



Title	Working Together Agreement between Natural Resources Wales and LACORS Environmental Permitting Regulations (England & Wales) 2010 as amended
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Agreed by

.....(LACORS)

.....(NRW)

What do we want to achieve by working together on permitting decisions

- Protection of the environment and the general public in relation to activities prescribed under the Environmental Permitting Regulations.
- A risk based approach to permitting and to requests for further information.
- Better public awareness of the relationship between Natural Resources Wales and Local Authorities.

Roles and Responsibilities (of each participating organisation)

- Natural Resources Wales is one of the regulators under the Environmental Permitting Regulations in England and Wales and has responsibility for the permitting of certain industrial and waste management activities specified in the Regulations.
- Under the Environmental Permitting Regulations, Natural Resources Wales has responsibility for regulatory measures contributing to the implementation of all relevant European Directives.
- Local Authorities under the Environmental Permitting Regulations in England and Wales have responsibility for the permitting of certain industrial activities and some ancillary waste management activities where directed by the Secretary of State. For the purposes of this working together agreement, local authorities means any local authority where environmental protection work is carried out (i.e. District Councils, Borough Councils, Metropolitan District Councils, Welsh County Boroughs, London Boroughs and other unitary authorities).
- Under the Environmental Permitting Regulations, Local Authorities have responsibility for regulatory measures contributing to the implementation of specified aspects of some European Directives.
- LACORS represents Local Authorities in England and Wales and will liaise with Natural Resources Wales with respect to the activities permitted under the Environmental Permitting Regulations.

How we will work together

Generally we will:

- Share information where appropriate.

Specifically Natural Resources Wales will:

- Consult with Local Authorities through LACORS when developing the risk criteria and rules to be complied with for standard permits.
- Consult Local Authorities on applications for bespoke permits.
- Consult Local Authorities on all applications from operators and regulator initiated variations which entail a substantial change¹, or where we otherwise consider there should be consultation.
- Take account of comments that are received within the agreed timescale.
- Alert a Local Authority where further information is submitted which we consider pertinent to their interests.

¹ Substantial change is one which could have significant negative effects on the environment or the general public.

- Where regulatory responsibility for an activity is transferred from Natural Resources Wales to a Local Authority (by Secretary of State Direction), Natural Resources Wales will as soon as possible, and normally within 15 working days, provide the Local Authority all relevant details and records, and agree other necessary handover arrangements, in order to allow the new regulator to carry out its functions full.
- Seek to improve the current joint working agreements based on experience.

Specifically Local Authorities will:

- Respond on matters within their remit with clear, concise views concluding whether, in their opinion, this application should be approved, approved with specific changes or rejected.
- Respond within 20 working days.
- Where a direction is issued transferring responsibility to Natural Resources Wales for regulating a Part B activity, Local Authorities will as soon as possible and normally within 15 working days:
 - a) provide the relevant Natural Resources Wales officer with all appropriate papers held relating to the regulation of that activity; and
 - b) agree other necessary handover arrangements, which could amount to a face-to-face or telephone briefing, or a joint site visit.