

From: [NetRegs Update](#)
To: [Parnell, Alan](#)
Subject: Energy Act, waste crime, awareness survey results and much more...
Date: 26 May 2016 09:39:33

Use this area to offer a short teaser of your email's content. Text here will show in the preview area of some email clients.

Is this email not displaying correctly?
[View it in your browser.](#)



May 2016

In this month's update...

NEW Legislation:

Energy Act 2016

The UK's oil and gas industry makes a substantial contribution to the UK's economy, energy security and employment. The Energy Act 2016 aims to maximise the economic recovery from the UK Continental Shelf (UKCS) oil and gas recovery. In summary the Act will:



- Formally establish the Oil and Gas Authority (OGA) as an independent regulator, responsible for the asset stewardship and regulation of domestic oil and gas recovery.
- Transfer existing regulatory powers in respect of offshore oil and gas licensing to the OGA, excluding environmental powers.
- Give the OGA additional powers including: access to company meetings; data acquisition, retention and transfer; dispute resolution; and sanctions.
- Introduce provisions in relation to charges for the offshore oil and gas environmental regulator's services to the industry.
- Make legislative changes to remove the need for the Secretary of State's consent for large

onshore wind farms (over 50 Mega Watt (MW)), acting in tandem with other measures to, in effect, transfer the consenting of onshore wind farms into the planning regime in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

- Close the Renewables Obligation early to new onshore wind projects in Great Britain and enable the Secretary of State to make provision to restrict the use of renewables obligation certificates relating to new onshore wind in Northern Ireland.

The Act received Royal assent on 12 May 2016.

To view the full text of the Act, click the following link:

[Energy Act 2016](#)

Consultations:

Consultation on proposed new guidance on Food Waste Management in Scotland and review of SEPA's end-of-waste positions for compost and anaerobic digestate.



SEPA are seeking responses to their consultation on proposed new guidance on Food Waste Management in Scotland and a review of SEPA's regulatory position on the use of compost and anaerobic digestate without waste management regulatory control.

SEPA are keen to hear feedback from food waste producers, collection service providers, regulated food waste treatment facilities and farmers, contractors or land managers involved in the application of food waste derived anaerobic digestate or compost to agricultural land.

The closing date for responses to the consultation is 29 June 2016.

You can view the consultation documents here:

[Consultation on proposed new guidance on Food Waste Management in Scotland and review of SEPA's end-of-waste positions for compost and anaerobic digestate](#)

Consultation on implementing an exemption for Energy Intensive Industries from the indirect costs of the Renewables Obligation Scotland

This consultation seeks views on the implementation of an exemption for Energy Intensive Industries from the indirect costs of the Renewables Obligation Scotland as part of GB arrangements.

The closing date for responses to the consultation is 30 June 2016

You can view the consultation documents here:

[Consultation on implementing an exemption for Energy Intensive Industries from the indirect costs of the Renewables Obligation Scotland](#)

Updates:

NetRegs Awareness Survey 2016

NetRegs recently commissioned a survey among SMEs in Scotland, to provide an up to date picture of current attitudes and awareness in relation to the NetRegs website and environmental issues.

Some of the key findings identified during the survey include:



- There has been a significant increase in the awareness of environmental issues amongst Scottish SMEs
- 79% of businesses introduced practical measures to prevent or reduce harm to the

- environment
- The main driver for businesses to improve environmental performance was to improve reputation.

You can view the full survey report here:

[NetRegs Survey Report 2016 - Scotland](#)

Do you have what it takes to win a VIBES Award?

- Have you improved your environmental performance?
- Have you enhanced the competitiveness of your business?
- Are you supporting the wider goals of sustainable development?



If so, enter for a VIBES Award 2016: it is Free and simple

The Vision in Business for the Environment of Scotland (VIBES) Awards recognises and rewards good environmental practices that reduce the negative impact on the environment whilst providing economic benefits to the business.

Our 2016 categories are:

- **Best Innovation** (2016 themed award)
- **Management** (250+ employees and <250 employees)
- **Best Environmental Product or Service**
- **Sustainable Transport**
- **Circular Economy**
- **Green Teams**
- **Best Micro Business**
- **Hydro Nation Challenge charity award** in collaboration with Water Aid.

You have until the 30th June 2016 to apply.

For additional information visit www.vibes.org.uk or contact VIBES team: vibes@sepa.org.uk – 03000 99 66 99 (24/7)

The Sustainability Leadership Development Programme (SLDP)

The University of Stirling Management School interdisciplinary Centre for Sustainable Practice and Living (CSPL) and the University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL) are delighted to announce an innovative programme to support organisations in their efforts to address the challenge of sustainability.



The Sustainability Leadership Development Programme (SLDP) is for business, public and third sector senior leaders and offers an outcome-oriented leadership course helping business and senior leaders address the sustainability agenda.

When

- Module 1: 17th and 18th August 2016
- Module 2: 21st and 22nd September 2016

Where

Stirling Court Hotel, University of Stirling, Airthrey Rd, Stirling FK9 4LA

Cost

Price per delegate is £2,200 (excluding VAT).

Further Information and Apply

For further information download the [SLDP leaflet](#) or contact Erik MacEachern on 01786 467373.

To apply contact the Centre for Sustainable Practice and Living (CSPL) at sustainability@stir.ac.uk

SEPA clamping down on waste crime

If you are involved in the waste industry at any level, you have a responsibility to act within the law. Failure to do so could cost you up to £40,000 or a jail sentence.

The new enforcement measures introduced by the Regulatory Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 will enable SEPA to take a more strategic, proportionate and effective approach to tackling environmental crime.



For more details on your responsibilities download the information leaflet below:

[SEPA clamping down on waste crime leaflet](#)

Events:

Don't miss this free training from Resource Efficient Scotland in June

There are many actions you can take to reduce energy, water and waste costs and improve your organisation's environmental impact. But to ensure performance and costs are kept under control, knowing how to effectively measure and monitor your resource use is a critical business skill.



Thankfully, during June, the Resource Efficient Scotland programme is delivering training to teach these valuable skills to Scottish SMEs, for FREE. Join the training and you will be able to:

- Save money by identifying patterns of wasteful behaviour.
- Engage staff with accurate performance information.
- Impress senior management with the savings your projects achieve.
- Fix problems quickly such as burst pipes and faulty equipment that otherwise go undetected and eat away at profits.
- Compare your performance and see how you shape up against others.

The training includes an interactive half-day workshop at Edinburgh Zoo on 1 June (with free Zoo entry and lunchtime Panda viewing) and a webinar series.

Find out more and book your place [here](#).

Have your say - what free support would help you save energy, water and waste?

Resource Efficient Scotland runs very popular, free training events and develops supporting resources to help Scottish organisations use energy, raw materials and water more efficiently. Their aim is to help all organisations in Scotland save money and reduce environmental impact.

They would like to better understand what help you may need in the future by knowing what steps you've already taken and any new initiatives you are planning. Just 5 minutes of your time will help Resource Efficient Scotland continue to offer training and resources that you and your business would value most.

Please [click here](#) to share your views before the survey closes today (26 May) at noon.

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

Legislation:

The Air Quality (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2016

These Regulations amend the Air Quality (Scotland) Regulations 2000, by defining and setting air quality objectives for the substance PM2.5. (particulate matter with a diameter of 2.5 microns or less). These

Regulations also prescribe the relevant period for the purposes of Part 4 of the Environment Act 1995, relating to Air quality review.

The Regulations came into force on 1 April 2016

Further details on the Air Quality (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2016 are available from the [NetRegs website](#).

The Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2016

The Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2016 amend the existing instruments establishing the system of packaging waste producer responsibility in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The amendments include:

- removal of the requirement to provide operational plans
- transfer of the approvals process from the appropriate authority to the appropriate agency;
- allowing an “approved person” to delegate the responsibility for signing off reports; and
- providing operators of schemes based in both Great Britain and Northern Ireland with the right to apply for approval from one approving body rather than two.

The Regulations came into force on 14 February 2016

For more information view the [Packaging and packaging waste guidance on the NetRegs website](#)

Consultations:

Consultation on Scottish Landfill Tax- Loss on Ignition Testing – Analysis of Responses

Analysis of consultation responses following the Scottish Government's consultation exercise looking at loss on ignition testing and the application of the lower rate of Scottish Landfill tax to fine waste particles produced through waste treatment processes.

The intention of the consultation was to help ensure that waste fines are taxed at the correct rate when landfilled, including understanding the impacts a proposed mandatory testing system will have on the waste management industry, corresponding waste streams and to identify ways to prevent the potential for tax evasion and avoidance.

The consultation ran from 13 November to 29 December 2015.

To view the analysis of responses document follow the link below:

[Consultation on Scottish Landfill Tax- Loss on Ignition Testing - Analysis of Responses](#)

Updates:

Ofgem Renewable Obligation (RO) Guidance

The Renewables Obligation (RO) is one of the main support mechanisms for renewable electricity projects in the UK. Smaller scale generation is mainly supported through the [Feed-In Tariff \(FITs\)](#).

Ofgem, the administrators of the RO scheme have recently produced the following FAQ guidance documents:

Renewables Obligation (RO) FAQ

This document answers some of the most frequently asked questions around the Renewables Obligations (RO) scheme. This includes advice on what the RO is, account functions, applying for accreditation, submitting output data and receiving Renewables Obligations Certificates (ROCs).

[Renewables Obligation \(RO\) FAQ](#)

Renewable Obligation (RO) Output Data FAQ

This document answers some of the most frequently asked questions around output data submissions under the Renewables Obligations (RO) scheme.

[Renewables Obligation \(RO\) Output Data FAQ](#)

VIBES Awards Good Practice Videos (2015 Winners Stories)

VIBES have recently released video case studies of the winners at the VIBES Awards 2015, showcasing best environmental practice in Scottish businesses.

The videos include:

- [The City Car Club – Transport Award](#)
- [Bridge Biotechnology – Hydro Nation Award](#)
- [CMS Window Systems – Management SME Award](#)
- [Taylor Wimpey and C&D Associates – Co-operation Award](#)
- [Clyde Shopping Centre – Management SME Award](#)
- [Emtelle – Management Large Award](#)
- [Lobster Pod – Best Micro Business Award](#)
- [Aberdeen Heat and Power – Environmental Product or Service Award](#)
- [Better World Books – Circular Economy Award](#)

For information visit <http://www.vibes.org.uk/> or email: vibes@sepa.org.uk

Get up to £5,000 towards training with the Low Carbon Skills Fund

The Low Carbon Skills Fund, from Skills Development Scotland, enables employers to access up to £5,000 worth of funding to undertake training and to support sustainable development and growth.

Benefit to your business:

- learning and training to improve resource and energy efficiency
- adopt innovative technologies or new sustainable practices and processes and identify new market opportunities
- PR benefits from green credentials.

The fund gives any Scottish business with fewer than 100 employees the opportunity to apply for up to £5000 towards employee training costs in areas such as renewable energy and low-carbon technologies, energy efficiency, waste management and reuse, and reducing carbon in supply and energy management.

Find out more and apply at <https://www.ourskillsforce.co.uk/funding-and-support/low-carbon-skills-fund/>

Carbon Trust launches Green Business Fund to cut costs and save energy for British businesses

The Carbon Trust is launching a new fund providing vital capital for smaller businesses to replace old, power-guzzling equipment, together with expert advice to boost the efficiency and productivity of businesses in England, Scotland and Wales.

[Read more >](#)

ESOS: what have we learned about the current energy efficiency opportunities for large UK businesses?

The Carbon Trust has now helped hundreds of organisations to comply with the Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme regulations. Here are some of the insights from an analysis of our experience so far.

[Read more >](#)

Green Business Directory

Looking to install energy efficiency or renewable energy technology? Find your ideal supplier and installer in our directory of Carbon Trust accredited businesses.

[Read more >](#)

New Report on Nutrient Recovery and Reuse (NRR) in European agriculture

The RISE Foundation has now launched its new report on **Nutrient Recovery and Reuse: a review of the issues, opportunities, and actions.**

The study engages a multi-disciplinary approach to bring together in a more integrated way, knowledge and expertise which is found in the separate worlds of agricultural science and farming, the food industry, water and sewage treatment industries and environmental and waste regulation. Specifically, it aims to provide greater clarity on the following questions:

- What is the scope for nutrient recovery and reuse in Europe?
- What are the issues and opportunities that this involves?
- What are the actions that could support the development of nutrient recovery and reuse in Europe?

To view the report, click the following link:

[Nutrient Recovery and Reuse: a review of the issues, opportunities, and actions.](#)

forward to a friend

Copyright © 2013 Scottish Environment Protection Agency, all rights reserved. You signed up to receive this email either via our website, by emailing us, or by subscribing to the old Business Environmental Update.

[unsubscribe from this list](#) | [update subscription preferences](#) | [view email in browser](#)