Draft Order laid before Parliament under section 11 of the Public Bodies Act 2011, for approval by resolution of each House of Parliament after the expiry of the 40-day period referred to in section 11(4) of that Act.

DRAFT STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2012 No.

PUBLIC BODIES
RURAL AFFAIRS, ENGLAND AND WALES

The Public Bodies (Abolition of the Commission for Rural Communities) Order 2012

Made - - - - ***

Coming into force in accordance with article 1

The Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 1(1), 6(1) and (5) and 35(2) of the Public Bodies Act 2011(**1**) ("the Act"), makes this Order.

In accordance with section 8 of the Act, the Secretary of State considers that this Order—

(a) serves the purpose of improving the exercise of public functions, having had regard to the factors set out in section 8(1) of the Act;

(b) does not remove any necessary protection or prevent any person from continuing to exercise any right or freedom which that person might reasonably expect to continue to exercise.

The Secretary of State has carried out consultation in accordance with section 10 of the Act.

A draft of this Order and an explanatory document containing the information required in section 11(2) of the Act have been laid before Parliament in accordance with section 11(1) after the end of the period of twelve weeks mentioned in section 11(3).

In accordance with section 11(4) of the Act, the draft of this Order has been approved by resolution of each House of Parliament after the expiry of the 40-day period referred to in that provision.

Citation, extent and commencement

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Public Bodies (Abolition of the Commission for Rural Communities) Order 2012.

(2) This Order extends to England and Wales, except as provided by paragraph (3).

(**1**) 2011 c. 24.

(3) The repeals and revocations made by article 4 and the Schedule have the same extent as the provisions to which they relate.

(4) This Order comes into force on 1st April 2013, except as provided by paragraph (5).

(5) In respect of the final entry (Public Bodies Act 2011) in the table of repeals in the Schedule, article 4 comes into force on 2nd April 2013.

Abolition of the Commission for Rural Communities

2. The body known as the Commission for Rural Communities established by section 17 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006(**2**) is abolished.

Transitional provisions

3.—(1) The Secretary of State must prepare a report on how the Commission for Rural Communities has discharged its functions during the period from 1st April 2012 to 31st March 2013 inclusive ("the relevant year").

(2) The Secretary of State must—

(a) prepare a statement of accounts of the Commission for Rural Communities in respect of the relevant year, and

(b) send copies of the statement to the Comptroller and Auditor General.

(3) The Comptroller and Auditor General must—

(a) examine, certify and report on the statement prepared under paragraph (2), and

(b) send a copy of the certified statement and of the Comptroller and Auditor General's report to the Secretary of State as soon as possible.

(4) The Secretary of State must lay before each House of Parliament a document consisting of—

(a) a copy of the report prepared under paragraph (1), and

(b) a copy of the statement and report sent under paragraph (3)(b).

Repeals and revocations

4. The provisions mentioned in the Schedule are repealed or revoked to the extent specified.

Name
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Date

(**2**) 2006 c. 16.