



Extending the availability of Protective Expenses Orders

November 2025

Introduction to Scottish Environment LINK

Scottish Environment LINK is the forum for Scotland's voluntary environment community, with 50 member bodies representing a broad spectrum of environmental interests with the common goal of contributing to a more environmentally sustainable society.

Its member bodies represent a wide community of environmental interest, sharing the common goal of contributing to a more sustainable society. LINK provides a forum for these organisations, enabling informed debate, assisting co-operation within the voluntary sector, and acting as a strong voice for the environment. Acting at local, national and international levels, LINK aims to ensure that the environmental community participates in the development of policy and legislation affecting Scotland.

LINK works mainly through groups of members working together on topics of mutual interest, exploring the issues and developing advocacy to promote sustainable development, respecting environmental limits. This consultation response was written by LINK's Governance Group.

1. Response

Scottish Environment LINK members have a longstanding concern over Scotland's failure to comply with the Aarhus Convention. LINK members welcome this consultation, but note with concern that the proposed measures will only partially resolve the issues with non-compliance.

Scotland faces the deeply connected environmental crises of climate change, nature loss, and pollution. These crises in turn have an impact on public health and our wider quality of life. The Aarhus Convention creates an obligation on the Scottish Government to ensure access to information, public participation in decision-making, and access to justice in environmental matters. The continued non-compliance with this Convention is unacceptable and undermines Scotland's commitment to environmental protection.

On the substance of this consultation, we support the detailed comments made by the Environmental Rights Centre for Scotland.

This response was compiled on behalf of LINK Governance Group and is supported by:

Badenoch & Strathspey Conservation Group

Cairngorms Campaign

Environmental Rights Centre for Scotland

RSPB Scotland



For further information contact:

Dan Paris, Director of Policy and Engagement
dan@scotlink.org



Scottish Environment LINK the voice for Scotland's environment

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