

GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION HIGHLIGHTS

August 2022

A brief summary of current government consultations of potential interest to RSN members. This is not intended as an exhaustive list of all relevant consultations.

Consultation on the English portion of dormant assets funding – Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

The government has launched a consultation to gather views on the broad social or environmental purposes of the English portion of dormant assets funding.

The public consultation follows the passage of the Dormant Assets Act 2022 earlier this year, which expanded the Dormant Assets Scheme into a wider range of sectors. The expansion potentially unlocks around £880 million for good causes across the UK, £738 million of which will be made available for England over time.

In the context of recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and pressures on the cost of living, the government is inviting input on how the Scheme can deliver the greatest impact in England over the coming years. The consultation will inform what broad social and/or environmental causes should be prescribed in future secondary legislation. It invites specific views on four causes – youth, financial inclusion, social investment, and community wealth funds – and welcomes suggestions for any other social or environmental causes that the government should consider. They are particularly interested in hearing from local communities, current and potential participants, civil society organisations, and any interested individuals.

The closing date for this consultation is 9 October 2022.

[Consultation on the English portion of dormant assets funding - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/consultation-on-the-english-portion-of-dormant-assets-funding)

Review of electricity market arrangements – Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

This review of electricity market arrangements will identify reforms needed to transition to a decarbonised, cost effective and secure electricity system.

This consultation seeks views on a range of options to deliver an enduring electricity market framework that will work for businesses, industry, and households.

This consultation closes on 10 October 2022.

[Review of electricity market arrangements - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/review-of-electricity-market-arrangements)

Warm Home Discount (England and Wales): draft eligibility statement – Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

This is a draft eligibility statement as required under Regulation 9 of The Warm Home Discount (England and Wales) Regulations 2022.

This statement describes the criteria used to determine the eligibility for a rebate under Core Group 2 of the Warm Home Discount scheme in England and Wales.

The draft statement sets out:

- low-income criteria - the qualifying means-tested benefits and Tax Credits which a person must receive to meet the low-income criteria
- income thresholds for Tax Credits - the income thresholds for households in receipt of Working Tax Credits or Child Tax Credits to meet the low-income criteria
- high-energy-cost criteria - the process for allocating an energy cost score to a household and for setting the threshold that a household's energy cost score must exceed in order to meet the high-energy-cost criteria

- eligible property types - the types which can be eligible for a rebate under Core Group 2

The closing date for this consultation is 14 August 2022.

[Warm Home Discount \(England and Wales\): draft eligibility statement - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/warm-home-discount-draft-eligibility-statement)

Draft National Air Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP) – Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Government is seeking views on the draft National Air Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP). In the draft NAPCP the UK government and devolved administrations have outlined the policies and measures (PaMs) which will be considered further to reduce emissions in accordance with the national emission reduction commitments (ERCs) set under the National Emission Ceilings Regulations (NECR) 2018.

They will use the responses to this consultation to help inform the review of the NAPCP, due to be published later this year.

This consultation closes on 4 September 2022.

[Draft National Air Pollution Control Programme \(NAPCP\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/draft-national-air-pollution-control-programme)

Developing a tourist accommodation registration scheme in England – Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

The government is issuing a call for evidence on the benefits and challenges presented by the rise in short-term and holiday letting seen in England over the last 10 to 15 years. This will inform the development of appropriate policy options, which the government intends to consult on later in 2022.

The UK government's Tourism Recovery Plan committed to consulting on the introduction of a tourist accommodation registration scheme in England. The purpose of this call for evidence is to gather the information and data necessary to develop proportionate, evidence-based policy options for that consultation.

This consultation closes on 21 September 2022.

[Developing a tourist accommodation registration scheme in England - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/developing-a-tourist-accommodation-registration-scheme-in-england)

Public sector food and catering policy – Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Government states that it is “adopting an ambitious and transformational approach to public sector food and catering. We are determined to use public sector purchasing power to ensure positive change in the food system. Our vision is that public sector food and catering is an exemplar to wider society in delivering positive health, animal welfare, environmental and socio-economic impacts.

Government have developed a set of proposed changes to public sector food and catering policy, including the Government Buying Standards for Food and Catering Services (GBSF), to deliver this vision.

This consultation is expected to be of greatest interest to public sector contracting authorities, food business operators, the food industry, Government departments and agencies, local authorities, consumer groups and public bodies. They also welcome the views of any individual or organisation that has an interest, directly or indirectly.

This consultation closes on 4 September 2022.

[Seeking views on possible changes to public sector food and catering policy. - Defra - Citizen Space](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/seeking-views-on-possible-changes-to-public-sector-food-and-catering-policy)

Improved food waste reporting by large food businesses in England – Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Government want to know what you think of their options for improving food surplus and waste reporting by large food businesses in England.

They are seeking views on the following:

- options for improving food waste reporting
- types of businesses in scope
- material in scope to be reported
- the reporting process which businesses in scope will need to follow for any regulation
- costs and impacts of any regulation
- enforcement of any regulations

This consultation closes on 5 September 2022.

[Improved food waste reporting by large food businesses in England - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/Improved-food-waste-reporting-by-large-food-businesses-in-England)

Homelessness Prevention Grant 2023/24 onwards: technical consultation – Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

The Homelessness Prevention Grant is provided to all local housing authorities in England to support them in delivering services to prevent and tackle homelessness. For 2022/23, £315.8 million in funding was provided to local authorities through the grant.

This technical consultation is seeking views from local authorities and other interested stakeholders on the approach to the funding arrangements and conditions for the grant for 2023/24 onwards. Government wants to make sure that funding is allocated fairly to authorities based on current homelessness pressures. They also want to improve government's understanding of how the grant is being spent.

This consultation closes on 26 August 2022.

[Homelessness Prevention Grant 2023/24 onwards: technical consultation - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/Homelessness-Prevention-Grant-2023-24-onwards-technical-consultation)

Electrical safety in social housing: consultation and call for evidence – Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

In the social housing White Paper, government committed to undertaking a consultation on keeping social housing residents safe from electrical harm. This consultation aims “to improve safety for residents in social rented homes and bring greater parity between the rented sectors with regard to safety.” Government is consulting on mandating electrical safety inspection and testing in social homes, and calling for evidence on requirements for owner-occupier leasehold properties in social housing blocks.

This consultation closes on 31 August 2022.

[Electrical safety in social housing: consultation and call for evidence - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/Electrical-safety-in-social-housing-consultation-and-call-for-evidence)