

EXECUTIVE NOTE

THE INSPIRE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2009 SSI/2009/440

The above instrument was made in exercise of the powers conferred by section 2(2) of, and paragraph 1A of Schedule 2 to, the European Communities Act 1972 and all powers enabling them to do so. The instrument is subject to negative resolution procedure.

Policy Objectives

The purpose of the instrument is to implement in Scotland Directive 2007/2/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 March 2007 establishing an Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community (INSPIRE). This is expected to improve the ability of public authorities to share spatial data and make information based on this data more widely available through defining standards that are necessary to make the information more accessible.

Consultation

The Scottish Government partnered with the lead UK Government Department (Defra) to undertake a 12 week consultation between March and May 2009 on the policy principles underpinning the proposed regulations. Consultees were asked whether they were content with: the approach being proposed as to which public authorities should be covered and as to the derogations suggested relating to data access and sharing. This consultation comprised both a formal written consultation and outreach event. The written consultation document was sent to nearly 250 public and private sector organisations. 46 organisations responded representing a wide cross section of interests. The same questions in the written consultation were put to the nearly 200 attendees at the outreach events across the UK.

The following bodies have been consulted during the preparation of the instrument:

Bord Gaidhilig na h-Alba
Local Authorities
General Register Office for Scotland
National Archives for Scotland
National Library for Scotland
Edinburgh University
Scottish Place Name Society
Royal Scottish Geographic Society
Boundary Commission for Scotland
Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland
Registers of Scotland
Scottish Assessors
Scottish Environment Protection Agency
Scottish Water
Scottish Natural Heritage
Forestry Commission Scotland
Scottish Association for Marine Science
Royal Commission for Ancient and Historical Monuments

National Trust for Scotland
Scottish Wildlife Trust
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
John Muir Trust
Macaulay Land Use Research Institute
NHS Scotland
Scottish Enterprise
Highlands and Islands Enterprise
Crofters Commission
Information Commissioner for Scotland (from October 2009)

Financial Effects

This Instrument will have minimal financial effects on the Scottish Government or local government, or on business (as the INSPIRE Directive requirements mainly apply to data sets currently held by public authorities). The minimal costs relate to developing consistent metadata and standards. These costs are being met from existing budgets.

Scottish Government: Public Service Reform Directorate
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