

NetRegs Update straight to your mailbox



NetRegs update

Understand your environmental regulations and learn about best practice



June 2016

In this month's update...

Referendum Result:

It's business as usual, NetRegs do not expect any imminent dramatic changes in environmental legislation any time soon.

We will endeavour to keep our subscribers up to date as things unfold.

Legislation Updates:

Food Waste Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 - New Rules

A food business is any business that carries out activities related to the processing, distribution, preparation or sale of food. This includes:

- Restaurants and cafes
- Shopping and food courts
- Canteens
- Hotels
- Pubs that serve food
- Shops that serve food
- Supermarkets
- Schools and colleges
- Prisons, nursing homes and hospitals.



If you are a food business then you must be prepared to present food waste for separate collection:

- by 1 April 2016 for large producers (producers of more than 50kg of food waste per week)
- by 1 April 2017 for small producers (producers of between 5kg and 50kg of food waste per week) and Health and Social Care trusts.

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

[Food Waste Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2015](#)

Updates:

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!

Regulatory Position Statement on the use of Plasterboard in Animal Bedding

Guidance on the protocol on the use of gypsum and plasterboard in animal bedding has been produced by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency.

The guidance sets out the Northern Ireland Environment Agency's position concerning the use of gypsum and plasterboard in animal bedding.

To view the guidance click the link below:

[Regulatory Position Statement on the use of Plasterboard in Animal Bedding](#)



Minister Michelle McIlveen urges farmers to take up CAFRE Agricultural Business Operations course

The CAFRE Agricultural Business Operations Level II Certificate meets the agricultural training eligibility requirements for the Young Farmers' Payment/Regional Reserve Scheme. The classes will be sector based – Dairying, Beef, Sheep, Crops, Arable/Commercial Horticulture and Poultry.

Minister McIlveen has encouraged anyone who plans to attend the training in autumn 2016 to apply before the closing date of 4pm on Thursday 7 July 2016.

More information on how to apply can be accessed here:

<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/news/mcilveen-urges-farmers-take-cafre-agricultural-business-operations-course>



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...](#)



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

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.

You can view the full text of the Act here:

[Energy Act 2016](#)

Fisheries Act 2016

The Fisheries Act 2016 amends the Fisheries Act 1981 (enforcement of Community rules) in relation to enforceable EU restrictions and enforceable EU obligations.

The Act received Royal assent on 12 May 2016.

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

[Fisheries Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2016](#)

Environmental Better Regulation (2016 Act) (Commencement No.1) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016

This Order was made on the 15 April 2016. It brings into operation sections 7 to 14 (Powers of Entry and Associated Powers) of the Environmental Better Regulation Act (Northern Ireland) 2016. The Environmental Better Regulation Act (NI) 2016 is a key element of the Department's Regulatory Transformation Programme.

The overall aim of the Programme is to provide a more streamlined and effective regulatory system for businesses and regulators.

You can view the full text of the order here::

[Environmental Better Regulation \(2016 Act\) \(Commencement No.1\) Order \(Northern Ireland\) 2016](#)

[Environmental Better Regulation Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2016](#)

Update:

Decide if a material is waste or not: general guide

If you are the producer or holder of a material and you're unsure whether it's a waste or not, you can use this guidance to assess the status of your material. A material can include any substance or object.

To work out if waste rules apply to your material you need to:

- decide if your material is waste
- identify when waste rules apply
- find out when waste ceases to be waste
- find out when waste rules do not apply

This guidance applies to Northern Ireland, England and Wales.

You can view the guidance document here:

[Decide if a material is waste or not: general guide](#)

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