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March 2019

In this month's update...

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New on NetRegs



GPP29: Micro-breweries and micro-distilleries

This new GPP is written for small/micro-breweries and distilleries.

It provides an overview of the environmental regulations that you may need to comply with, and provides good practice advice that can help you to minimise your environmental impacts.

Read the new GPP here:

[GPP29: Micro-breweries and micro-distilleries](#)

Consultations



Consultation on Introducing a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) for drinks containers (bottles and cans)

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, together with the UK and Welsh Government are currently seeking views on proposals to introduce a deposit return scheme for drink containers in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. This would include drink containers such as:

- glass bottles
- plastic bottles
- cans

The cost of the deposit would be added to the price of the drinks included in the scheme when they are purchased. The deposit would be redeemed when consumers return their empty drinks containers to a designated return point. It is anticipated, that if introduced, a deposit return scheme will increase recycling and reduce littering of drinks containers included in the scheme. The consultation is primarily aimed at:

- Businesses that produce, sell or import drinks in single use containers
- Organisations involved in the management and recycling of packaging waste
- Packaging compliance schemes
- Other organisations who have an interest in packaging and how packaging waste is managed in the UK
- The public

This current consultation closes on 13 May 2019

You can access the consultation and associated information here:

[Consultation on Introducing a Deposit Return Scheme \(DRS\) for drinks containers \(bottles and cans\)](#)

Consultation on Packaging Waste: changing the UK producer responsibility system for packaging waste

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs is currently consulting on proposals to reform the packaging producer responsibility system. Views are sought on measures to reduce the amount of unnecessary and difficult to recycle packaging and increase the amount of packaging that can be recycled through reforms to the packaging producer responsibility regulations. It also proposes that the full net costs of managing packaging waste are placed to influence its design. In particular, the Department is seeking views on:

- changing how costs are managed to be consistent with “polluter pays” principles
- how we can use incentives to encourage the use of recyclable packaging
- making recycling labels mandatory on packaging
- setting new packaging waste recycling targets for 2025 and 2030
- improving monitoring and enforcement of the regulations

The consultation closes on 13 May 2019.

You can read the consultation and associated information here:

[Consultation on Packaging Waste: changing the UK producer responsibility system for packaging waste](#)

Consultation on Plastic packaging tax

HM Treasury is seeking views on the design of a brand new tax which would apply to businesses that produce or import plastic packaging that doesn't include at least 30% recycled content, from April 2022.

This consultation closes on the 12 May 2019

You can read the consultation and associated information here:

[Consultation on Plastic packaging tax](#)

Updates

Does your farm need a nitrates derogation? – If yes – apply now!

If you are an intensive grassland farmer, now is the time to be thinking about your nitrogen loading and nitrates derogation application.

Nitrates derogation applications must be submitted online to the Northern Ireland Environment Agency. This year the submission deadline date is 23:59 on 31 March 2019, for all fertilisation accounts for 2018 and derogation applications for 2019.

[You can read more about it here >>>](#)



Environmental Advice for Planning

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) has a role in development management and responds to development proposals where there is potential for impacts on the natural and marine environments and fisheries interests. The Planning Response team within DAERA, as a statutory consultee provides advice to the planning authorities on the following topics:

- biodiversity
- water
- pollution prevention control
- contaminated land
- marine
- fisheries



- land and landscapes

[Read more here >>>](#)

2019 – Guide to Farm Business Change Booklet

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs has published a Guide explaining the relevant forms to use when notifying the Department of a business change.



Form BC1 - Business Change Notification
Form BC3 - Business Merger Notification
Form BC4 – Business Scission Notification

The Guidance is available here <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/2019-guide-business-change-booklet>

DAERA Brexit updates webpage

Like all Government Departments across the Northern Ireland Civil Service (NICS), DAERA is preparing for EU Exit and the possible impact it may have on the Agri-food industry and the environment.



The DAERA Brexit webpage will provide you with relevant and timely information, as well as linking to other useful sources of Brexit related material.

You can view the webpage here:

[DAERA Brexit webpage](#)

Agri-food research funding programme now open for applications

A new Research Call under the ROI's Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine's (DAFM) competitive research funding programme is now open for applications.



For the third year, the Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) is supporting research organisations in Northern Ireland to participate as partners with their counterparts in the Republic of Ireland in joint proposals that will benefit the

local rural and agri-food sectors.

All responses to this Call for Submission of Proposals must be received by 1pm on Thursday 18 April 2019.

[Read more here >>>](#)

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Our mailing address is:

SEPA - NetRegs
Strathallan House
Castle Business Park
Stirling, Scotland FK9 4TZ
United Kingdom

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