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For Northern Ireland and Scotland
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NetRegs update

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SEPA
Scottish Environment
Protection Agency

NIEA Northern Ireland
Environment
Agency
www.doeni.gov.uk/niea

January 2016

In this month's update...

NEW Legislation: **The Waste Batteries and Accumulators (Amendment) Regulations 2015**



These Regulations amend certain conditions of the Waste Batteries and Accumulators Regulations 2009.

The amendments will reduce regulatory burdens on businesses, allowing for increased focus on the key aims of the core regulations, including delivery of environmental benefits.

Broadly these regulations make the following changes:

- a) removal of the requirement to provide operational plans;
- b) removal of the requirement to submit independent audit reports;

c) allows an “approved person” to delegate the responsibility for signing off reports. The Regulations came into force on 1 January 2016. To view the full text of the Regulations follow the link below:

[The Waste Batteries and Accumulators \(Amendment\) Regulations 2015](#)

The Animal By-Products (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Regulations 2015

These Regulations amend the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 in order to narrow the types of Animal By-Products that may lawfully be disposed of in remote areas. Regulations also update the small quantities derogation in response to a recent amendment of the EU Implementing Regulation.

The Regulations came into force on 1 January 2016. To view the full text of the Regulations, follow the link below:

[The Animal By-Products \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2015](#)

The Sea Fish (Prohibited Methods of Fishing) (Firth of Clyde) Order 2016

The purpose of the Order is to protect cod stocks in the Firth of Clyde at a crucial time in their life cycle by prohibiting fishing effort during the spawning season.

This Order prohibits, subject to certain exceptions, all methods of fishing within specified areas of the Firth of Clyde from 14th February until 30th April, during both 2016 and 2017.

The Order comes into force on 14 February 2016. To view the full text of the Regulations follow the link below:

[The Sea Fish \(Prohibited Methods of Fishing\) \(Firth of Clyde\) Order 2016](#)

Consultations:

Outer Hebrides Inshore Fisheries Group - Consultation on inshore fishing prohibitions in the Outer Hebrides

There are a number of closed areas in the Outer Hebrides' inshore waters where mobile and/or static gear fishing has been prohibited on either a seasonal or year-round basis.

These prohibitions were introduced over the past 30 years using the powers of the Inshore Fishing (Scotland) Act 1984 and have been reviewed on a regular basis by government.



The Outer Hebrides Inshore Fisheries Group (IFG) has developed management measures to update the prohibitions in effect in its area, as it believes they do not reflect changes that have occurred in the fishery since they were first introduced.

After reaching consensus within its membership, the Outer Hebrides IFG has asked Marine Scotland to consult on these measures, which it believes will modernise these prohibitions so that they better complement current fishing practices.

The closing date for responses to the consultation is 26 February 2016

To view the consultation documents follow the link below

[Outer Hebrides Inshore Fisheries Group - Consultation on inshore fishing prohibitions in the Outer Hebrides](#)

The Future of PPGs

Pollution Prevention Guidelines (PPGs) are well known good practice guides, previously produced by the Environment Agency, the Northern Ireland Environment Agency, and SEPA. They also include reference to legal obligations, which are in some cases out of date and require review. These guides have been archived, in England, but are available from the [PPG pages on the NetRegs website](#).



NetRegs is currently working on a review plan to update these guides, and will work with other organisations to do so. The updated guides will have new titles and new branding. Further details, when available, will be presented on the [NetRegs website](#).

Tell us which PPGs you would like to see reviewed first. Email the [NetRegs mailbox](#) with your suggestions.

NEW SEPA Guidance

Biosecurity and management of invasive non-native species for construction sites and Controlled Activities



SEPA has produced new guidance on 'Biosecurity and management of invasive non-native species for construction sites and Controlled Activities'

The guidance covers legal responsibilities when dealing with non-native species, who the responsible authorities are in Scotland as well as key considerations, and guidance on how to avoid introducing, moving or spreading non-native species on or off your construction site.

To view the guidance click on the link below:

[Biosecurity and management of invasive non-native species for construction sites and Controlled Activities](#)

SEPA European Waste Catalogue (EWC) guidance

'Guidance on using the European Waste Catalogue (EWC) to code waste' is a new document that provides guidance on how to interpret and use the EWC. The guidance is aimed at anybody that uses an EWC code and is designed to help operators complete waste site returns and consignment notes.

The guidance is split into various sections with a 'how to' and detailed guidance for specific waste management activities, providing each with a possible list of commonly used EWC codes for each sector.

To view the guidance click the link below:

[Guidance on using the European Waste Catalogue \(EWC\) to code waste](#)

Other Guidance:

Water Assessment and Drainage Assessment Guide

This document, produced by the Scottish SUDs working party, includes water supply advice and is intended to help guide those involved in the installation of water and drainage infrastructure (both new and retrofitting) through the necessary stages to obtain relevant permissions and comply with standards and policies.

To view the guidance document click the link below:

[Water Assessment and Drainage Assessment Guide](#)

The BIG Biodiversity Challenge to 'do one thing'

The BIG Biodiversity Challenge to 'do one thing' invites you to add one new biodiversity enhancement to your construction site, development or existing building.

The Challenge aims to:

- Raise awareness of the importance of protecting and enhancing biodiversity in the built environment to all those who work in the construction industry
- Encourage construction teams to collaborate with local communities to ensure long term awareness and protection of local biodiversity
- Promote the integration of biodiversity in green infrastructure initiatives
- Support the targets of Biodiversity 2020 strategy in the built environment.

For more details visit the [BIG Biodiversity Challenge website](#)



The Savings Finder - Save energy water and raw materials in 2016

Resource Efficient Scotland has launched an online



resource efficiency planning tool that will help you target your very best savings opportunities.
Visit the [Resource Efficient Scotland website](#) for more details.

Events:

Time to SWITCH On

The Scottish Waste Industry Training Competency and Health & Safety (SWITCH) Forum.

The free event will see the launch of the new Resource Management Competence Framework, self-assessment tool and user-guide. Speakers will highlight the inter-relationship and importance of the 3 themes of leadership, competence and safety.



When: Wednesday, 17 February 2016 from 09:30 to 16:00 (GMT)

Where: The Glasgow Royal Concert Hall

2
G2
United

Sauchiehall
3NY

Street
Glasgow
Kingdom

For more details visit the [Zero Waste Scotland website](#) or book your place on [Eventbrite](#)

From last month's update in case you missed it...

Legislation:

The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (Amendment) Regulations 2015



These Regulations amend the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2013. The amendments provide for an adjustment to producers and producer compliance scheme financial obligations in specific circumstances; they also provide clarity on the meaning of certain regulations and correct a number of minor drafting errors.

These regulations come into force on 25 December 2015

To view the full text of the regulations click the link below:

[The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment \(Amendment\) Regulations 2015](#)

New duties for food businesses in Scotland - Are you ready?

If you are a food business in Scotland and produce over 5kg of food waste per week you must comply with the Waste Scotland Regulations 2012, which come into effect on 01 January 2016.

Food businesses (except in rural areas) which produce over 5 kg of food waste per week must present that food waste for separate collection from 1 January 2016.

A food business is defined as "An undertaking, whether for profit or not, and whether public or private, carrying out any activity related to the processing, distribution, preparation or sale of food". This excludes businesses which only prepare and sell drinks.



Visit the [Resource Efficient Scotland website](#) for more details.

NetRegs self-assessment tool is a success in Scotland

The self-assessment tool, which allows businesses to run an anonymous check on whether they are complying with the main areas of environmental regulation has seen 3425 completed assessments since its launch at the end of March 2015.

The full assessment is split into six separate units covering:

- Air
- Materials and equipment
- Hazardous substances
- Waste
- Water
- Packaging
- Sustainability

Each section will produce a report which can be used for a programme of improvement or as a way of demonstrating compliance.

It is free to use and each section can be completed within a few minutes, even the largest businesses with the most activities on site will take no more than 10-15 minutes to complete a section.

[NetRegs self-assessment tool](#)

New LIFE SMART Waste project newsletter

The LIFE SMART Waste project is an innovative pan-European partnership between key bodies that aims to



demonstrate innovative ways of understanding, tackling and reducing waste-related crime.

The first issue of the project's e-newsletter highlights: the development of a collaborative 'Hub'; completion of an information gathering strategy; engagement with key external stakeholders in the UK and beyond; the publication of an introductory digital brochure; and more.

If you have not already registered to receive a regular e-mailed newsletter, [read the latest issue online](#).

To register visit the [LIFE SMART Waste project website](#).

Scottish Business Champions unveiled at 2015 VIBES Awards



The winners of the VIBES (Vision in Business for the Environment of Scotland) Awards 2015 have been announced at a ceremony held in Edinburgh's Sheraton Hotel on Thursday 26th November.

City Car Club, Taylor Wimpey West Scotland and C&D Associates LLP (joint winners), Better World Books, Emtelle UK Ltd, CMS Window Systems, Aberdeen Heat & Power Ltd, Bridge Biotechnology and Lobster Pod each picked up a coveted green award. Clyde Shopping Centre and Tinto Toners also received commendations.

Six micro-businesses, Brae Cottage B&B, Castle Enterprise, Uist Wool, Greenspace Live, Film City Glasgow and Loch Ken Bothies were presented with certificates of good practice for their environmental efforts.

For more details on this year's VIBES winners or for details on how to enter the 2016 awards visit the [VIBES Awards website](#).

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