



Environment Act 2021

2021 CHAPTER 30

PART 1

ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

CHAPTER 1

IMPROVING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Policy statement on environmental principles

17 Policy statement on environmental principles

- (1) The Secretary of State must prepare a policy statement on environmental principles in accordance with this section and section 18.
- (2) A “policy statement on environmental principles” is a statement explaining how the environmental principles should be interpreted and proportionately applied by Ministers of the Crown when making policy.
- (3) It may also explain how Ministers of the Crown, when interpreting and applying the environmental principles, should take into account other considerations relevant to their policy.
- (4) The Secretary of State must be satisfied that the statement will, when it comes into effect, contribute to—
 - (a) the improvement of environmental protection, and
 - (b) sustainable development.
- (5) In this Part “environmental principles” means the following principles—
 - (a) the principle that environmental protection should be integrated into the making of policies,
 - (b) the principle of preventative action to avert environmental damage,

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (c) the precautionary principle, so far as relating to the environment,
- (d) the principle that environmental damage should as a priority be rectified at source, and
- (e) the polluter pays principle.