

Prif Gynllunydd, Y Gyfarwyddiaeth Gynllunio
Chief Planner, Planning Directorate



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

To: All Heads of Planning

1 March 2018

Dear Colleague

European Protected Species Licencing – Notice of Revised Procedure

I write to draw your attention to the following:

- the withdrawal of Circular Letter 05/04,
- to advise Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) to make use of a replacement informative (to be attached to all relevant consent notices), and
- to notify LPAs of a new Natural Resources Wales (NRW) notification procedure for the issuing of an European Protected Species (EPS) Licence.

Circular Letter 05/04 is withdrawn with immediate effect. It is advised that under specific circumstances a pre-commencement condition should be attached to planning consents requiring the applicant to provide the LPA with a copy of their EPS Licence (once issued by NRW).

We are seeking to reduce the number of pre-commencement conditions attached to consents and are concerned that this condition unnecessarily duplicates controls by other legislation. However, given the important protection required for EPS the following informative should be used where EPS are likely to be present on site:

Warning: An European protected species (EPS) Licence is required for this development.

This planning permission does not provide consent to undertake works that require an EPS licence.

It is an offence to deliberately capture, kill or disturb EPS or to recklessly damage or destroy their breeding sites or resting places. If found guilty of any offences, you could be sent to prison for up to 6 months and/or receive an unlimited fine.

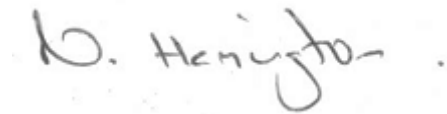
To undertake the works within the law, you can obtain further information on the need for a licence from Natural Resources Wales on 0300 065 3000 or at

<https://naturalresources.wales/conservation-biodiversity-and-wildlife/european-protected-species/?lang=en>

To support the use of the above informative and ensure co-ordination between planning and habitats regimes, NRW have advised that they are introducing a new process in their EPS Licensing procedure that will automatically issue a copy of the EPS Licence that has been

granted to the generic planning mailbox of the relevant LPA. This new NRW procedure went live on 1 March.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "N. Hemington". The signature is written in a cursive style with a period at the end.

Neil Hemington

Prif Gynllunydd | Chief Planner

Cyfarwyddiaeth Cynllunio | Planning Directorate

Economi, Sgiliau a Chyfoeth Naturiol | Department for

Economy, Skills and Natural Resources