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Where do we stand?

Responding to the consultation on Environmental Principles and Governance

The current UK government is committed to be the first generation leaving the environment in a better state than it inherited it.

Leaving the EU will create a gap in regulations and governance, and DEFRA are currently holding a consultation on the issue, which closes on 2nd August (<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/eu/environmental-principles-and-governance>). The consultation offers a rare and welcome opportunity to rethink the UK's environmental framework.

DEFRA's proposals to rework the principles guiding our environmental policy, including the precautionary and 'polluter pays' principles, could have long-term and far-reaching consequences for the delivery of environmental objectives set out in the UK Government's 25 Year Environment Plan and beyond. The proposals also raise questions about future interactions between the UK's devolved nations, collaboration across government departments, and the role of the planning system.

This event has been organised by the Edge to encourage collaboration and debate among built environment professionals and inform responses to the DEFRA consultation. It will include short presentations on the current environmental framework and possible options post-Brexit, followed by views from a range of professionals. A number of response points will be proposed for debate by the audience, with the hope of developing a draft collective response to the consultation.

Chair: Professor Maria Lee, Faculty of Law and co-director of the Centre for Law and the Environment, University College London

Overview of Defra Proposals and options:

Dr Tom West, Law and Policy Advisor, Client Earth

Responsees:

Richard Blyth, Head of Policy, RTPI
 Ben Brown, Policy Manager, Landscape Institute
 Ant Wilson, Sustainability & Building Engineering, AECOM

Venue: 2nd floor lecture theatre, UCL Energy Institute
 Central House, 14 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 0NN

Timing: Debate 6.00 (for 6.15) – 8.00 pm
 Drinks and networking - until 9.00 pm

This event is by invitation only. Please come and contribute to the discussion.

To attend please register by each attendee's name on Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/where-do-we-stand-tickets-47842932499>

