
Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Environment Act 2021, Paragraph 1. (See end of Document for details)

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 3

THE OFFICE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION: NORTHERN IRELAND

PART 1

THE OEP'S NORTHERN IRELAND FUNCTIONS

Monitoring and reporting on the Department's environmental improvement plans

- 1 (1) The OEP must monitor progress in improving the natural environment in accordance with the current environmental improvement plan.
- (2) The OEP must prepare a progress report for each annual reporting period.
- (3) A progress report for an annual reporting period is a report on progress made in that period in improving the natural environment in accordance with the current environmental improvement plan.
- (4) An annual reporting period is a period for which the Department must prepare a report under paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 (a "Schedule 2 report").
- (5) In reporting on progress made in an annual reporting period, the OEP must consider—
 - (a) the Schedule 2 report for that period,
 - (b) the data published by the Department under paragraph 5 of Schedule 2 that relates to that period, and
 - (c) any other reports, documents or information it considers appropriate.
- (6) A progress report for an annual reporting period may include—
 - (a) consideration of how progress could be improved, and
 - (b) consideration of the adequacy of the data published by the Department under paragraph 5 of Schedule 2.
- (7) The OEP must—
 - (a) arrange for its reports under this paragraph to be laid before the Northern Ireland Assembly, and
 - (b) publish them.
- (8) A progress report for an annual reporting period must be laid no later than 6 months after the Schedule 2 report for that period is laid before the Northern Ireland Assembly.
- (9) The Department must—
 - (a) respond to a report under this paragraph, and

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- (b) lay before the Northern Ireland Assembly, and publish, a copy of the response.
- (10) Where a report under this paragraph contains a recommendation for how progress could be improved, the response must address that recommendation.
- (11) The response—
- (a) must be laid no later than 12 months after the report is laid, and
 - (b) may be included in a Schedule 2 report.

Commencement Information

- I1** Sch. 3 para. 1 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 147\(6\)\(7\)](#)
- I2** [Sch. 3 para. 1](#) in force at 28.2.2022 by [S.R. 2022/54](#), [art. 2\(1\)\(a\)](#)

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