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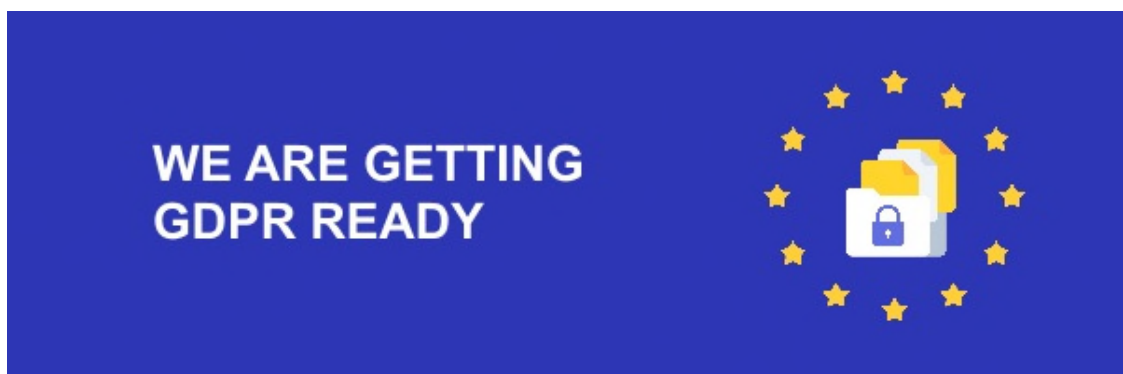


March 2018

In this month's update...

[New on NetRegs](#), [New Legislation](#), [Consultations](#), [Updates](#) and [Events](#)

New on NetRegs



General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

Regulations on data protection are changing. We are getting GDPR ready and wanted to remind you how we use your personal data.

Any personal data collected when you signed up will be used solely to deliver the email update and will not be used for any other purpose or passed on to third parties. You can unsubscribe at any time using the link at the bottom of the update and your details will be removed.

This is also true for our [e-learning tools](#) where the data you supplied is only used to allow you to continue accessing the site and to review your completed topics.

New Legislation



The Energy Information (Amendment) Regulations 2018

These Regulations amend the Energy Information Regulations 2011. The purpose of the amendments is to comply with changes to European Union law following the entry into force of the Energy Labelling Framework Regulation 2017 that replaced the Energy Labelling Directive 2010.

These changes affect:

1. the requirements placed on suppliers, dealers in relation to labelling and the provision of standard product information on the consumption of energy and other resources in relation to certain energy-related products, which are required under the 2011 Regulations, and
2. the scope of the enforcement powers of the authorities responsible for market surveillance to cover these changes.

The Regulations come into force on 29 March 2018.

You can view the full text of the Regulations here:

[The Energy Information \(Amendment\) Regulations 2018](#)

The Oil and Gas Authority (Levy) and Pollution Prevention and Control (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 2018

The purpose of this instrument is to impose a levy on holders of offshore petroleum licences for the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019 (“the charging period”) to fund the carrying out of certain functions by the Oil and Gas Authority (the “OGA”). The Regulations make minor changes to the Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning’s (OPRED’s) fee charging legislation in relation to environmental permits and consents for oil and gas activities.

The Regulations come into force on 01 April 2018.

You can view the full text of the Regulations here:

[The Oil and Gas Authority \(Levy\) and Pollution Prevention and Control \(Fees\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2018](#)

The Agricultural and Forestry Vehicles (Type-Approval) Regulations 2018

The purpose of these Regulations is to implement revised European Regulations for the type approval of Motorcycles and Agricultural vehicles, and in particular to create domestic penalties for non-compliance with the requirements or for misconduct during the type approval process. The intention is to ensure that new vehicles comply with high standards of safety and environmental protection in accordance with the European legislation.

The Regulations come into force on 20 May 2018

You can view the full text of the Regulations here:

[The Agricultural and Forestry Vehicles \(Type-Approval\) Regulations 2018](#)

Consultations



GOV.UK: Tackling the plastic problem – Open consultation

This consultation looks at how changes to the tax system or charges could be used to reduce the amount of single-use plastics waste by reducing unnecessary production, increasing reuse, and improving recycling. The consultation also explores how to drive innovation in this area to achieve the same outcomes.

The closing date for responses is 18 May 2018 at 11:59 pm.

For more information and to respond to the consultation visit gov.uk.

SEPA - Sector approach to regulation: Consultations on Scotch Whisky, Landfill and Metals Sector Plans

Everyone with an interest in Scotland's environment is being invited to have their say on SEPA's sector plans for Scotch Whisky, metals and landfill.

The closing date for responses is 7 May 2018.

For more information visit the [SEPA consultation hub](#).

ECHA - European Chemicals Agency Call for evidence on the intentional uses of microplastic particles in products of any kind.

The ECHA, at the request of the European Commission is investigating the need for a restriction on the intentional use of microplastic particles in products. As part of the investigation the ECHA is currently undertaking a call for evidence and information, with the intention to gather information on all possible intentional uses of microplastic particles in products. The information gathered will be used to determine whether these uses pose a risk on an EU-wide basis and assess the socio-economic impacts of any potential restriction.

This call for evidence is intended for interested parties such as companies (manufacturers, suppliers, distributors, importers etc.), trade associations, scientific bodies and any other stakeholders holding relevant information.

ECHA invites interested parties to respond to the call for evidence by 11 May 2018

For more information and return of responses visit the [ECHA website](#).

Proposal to designate Loch Carron as a nature conservation Marine Protected Area (MPA), with an associated Marine Conservation Order (MCO)

The purpose of this consultation is to seek your views on the designation of Loch Carron as a Marine Protected Area as well as the associated Marine Conservation Order.

Loch Carron was designated as an MPA in this way in May 2017, following confirmation of damage to sensitive seabed habitats in the area. An urgent Marine Conservation Order (MCO) was put in place at the same time to manage fisheries activity.

The closing date for responses is 13 June 2018.

For more information and to respond to the consultation visit the [Scottish Government Consultation pages](#).

Updates

New rules for the application of herbicide in or near water

The application of herbicide within 1 metre of the top of the bank (in or near water) is now controlled under the Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2011 (as amended).



The amended regulations introduce a new rule (GBR 23g) which allows the application of herbicide to land next to watercourses in order to control invasive non-native plant species such as Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed, Himalayan Balsam, American Skunk Cabbage and Rhododendron.

The application of herbicide to plants next to a watercourse which are not invasive non-native species will require a CAR Registration and a CAR Licence will be required for the application of herbicide to the water.

For more information view the [spraying invasive plants with herbicide](#) guidance on the NetRegs website.

Scottish businesses urged to get green and boost their bottom line

Businesses in Scotland are being urged to act now to embrace the economic opportunity of sustainability by the VIBES – Scottish Environment Business Awards.



New research from the leading environmental awards found that 81% of previous finalists and winners who had implemented environmental improvements had seen significant financial benefits with 44% saving more than £10,000 and 17% saving over £50,000 in a year.

Applications for the 2018 awards officially opened on Tuesday 13 March and will close at 5pm on the 27 April 2018. This year there are nine award categories; Management Large, Management SME, Green Team, Sustainable and Active Travel, Circular Economy, Environmental Product or Service, Innovation, Hydro Nation Water Innovation and a Micro Business Award.

For more information on VIBES - Scottish Environment Business Awards or to obtain an application form, please visit www.vibes.org.uk.

The Scottish Government's Climate Change Plan, Third Report on Proposals and Policies 2018-2032

This document is the Scottish Government's Third Report on Proposals and Policies, the Climate Change Plan for meeting greenhouse gas emission reduction targets 2018-2032. It includes proposals and policies to reduce emissions from electricity generation, housing, transport, services, industry, forestry, peatlands, waste, and agriculture.

Read more here:

[Climate Change Plan, Third Report on Proposals and Policies 2018-2032](#)



Waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) in the UK

GOV.UK have published reports for the amount of EEE placed on the market and WEEE collected in the UK under the WEEE Regulations.

Summary reports for the amount of:

- new electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) placed on the market by producers of EEE, reported by compliance schemes and small producers
- WEEE collected in the UK and delivered to approved authorised treatment facilities and approved exporters

You can view the report here:

[WEEE in the UK summary reports](#)



Ten years of REACH: making chemicals safer for consumers, workers and the environment

For the last 10 years, the key EU law on chemicals ("REACH") has significantly enhanced the protection of human health and the environment and promoted alternatives to animal testing. Building on this, the Commission has proposed actions to further facilitate its implementation.

Read here:

[European Commission: Ten years of REACH](#)



Events



VIBES Awards regional launch events 2018

The VIBES – Scottish Environment Business Awards are holding free information events all across Scotland so you can learn all about good environmental practices, support available and their application process. Hear from other businesses who will give a personal insight into their experience and the innovative work that won them recognition.

Details of the regional events include:

- 10 April 2018: 4-6pm. Inverness, Highlands and Islands Enterprise (An Lòchran, Inverness Campus, Inverness IV2 5NB)
- 11 April 2018: 3-5pm. Aberdeen, EC-OG (Davidson House, Aberdeen Innovation Park, Balgownie Road, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen AB22 8GT)
- 16 April 2018: 3-5pm. Scottish Borders, Greenvale AP (Craigswalls, Duns TD11 3PZ)
- 18 April 2018: 4-6pm. Perth, Glaze and Save (Unit 9 Mercian Buildings Shore Road, Perth PH2 8BD)

You can find more details and book your place at one of the above events here:

[VIBES Awards Eventbrite](#)

Missed last month's update?

Visit the [updates archive on NetRegs](#) to view any of the previous updates.

To view last months email update click the link below:

[NetRegs update - February 2018](#)



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

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