



# Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023

## 2023 CHAPTER 55

### PART 6

#### ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOMES REPORTS

##### *Setting environmental outcomes*

#### **152 Power to specify environmental outcomes**

- (1) Regulations made by an appropriate authority under this Part (“EOR regulations”) may specify outcomes relating to environmental protection in the United Kingdom or a relevant offshore area that are to be “specified environmental outcomes” for the purposes of this Part.
- (2) “Environmental protection” means—
  - (a) protection of the natural environment, cultural heritage and the landscape from the effects of human activity (including, amongst other things, the protection of chalk streams from abstraction and pollution);
  - (b) protection of people from the effects of human activity on the natural environment, cultural heritage and the landscape;
  - (c) maintenance, restoration or enhancement of the natural environment, cultural heritage or the landscape;
  - (d) monitoring, assessing, considering, advising or reporting on anything in paragraphs (a) to (c).
- (3) The “natural environment” means—
  - (a) plants, wild animals and other living organisms,
  - (b) their habitats (including, amongst other things, chalk streams),
  - (c) land (except buildings or other structures), air and water,and the natural systems, cycles and processes through which they interact.

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*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023, Section 152. (See end of Document for details)*

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- (4) “Cultural heritage” means any building, structure, other feature of the natural or built environment or site, which is of historic, architectural, archaeological or artistic interest.
- (5) Before making any EOR regulations which contain provision about what the specified environmental outcomes are to be, an appropriate authority must have regard to—
- (a) in the case of regulations made by the Secretary of State acting alone or jointly with a devolved authority, the current environmental improvement plan (within the meaning of Part 1 of the Environment Act 2021),
  - (b) in the case of regulations made by the Scottish Ministers acting alone, the current environmental policy strategy (within the meaning of section 47 of the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Continuity) (Scotland) Act 2021 (asp 4)),
  - (c) in the case of regulations made by the Welsh Ministers acting alone, the current national natural resources policy (within the meaning of section 9 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016), or
  - (d) in the case of regulations made by a Northern Ireland department acting alone, the current environmental improvement plan (within the meaning of Schedule 2 to the Environment Act 2021).

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**Commencement Information**

**II** S. 152 in force at 26.12.2023, see s. 255(5)

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023, Section 152.