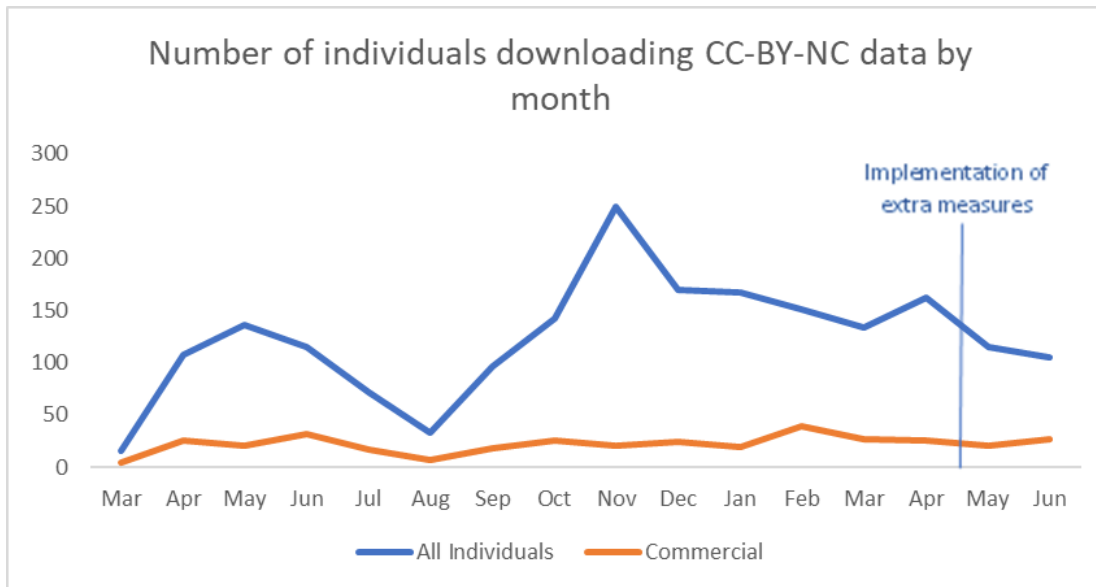


### Misuse of data on non-commercial licences

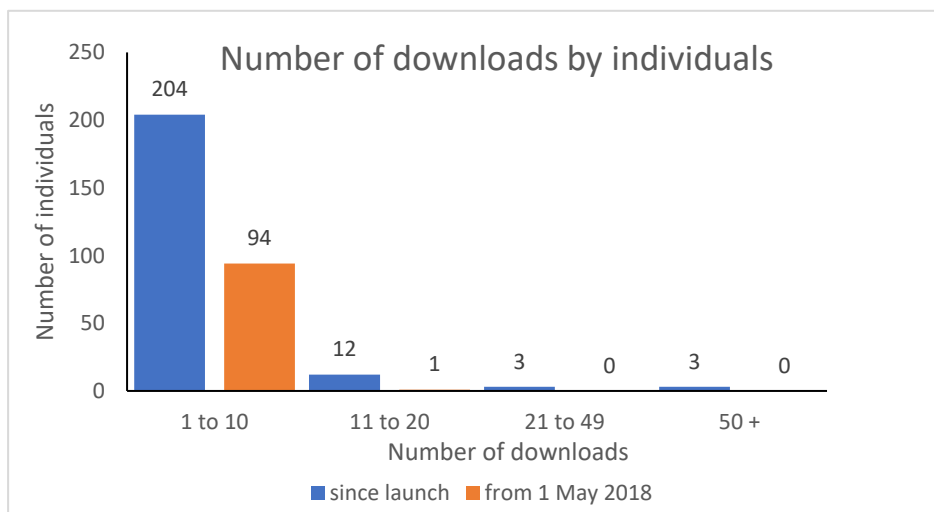
The formal procedure for issuing a fixed charge notice for users breaching the conditions of the CC-BY-NC licence were introduced on the 18<sup>th</sup> April 2018, along with more prominent information on the licences and the addition of a check box to confirm those downloading data are aware of the licence conditions.

It had been hoped that we would see a drop off in the number of downloads of non-commercial data, particularly by users with email addresses that indicated they were from environmental consultancies. However, as can be seen in figure 1 this has not happened.



**Figure 1.** Number of all users and potential commercial users downloading data from the NBN Atlas that has a CC-BY-NC per month

Of the 1375 individuals downloading non-commercial data, 352 appear to be ecological consultants (from their email addresses). Of these, 18 account for 485 of the 984 (49.3%) downloads by consultants. Seven of the same individuals were responsible for 31 out of 47 (66%) of downloads made by consultants in May and June 2018 (i.e. after the enhanced measures had been implemented).



**Figure 1.** Total number of downloads per consultant

One data provider has already removed their datasets due to perceived misuse of the data and another has made the board aware of their displeasure with the current system. However, no one has yet been in contact to request that the Trust become involved via the procedures we have implemented to issue a fixed charge notice.

If the situation does not demonstrably improve there is unlikely to be an increase in the resolution of data on the NBN Atlas with a CC-BY-NC licence and it may even result in more datasets being removed.