

Information and Advice

We are Scotland's independent scrutiny body on environmental law. It is our responsibility to scrutinise the effectiveness of environmental law in Scotland and how it is implemented and applied. We also look at whether public bodies in Scotland are compliant with their responsibilities regarding environmental law.

We fulfil our responsibilities through our [monitoring and analysis](#) work and by undertaking [investigative](#) work. You can read more information about [what we can investigate](#) on our website.

We often receive complaints about damage to the environment, for example sewage discharges or drinking water contamination. It is important to note that other regulatory bodies exist to deal with these types of concerns, such as the Scottish Environment Protection Agency. Local Authorities also have responsibilities in respect of concerns about environmental health and contaminated land.

To assist you we have put together a basic guide listing key organisations. Please note this list is not exhaustive and is not intended as a detailed breakdown of legal duties.

Before you submit your [enquiry](#) or [representation](#) to us, please consider the table below to make sure we are the right organisation to help you with your concern.

Organisation	Responsible for	Contact details
Scotland		
Audit Scotland	Ensuring public money in Scotland is spent efficiently and effectively	Contact us Audit Scotland
Food Standards Scotland	Protecting consumers in Scotland from food safety risks and promoting healthy eating	Contact us Food Standards Scotland

NatureScot	Promoting and improving Scotland's natural environment	Contact us NatureScot
Police Scotland	Investigating and enforcing crime in Scotland (including wildlife crime)	Contact Police Scotland - Police Scotland
Scottish Environment Protection Agency	Environment regulation in Scotland	Contact us Beta SEPA Scottish Environment Protection Agency
Scottish Information Commissioner	Promoting and enforcing Scotland's freedom of information laws	Contact Us Scottish Information Commissioner
Scottish Government	National policies, plans, programmes and strategies (as well as the development of environmental legislation)	Contact - gov.scot
Scottish local authorities	The delivery of a wide and varied range of public services. Local Authorities are also responsible for services in relation to Scotland's environment	Contact your local council in Scotland - mygov.scot
Scottish Public Services Ombudsman	The final stage for complaints about public service organisations in Scotland	Contact us SPSO
Scottish Water	The provision of water and waste water services across Scotland	Contact Us - Scottish Water
England		
Environment Agency	Environment regulation in England	Environment Agency - GOV.UK
Natural England	Matters related to England's natural environment	Natural England - GOV.UK

Office for Environmental Protection	England and Northern Ireland's independent scrutiny body on environmental law and environmental plans and targets	Contact Us Office for Environmental Protection
Northern Ireland		
Northern Ireland Environment Agency	Environment regulation in Northern Ireland	Contacts Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
Office for Environmental Protection	Northern Ireland and England's independent scrutiny body on environmental law and environmental plans and targets	Contact Us Office for Environmental Protection
Wales		
Interim Environmental Protection Assessor for Wales	Oversees the functioning of environmental law in Wales. It also provides advice to Welsh Ministers to improve environmental outcomes	Interim Environmental Protection Assessor for Wales: Submission Form GOV.WALES
Natural Resources Wales	Environment regulation in Wales	Natural Resources Wales / Contact us
United Kingdom (UK)		
Climate Change Committee	The UK's independent advisor on climate change	Contact us - Climate Change Committee