



Environment Act 2021

2021 CHAPTER 30

PART 1

ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

CHAPTER 1

IMPROVING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Policy statement on environmental principles

18 Policy statement on environmental principles: process

- (1) The Secretary of State must prepare a draft of the policy statement on environmental principles.
- (2) The Secretary of State must consult such persons as the Secretary of State considers appropriate in relation to the draft statement.
- (3) The Secretary of State must lay the draft statement before Parliament.
- (4) If before the end of the 21 day period—
 - (a) either House of Parliament passes a resolution in respect of the draft statement, or
 - (b) a committee of either House of Parliament, or a joint committee of both Houses, makes recommendations in respect of the draft statement,the Secretary of State must produce a response and lay it before Parliament.
- (5) The Secretary of State must prepare and lay before Parliament the final statement, but not before—
 - (a) if subsection (4) applies, the day on which the Secretary of State lays the response required by that subsection, or
 - (b) otherwise, the end of the 21 day period.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Environment Act 2021, Section 18. (See end of Document for details)

- (6) The final statement has effect when it is laid before Parliament.
- (7) The Secretary of State must publish the statement when it comes into effect.
- (8) The “21 day period” is the period of 21 sitting days beginning with the first sitting day after the day on which the draft statement is laid under subsection (3).
- (9) “Sitting day” means a day on which both Houses of Parliament sit.
- (10) The requirements in subsections (1) and (2) may be met by the preparation of a draft statement, and consultation, before this section comes into force.
- (11) The Secretary of State may prepare a revised policy statement on environmental principles at any time (and subsections (1) to (9) apply in relation to any revised statement).

Commencement Information

- I1** S. 18 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 147\(3\)](#)
- I2** [S. 18](#) in force at 10.5.2022 by [S.I. 2022/518](#), [regs. 1\(2\)](#), 2(b)

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Environment Act 2021, Section 18.