

ANNEX D: RESPONDENT INFORMATION FORM AND LIST OF QUESTIONS



Consultation on Changes to Permitted Development Rights for Development by Telecommunications Code Operators

RESPONDENT INFORMATION FORM

Please Note this form **must** be returned with your response to ensure that we handle your response appropriately

1. Name/Organisation

Organisation Name

Scottish Environment LINK

Title Mr Ms Mrs Miss Dr **Please tick as appropriate**

Surname

Aedán

Forename

Smith

2. Postal Address

c/o RSPB Scotland

2 Lochside View

Edinburgh Park

Edinburgh

Postcode
1RX

EH11

Phone 0131 317 4100

Email

aedan.smith@rspb.org.uk

3. Permissions - I am responding as...

Individual

/

Group/Organisation

Please tick as appropriate

(a) Do you agree to your response being made available to the public (in Scottish Government library and/or on the Scottish Government web site)?

Please tick as appropriate

Yes No

(c) The name and address of your organisation **will be** made available to the public (in the Scottish Government library and/or on the Scottish Government web site).

(b) Where confidentiality is not requested, we will make your responses available to the public on the following basis

Please tick ONE of the following boxes

Are you content for your **response** to be made available?

Please tick as appropriate

Yes **No**

Yes, make my response, name and address all available

or

Yes, make my response available, but not my name and address

or

Yes, make my response and name available, but not my address

(d) We will share your response internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

Please tick as appropriate

Yes

Scottish Environment LINK response

Scottish Environment LINK have some serious concerns with the proposals put forward in this consultation. In particular, we would be concerned about any changes which could reduce the level of scrutiny required for developments which could affect designated sites. While we support improvements to digital infrastructure, Scotland's designated sites represent the very best, and often the most sensitive, parts of Scotland's environment. It is therefore essential that there is a mechanism to ensure that proposals are scrutinised, that environmental impacts are fully considered and that there are opportunities to involve the public and other stakeholders in the decision making process. This would help ensure that improved digital connectivity can be delivered without harming the most important parts of our environment. We would therefore oppose these changes as currently proposed.

The ongoing difficulties relating to agricultural and forestry tracks illustrates the type of problems that can occur when permitted development rights are applied without full consideration of the environmental consequences.

Despite our concerns about these current proposals, we are keen to help facilitate improved digital connectivity in Scotland and would be happy to discuss our concerns further to see how these issues may be resolved.

Because these changes could result in some significant environmental effects as proposed, if it is decided to pursue them it seems inevitable that an SEA would be required.