

Environmental Standards Scotland (ESS)

How to raise an environmental concern

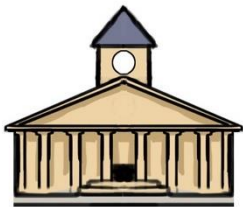
Easy Read version



Who are we?

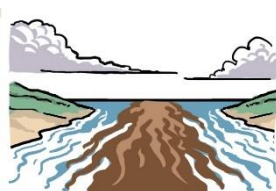


We are Environmental Standards Scotland (ESS). It is our job to make sure public authorities are following environmental laws. It is also our job to make sure that environmental laws are working well.



Public authorities are people or organisations that work for the public. These include:

- the Scottish Government
- government departments
- local councils
- the Scottish Environment Protection Agency
- NatureScot



Environmental laws are any laws meant to protect the environment from threats, for example:

- air pollution
- water pollution
- danger to wildlife
- climate change

Raising your environmental concerns with us



Part of the work we do is to investigate when people tell us:



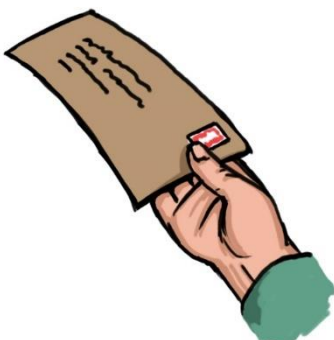
- a public authority is not following the rules in place to protect the environment
- an environmental law is not working



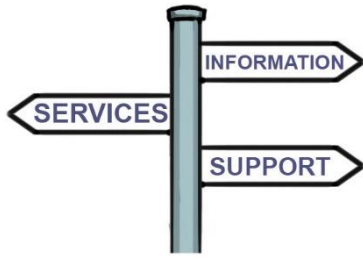
Telling us about these things is called making a representation. You can do that by online using our [web submission tool](#). You can also download a copy of [our representation form](#).



Email your completed form to:
representations@environmentalstandards.scot



Post your completed form to:
Environmental Standards Scotland
Thistle House
91 Haymarket Terrace
Edinburgh EH12 5HD



If your representation is not about environmental law, we will not be able to investigate it because it is not our job. But we may be able to give advice about what you should do and who you should talk to about it.



We cannot take action on decisions taken by public authorities on a particular person or case. For example, if an application for a licence is refused by a local council.



But we might look at how decisions have been made to see if there is an issue we might need to investigate.

Before raising your concern



You should try to give the public authority the chance to respond to the issue before you report it to us.



We will not normally deal with a representation until the public authority has replied to you. If you are not happy with their reply you can then send your representation to us.

Further information

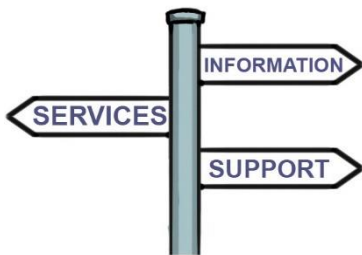


You can go to our [frequently asked questions](#) page our [what we can investigate](#) page.

Next steps



Whatever we decide to do about your representation, we will write to you. This will tell you about any action we are taking and give the reasons for this.



We will give you as much help as we can. This might include advising you to contact other organisations that may be able to help.



We may use the information you give us but we will not share your personal information without your consent. You can tell us at any time if you wish to withdraw your representation.

Contacting us



If you are not clear about the work we do or are having difficulties using our service, please [contact us](#). We will be happy to help you.