yes
is for mining or mining exploration	No	Yes
is for storing oil and fuel and their by-products like petrol station	No	Yes
is for major development that doesn't use existing sewerage infrastructure for sewage treatment	No	Yes
is in or likely to affect waterbodies identified in <a href="#">river basin management plans</a>	No	Yes
is in or likely to affect groundwater in <a href="#">source protection zones</a>	No	Yes

The proposal	Consult Natural England	Consult the Environment Agency
includes land affected by <a href="#">contamination</a> from a previous activity such as a former power station or disused railway	No	Yes
is for the storage of sludge or slurry	No	Yes
is for storage, transfer or treatment of waste products or refuse	No	Yes
is within 20m of the top of the bank of a <a href="#">main river</a>	No	Yes
is for intensive pig, poultry or dairy units	No	Yes
is in or likely to affect areas identified in local plans (as coastal change management areas) to be affected by coastal erosion	No	Yes
is for <a href="#">‘permission in principle’</a> (PIP) and the proposed site meets the criteria in this table	Yes	Yes
is for a site with PIP ( the ‘technical details consent’ stage) and the agency made a written request at the PIP stage to be consulted	Yes, if you’re advised in writing at the PIP stage	Yes, if you’re advised in writing at the PIP stage

Use this guidance, known as ‘standing advice’ if planning applications affect:

- [protected species and their habitat](#)
- [ancient woodland and veteran trees](#)
- [flood risk](#)

Check if the proposed development is on or might affect any [protected sites, protected areas or marine protected areas](#) by using the Magic map guidance.

Consult the [Marine Management Organisation](#) for coastal proposals (like slipways, jetties and dredging). Find out about the [permits, consents and licences](#) that a developer might need for coastal developments.

## What you need to send

You must provide enough information about the plan or proposal for the environmental agencies to comment. You must include any environmental effects in the plan or proposal. In some cases you may need to get further surveys or assessments done before the agencies can give advice.

## Planning applications, PIP and technical details consent

What you're doing	What you need to send	When you'll get a response
Preparing an EIA scoping opinion, that is deciding on the issues that need to be assessed	<a href="#">Your scoping opinion</a>	Within 5 weeks
Deciding on a planning application	The planning application with relevant supporting environmental information such as a draft Habitats Regulations appropriate assessment if required	Within 21 days, or longer if agreed in writing
Deciding an EIA planning application	The planning application with relevant supporting information including the environmental statement that provides an assessment of the effect the proposal may have on the environment Draft Habitats Regulations appropriate assessment if required	Within 30 days, or longer if agreed in writing
Deciding whether to give a site permission in principle and to list it in Part 2 of a brownfield land register	Details of the proposal with relevant environmental information to show that the site is suitable in principle	Within 21 days
Deciding whether to grant permission in principle for non-major development	Details of the proposal with relevant environmental information to show that the site is suitable in principle	Within 14 days (or longer if agreed in writing)
Deciding an application for 'technical details consent' after granting permission in principle	Details of the proposal with relevant supporting environmental information	Within 21 days (or longer if agreed in writing)

## Local development orders (LDOs) and neighbourhood development orders (NDOs)

What you're doing	What you need to send	When you'll get a response
Working on an LDO	Draft LDO	Agencies will agree a time with you – usually within 28 days
Consulting on your environmental statement for an LDO	Draft LDO Environmental statement (only for EIA development)	Agencies will agree a time with you – usually within 30 days
Consulting on your environmental statement for an NDO	Draft NDO Environmental statement (only for EIA development)	Agencies will agree a time with you – usually within 6 weeks

You may be asked to provide extra information with the proposal, such as:

- a 'foul drainage assessment' for proposals where connecting drainage to the public sewer to carry contaminated waste water isn't feasible
- a flood risk assessment for proposals within a flood zone or at risk of local flooding
- a water cycle study to make sure the proposal is sustainable and doesn't have an impact on water supply, water quality or flooding
- water supply or water quality assessment if one or both are affected
- an assessment of the landscape and visual impacts on protected areas such as areas of outstanding natural beauty or on protected species

## Environmental assessments

You must consult Natural England and the Environment Agency about plans and projects that need an environmental assessment. These are:

- [environmental impact assessments](#) for development projects
- [strategic environmental assessments](#) for plans and programmes
- [sustainability appraisals](#) for local plans
- habitats regulations appropriate assessments for plans and projects (Natural England only)

You may be asked to provide extra information with the proposal, even if an environmental assessment isn't needed.

## Contact the agencies

Consult the relevant agency in writing by email or letter.

### Natural England

Email [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk)

Natural England consultation service

Hornbeam House

Electra Way

Crewe Business Park

Crewe

Cheshire

CW1 6GJ

### Environment Agency

Email [enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk)



Environment Agency

PO Box 544

Rotherham

Yorkshire

S60 1BY

## What you'll get back

The written response you receive from Natural England or the Environment Agency will depend on the:

- level of risk the proposal has on the environment, for example you'll get a standardised response for a low risk proposal
- stage the plan, order or planning proposal has reached, for example you'll get more advice if you've sent in a completed draft plan
- environmental opportunities that could be achieved such as ['green infrastructure'](#) and biodiversity improvements of the site and surrounding area

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## [Detailed guide: Developers: get environmental advice on your planning proposals](#)

*Updated:* Included guidance on getting advice for planning in principle and technical details consent.

This guide applies to construction and transport developers.

You can get environmental advice about your development proposal early in the planning process. Natural England, the Environment Agency and the Marine Management Organisation can tell you about environmental issues and help you to deal with them.

## When to consult

You must consult the relevant environmental agency before you apply for planning permission (the 'pre-application stage') on:

- nationally significant infrastructure projects like motorways, power stations or offshore wind turbines
- drilling monitoring boreholes for oil exploration (Environment Agency only)

You can get advice at the pre-application stage on all other development from the relevant agency. This is optional, but it will help you make sure that:

- risk assessment information such as flood risk assessments is correct
- you consider all environmental risks
- you include environmental opportunities

You'll need to provide enough information for the agencies to respond, such as landscape and visual impact assessments or flood risk assessments. You'll get a response within 21 days or by an agreed deadline. The agency may request extra information such as relevant survey data or research. You'll need to pay for some advice.

## Consult Natural England

Get advice from Natural England if your development proposal:

- is likely to affect [protected sites and areas](#) – this guidance helps you locate protected sites and areas on the [Magic map](#) and tells you how to avoid harming them during development work
- is likely to affect [protected species](#) – this guidance tells you how to avoid harming protected species during development work and whether you need a wildlife licence to carry out your proposal
- affects the [best and most versatile agricultural land](#) (classified as 1 – excellent, 2 – very good or 3a – good) – you can find the agricultural land classifications on the [Magic map](#) and zoom in on the map
- affects [ancient woodland](#)
- includes [restoring land](#) previously used for mining or waste management to agricultural use
- includes environmental opportunities that could be achieved such as [‘green infrastructure’](#) and biodiversity improvements of the site and surrounding area

Read Natural England's guidance on [how your local planning authority will review your application](#) if there are protected species on the proposed development site. This is known as Natural England's 'standing advice'.

Check the [impact risk zone \(IRZ\) around a protected site](#) to help you assess potential impacts that the development proposal may have on the site. You can download the IRZ data and use it on the government's [Magic website](#).

See the [Magic map to show the location of protected areas](#) such as national parks and areas of outstanding natural beauty.

Natural England can tell you:

- if your proposal will significantly affect a protected site or area or

protected species

- if your proposal will affect the best and most versatile agricultural land
- what you should include with your planning application
- how you can avoid or reduce harming the natural environment

## **EU funding for transport projects**

Find out how to get Natural England's approval for applications for EU transport funding in the [Connecting Europe Facility transport guidance](#). Successful applications will need to show that transport proposals are not likely to have significant effects on a [Natura 2000](#) site.

## **Consult the Environment Agency**

Read the Environment Agency's [flood risk standing advice](#) before you consult them about flood risk.

You can get advice from the Environment Agency if your development includes:

- land in [flood zones 2 or 3](#)
- land in [flood zone 1](#) with critical drainage problems – your LPA will know if this is the case
- is for development that will be used to handle, produce, use or store hazardous substances and is within the area at risk if a major accident happens nearby (see the Health and Safety Executive guidance on [development near hazardous sites](#))
- mining and mining exploration
- storing oil and fuel and their by-products, such as petrol stations
- a major development that does not use existing sewerage infrastructure for sewage treatment
- land in or within 20m of the top of the bank of a [main river](#)
- waterbodies identified in [river basin management plans](#)
- a cemetery or cemetery extension
- land affected by [contamination](#) from a previous use such as disused railways, or your proposal could cause contamination
- land used for the storage, transfer or treatment of waste products or refuse
- intensive pig, poultry or dairy units

You can get advice even if your proposal does not need a planning application, such as when [prior approval](#) is needed for permitted development.

Check the Environment Agency's [maps and data](#) to find out if there's environmental information that could be relevant to your development proposal.

The Environment Agency can provide free preliminary advice to tell you:

- about environmental constraints on your development
- if your development will affect the environment

- the kind of information it wants you to include with your planning application
- if you [need an environmental licence or permit](#) and if there are likely to be problems with granting it

[Complete the preliminary opinion enquiry form.](#)

The Environment Agency aims to respond to preliminary opinion requests within 21 days.

## **Consult the Marine Management Organisation**

You can get advice from the [Marine Management Organisation](#) (MMO) if your development proposal is on the coast and includes slipways, jetties or dredging.

You must consult the MMO on nationally significant infrastructure projects such as offshore wind turbines.

Find out what [permits, consents and licences you might need for coastal developments](#) you might need for coastal developments.

## **If you need an environmental permit**

If you need an [environmental permit](#) for activities at your new site before you submit your permit or planning applications you can get Environment Agency advice.

The Environment Agency can provide a limited amount of pre-application advice to help you complete your application. The cost of this advice is included in the application charge.

The Environment Agency charges £100 an hour plus VAT for its enhanced pre-application advice service. This is an optional service which you can request if you want more help with your application.

Find out about [basic and enhanced pre-application advice for environmental permits](#).

You do not need planning permission before you apply for an environmental permit, but you can still get advice about environmental permits after you've submitted your planning application.

## **If you need planning and environmental consents**

If your development needs both [planning permission and an environmental permit](#) you can submit your environmental permit application at the same time as your planning application. This is known as 'twin-tracking' and means you'll get fewer information requests.

You should twin-track if:

- your activity is large or complicated

- there are protected habitats or species near the place you want to develop and the Environment Agency's assessment shows your activity could have a significant effect on them

## **Nationally significant infrastructure projects**

If your activity is part of a nationally significant infrastructure project, you can twin-track your applications or apply for your environmental permit before you submit a development consent application.

The Planning Inspectorate will consider your permit requirements when assessing your application.

## **If you need an environmental impact assessment**

You can ask [your LPA](#) whether your proposal needs to include an [environmental impact assessment](#) (EIA).

If your proposal needs an EIA, you'll need to prepare an [environmental statement](#). Your LPA must consult with the environmental agencies before they can tell you what information needs to be included.

You can get help from Natural England or the Environment Agency with your environmental statement, but you'll need to pay for advice.

## **Preparing an environmental statement**

Your statement should only focus on the significant effects that your proposal will have on the environment. You should include relevant documents to support this, for example:

- a water cycle study if the proposal affects water supply, water quality or flooding
- a landscape assessment or visual impact assessment on a protected landscape

## **When you can pay for agency advice**

You can get help from Natural England or the Environment Agency on how to:

- reduce harm to the environment
- maximise opportunities to enhance the environment

They'll also look at your environmental statement and respond within an agreed timescale.

## **Natural England's advice services**

Natural England offers 2 kinds of paid-for advice:

- a [pre-submission screening service](#) to find out if a development proposal affects a protected species and needs a wildlife licence

- a discretionary advice service (DAS) which is extra advice for more complex development proposals that affect the environment

You can use the discretionary advice service to:

- review your draft environmental statement
- review your survey results and assessments
- advise on your mitigation strategies to reduce damage to the environment

You'll normally get this advice before you submit your application for:

- planning permission
- permission in principle
- technical details consent
- a marine licence

In some cases, you can get advice during and after getting consent.

How much you'll have to pay depends on:

- the work you need to do, such as multiple mitigation strategies or several surveys
- whether or not a Natural England adviser needs to visit your site

You'll pay:

- £500 per adviser for a 90 minute meeting (either by conference call or a face-to-face meeting at an office or on the development site)
- £110 per hour per adviser for each additional hour

If an adviser needs to travel to your office or development site you'll pay their:

- travel costs at 45p per mile
- additional public transport, tolls and travel expenses
- travel time as part of the hourly rate

You'll pay £110 per hour if your request is more complicated. This includes:

- reviewing a draft environmental statement
- providing advice to reduce damage to protected sites and species
- providing advice on your landscape and visual impact assessment

Complete the [charged service request form](#) and send to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk)

Natural England will respond within 15 working days to:

- confirm if the request is eligible
- agree the scope of the works
- provide a written quotation
- agree a timetable

Read

## [Natural England's terms and conditions for paid-for services](#)

(PDF, 140KB, 16 pages)

### **Environment Agency's advice services**

The Environment Agency offers a charged-for discretionary advice service.

You can use the discretionary advice service to:

- review and provide advice on your draft environmental statement
- review and provide advice on your technical reports and assessments
- seek advice on your mitigation strategies to reduce damage to the environment
- seek advice on non-statutory strategic engagement activities such as planning policies and evidence base documents

You'll normally get this advice before you submit your application for:

- planning permission
- permission in principle
- technical details consent
- a marine licence

In some cases, you can get advice during and after getting consent.

How much you'll have to pay depends on:

- how complex your proposal is
- the number of staff needed to provide the relevant advice

You'll pay:

- £100 an hour plus VAT per staff member – this includes travel time
- any other reasonable costs, for example costs of advice from external consultants if needed

To request charged-for discretionary advice email the Environment Agency at [enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk). Your enquiry will go to your local sustainable places team. You need to provide:

- your name and contact details, and who you're acting on behalf of
- the postcode or grid reference of the site and a location plan showing the boundary of the proposed development
- a project description, including what you're planning to build and the type of consent you need
- the type of advice you want, for example a face-to-face meeting or document review

The Environment Agency will respond within 15 working days to:

- confirm if the request is eligible

- agree the scope of the works
- provide a written quotation
- agree a timetable

Read the [Environment Agency's terms and conditions for planning and marine licence advice](#).

## Contact the agencies

Natural England

Email [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk)

Natural England consultation service

Hornbeam House

Electra Way

Crewe Business Park

Crewe

Cheshire

CW1 6GJ

Environment Agency

Email [enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk)

Environment Agency

P0 Box 544

Rotherham

Yorkshire

S60 1BY