

NetRegs updates straight to your mailbox



NetRegs update

Understand your
environmental
regulations and learn
about best practice



July 2016

In this month's update...

NEW Legislation:

**COMMISSION
IMPLEMENTING
REGULATION (EU)
2016/1141 of 13 July 2016
adopting a list of invasive
alien species of Union
concern pursuant to
Regulation (EU) No
1143/2014 of the European Parliament and of the
Council**



The European Commission has published Commission Implementing Regulation 2016/1141, which implements the first list of Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern, comprising 37 species (23 animals and 14 plants).

The list will come into force on 3 August 2016.

View the full text of the Regulation here:

[COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION \(EU\) 2016/1141](#)

More information can also be found on the [GB Non-Native Species Secretariat website](#)

Consultations:

Modernising the Water Industry's use of rateable value to charge non-households for water and sewerage services



Thriving businesses underpin Scotland's economic growth and future prosperity. Our approach to charging for water services has an important part to play in this.

In Ministers' Statement on the Principles of Charging for Water Services it was confirmed that surface water and roads drainage charges should continue to be calculated by reference to rateable values. Ministers also noted that there is a requirement to improve the consistency and transparency of the way in which surface water and roads drainage charges are calculated by using the values most recently assigned by the Assessor.

This consultation seeks views on the details and timing of the change to use current Rateable Values to calculate drainage charges.

The closing date for responses to the consultation is 23 September 2016.

You can view the consultation documents here:

[Modernising the Water Industry's use of rateable value to charge non-households for water and sewerage services](#)

Marine Bird Special Protection Areas consultation

This consultation seeks your views on the proposal to classify a suite of proposed Special Protection Areas (pSPAs) to protect marine birds in Scotland. Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) is carrying out this consultation on behalf of Scottish Ministers.

The aim of the pSPAs is to protect some of the most important coastal and offshore foraging areas for breeding seabirds and the many migratory birds that return to Scotland each year.

The closing date for responses to the consultation is 26 September 2016.

To view the consultation documents please visit the [SNH consultation webpage](#).

Guidance:

MOD Sustainability and Environmental Appraisal Tool handbook

The MOD Sustainability and Environmental Appraisal Tools (SEAT) Handbook is the single point of reference for the suite of appraisal tool methodologies used on Estates related plans, programmes projects and activities such as military training within MOD. It sets out guidelines and methodologies for the suite of tools (or the 'Appraisal Tool Hierarchy').



You can view the handbook here: [MOD Sustainability and Environmental Appraisal Tool handbook](#)

Updates:

Waste Crime Questionnaire

The Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) is seeking the support of the waste and resources industry in completing a questionnaire as it strives for greater collaboration in tackling waste crime in Scotland.

SEPA needs the help of the sector itself to identify where, how and why criminals are able to enter, exploit and profit from illegal waste management activities. SEPA's Chief Executive, Terry A'Hearn, has asked his staff to engage with the waste sector to better understand the nature, extent, causes and enablers of waste crime.

This questionnaire is a crucial part of that engagement and by sharing your knowledge and experiences of crime SEPA will have more information to work with you to build more effective ways to tackle waste crime in Scotland.

To help SEPA, [please follow this link and complete the questionnaire](#)

SEPA clamp down on waste crime

The LIFE SMART Waste project led a multi-agency interventions during May 2016 to tackle cross-border criminal activity in the waste industry.

The supporting information leaflet reminds registered waste carriers and brokers of their responsibilities and where to gain further advice on compliance.

[Read the waste crime information leaflet now](#)



Want to cut costs?

Interest free, unsecured loans of £1,000 to £100,000 are available to help SMEs reduce their carbon emissions and reduce costs.

Funded by the Scottish Government, the Resource Efficient Scotland SME Loan scheme aims to support businesses looking to save money through improved energy, material resource and water efficiency. The loan covers a wide range of resource efficiency improvements such as lighting, insulation and energy efficient boilers. Low interest loans are also available to finance the installation of renewable technologies such as biomass systems, heat pumps and solar photovoltaic (PV) panels.

Resource Efficient Scotland also provides advice and support to prospective applicants. Full details of the scheme and a copy of the application form can be found on the [Resource Efficient Scotland website](#).



Energy Savings Trust: Low Carbon Transport Loan

In June the Scottish Government announced an electric vehicle funding boost for businesses and Hackney cab drivers.

Interest-free loans up to £100,000 are now available to support investment in sustainable transport measures.

For more details visit the [Energy Savings Trust: Low Carbon Transport Loan webpage](#)



Looking to install energy efficiency or renewable energy technology?



The Carbon Trust provides information that includes lists of accredited suppliers, guidance on energy saving technologies and how you can finance installation.

For more details visit [the Carbon Trust: Green Business Directory](#)



Events:

Switched On: New ideas for switching to renewables A 2020 Business Network Event

When: Thursday 22 September 2016, 18:00 – 20:00

Where: Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation

This networking event will help you understand the options around renewable energy and how your business can benefit from switching to renewables.

The event features case studies from Coca Cola Hellenic Bottling Co, Shawfair (Buccleuch), Grange Door Systems and NextGenery and speakers Lady Susan Rice (2020 Chair), Kresse Wessling (Founder, Unplugged, CEO, Elvis & Kresse) and Mike Read (Head of Renewables, Grant Thornton).



How to join: Please register for this FREE but ticketed event on our [EventBrite page](#)

Questions: [Contact Siobhan Dunn](#)

Scottish Resources Conference 2016, Edinburgh

When: 5-6 October 2016

Where: EICC, Edinburgh

The Scottish Resources Conference is Scotland's biggest and most important event for organisations interested in the circular economy, sustainability, resource and waste management.

Celebrating its 15th year, this two-day event at Edinburgh International Conference Centre will bring together Scottish businesses, third sector organisations, practitioners from the waste and resource sector and anyone who is passionate about a waste free Scotland and developing circular economy business models.



[Book your delegate place here.](#) Early bird discounts end 31 August.

Business Gateway: Fully funded local workshops and events

Did you know that Business Gateway deliver thousands of free business workshops across Scotland each year? Topics include: bookkeeping, business development, starting up, digital, and marketing.

Register for a local workshop today and take your business further.

[Register today](#)



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

Legislation:

Assessment of Energy Performance of Non-domestic Buildings (Scotland) Regulations

The main aim of the instrument is to reduce emissions and energy use in existing non-domestic buildings.

In summary the regulations impose the following:

- Owners of specified existing non-domestic buildings (those over 1,000 m² in area) must take action to assess and improve the building performance to reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions
- Where the building is to be sold or let, the regulations impose a duty on the owner to make an action plan available to prospective buyers or tenants.
- The owner can choose to defer the implementation process by producing an annual Display Energy Certificate.

The regulations come into force on 01 September 2016.

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

[Assessment of Energy Performance of Non-domestic Buildings \(Scotland\) Regulations](#)

Updates:

Are you complying with your legal duty to separate materials for recycling?

A new SEPA campaign will target waste producers to raise awareness of how to stay within the law when it comes to the duty to recycle. This campaign is supported by SEPA's new enforcement measures, which include the potential to issue a £300 fixed monetary penalty (FMP), for persistent failure to comply with the duty to segregate material for recycling.

FMPs won't be used in isolation. They will work alongside SEPA's existing enforcement actions (e.g. advice and guidance, final warning letters, enforcement notices and reports to the Procurator Fiscal) to change the behaviour of offenders and drive them towards full compliance.

For more information about waste regulation please visit the [SEPA website](#), contact SEPA via zerowaste@sepa.org.uk or call 03000 99 66 99

NetRegs website refresh - Same content, NEW design

We are very excited to announce that we are in the process of launching a new NetRegs website. The website has been refreshed and redesigned to improve user friendliness, usability and visual appeal. Although much of the content on the site remains the same, a new design makes the site faster and easier to navigate. Other key developments include:

- a fresh, modern user interface, optimised for user navigation
- integrated additional resource buttons for video clips, e-learning tools, self-assessment tools and more..
- an updated video library, showcasing all of our video clips

Keep an eye on the [website](#) or [NetRegs update](#) for more information!

Applications for Green Business funding now open - up to £10k capital contribution available

Small and medium sized businesses looking to replace old, power-guzzling equipment can now apply to the **Carbon Trust Green Business Fund** for a capital contribution for energy saving technology. Launched at the beginning of June, first applications are being processed now.

The Carbon Trust Green Business Fund also offers expert advice to boost the efficiency and productivity of businesses. An energy opportunity assessment, equipment procurement support, and a financial contribution towards energy saving equipment are available for businesses with fewer than 250

employees in England, Scotland and Wales.

Implementation advice is available to companies with 1,000 employees or fewer. These services are paid for by the Green Business Fund for a limited period - apply now to make sure your business doesn't miss out.

[Read more & apply >](#)

Have you signed up for the BIG Biodiversity Challenge 2016?

Now in its third year, this free to enter Challenge invites leaders from across construction, infrastructure, retail, transport and Government to "do one thing" for biodiversity.

Organisations are invited to add one new biodiversity enhancement to a construction site, development or existing building, however large or small, permanent or temporary as well as adding creativity in biodiversity enhancements.

[Sponsor an Award](#) and [take the Challenge...](#)

Guidance:

Valuing Your Soils – Guidance for farmers

It can take 500 years to replace 25 mm (1 inch) of topsoil, yet in the UK it is estimated that 2.9 million tonnes of soil are eroded each year, and soil quality is diminished by poor practices. "Valuing Your Soils", is newly published guidance, which will help Scottish farmers, crofters and land managers protect and improve their most valuable resources.

The guidance includes useful information about Scotland's agricultural soils and practical advice outlining the upfront financial savings and business benefits of better soil management and the efficient use of resources. Action and problem-specific 'field-sheets' are designed for busy farmers with limited time for reading.

The appendix contains more detailed technical information and research case studies highlighting evidence from current investigations of Scottish farm soils.

[Download your free copy.](#)

SEPA Guidance:

Financial Provision for Non-Landfill Waste Management Activities

The Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) requires to assess whether applicants for, and holders of, certain licences, consents or permissions are fit and proper persons.

This guidance note describes what is required from applicants. It is only relevant if you are applying for a new waste management licence or pollution prevention and control permit for a specified waste management activity, or for the modification or transfer of such an authorisation, and is only applicable to authorisations for non-landfill activities.

To view the guidance note, click the link below:

[Financial Provision for Non-Landfill Waste Management Activities](#)

Updated: CAR Practical Guide

The Controlled Activities Regulations (CAR) Practical Guide has been updated to version 7.3. Changes include increased clarification of current requirements for borehole construction and operation in the Abstraction section and two new Registration level activities in the Engineering section.

The two new activities are:

- for the placement of trees or parts of trees in a watercourse to protect eroding banks;
- for operating any vehicle, plant or equipment in the water environment for the purposes of carrying out works to reinstate or replace failed or abandoned structures.

You can view the guidance here:

[CAR Practical Guide](#)

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