October 2019

In this month's update...

New Legislation, Consultations, Updates, and Events

The Pesticides (Amendment) Regulations 2019

These Regulations update references to the Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 which sets rules for the authorisation of plant protection products (often referred to as pesticides). The updates take account of the latest amendment to the EU Regulation, with the effect that products meeting the description of plant biostimulants will become subject to the rules for fertilisers rather than the rules for pesticides.

The Regulations come into force on 31 October 2019

Read more here >>>

The Environmental Impact Assessment (Transport) (Scotland) Regulations 2019

The Regulations provides technical updates to provisions of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984, the Transport and Works (Scotland) Act 2007 and the Transport and Works (Scotland) Act 2007 (Applications and Objections Procedure) Rules 2007. These are to ensure the Environmental Impact Assessment process for transport projects conforms with the requirements of Directive 2014/52/EU.

The Regulations come into force on 07 December 2019

Read more here >>>

Environment Bill

On the 15 October 2019 the Government introduced the Environment Bill to Parliament, to tackle the biggest environmental priorities of our time. While the Bill applies only to England, more than half of its measures – such as those designed to drive up recycling rates – are designed to apply across the UK, with the consent of the devolved administrations, helping the nation deal with the major environmental challenges together.

Key areas include:

- creating a new governance framework for the environment;
- a new independent public body – the Office of Environmental Protection
- setting legally binding environmental targets;
- a new direction for resources and waste management, moving towards a more circular economy, crackdown on litter and tackling waste crime;
- improving air quality;
- delivering sustainable water resources;
- restoring and enhancing nature and green spaces;
- updating laws on chemicals (REACH).

You can read more about the Environment Bill here:

https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/environment.html

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-introduces-ground-breaking-environment-bill

Consultations

The use of biomass or feed to regulate the organic output from marine pen fish farming to the environment

This consultation explores methods for how SEPA assess the organic load from a marine pen fish farm to

ensure organic residues from farms don't negatively impact local environments. SEPA intend to provide certainty and transparency to site operators, regulators and communities.

Closes 27 November 2019

Read more here >>>

The role of Public Sector Bodies in tackling climate change: A Consultation

This consultation is focussed on the role of public sector bodies in ending Scotland's contribution to climate change, how the Public Sector Climate Change Reporting Duties should be revised to support that, and how Scottish Government and the wider public sector can work together to make a step-change in delivery.

We want to hear from public bodies, but we also want to hear from other organisations and individuals about what you think public sector bodies should be doing to tackle climate change.

Closes 4 December 2019

View the consultation documents here:
The role of Public Sector Bodies in tackling climate change: A Consultation

The Deposit and Return Scheme for Scotland Regulations 2020: accompanying statement and proposed regulations

The Scottish Government recognises that fresh interventions are needed to bring about the systemic and behavioural change necessary to fulfil the aspiration of creating a more circular economy.
Scottish Ministers have announced legislation to establish a Deposit Return Scheme which would enable consumers to take single-use containers back and redeem a 20p deposit from any retailer selling drinks covered by the scheme, including plastic bottles made from PET plastic, aluminium and steel cans and glass bottles.

Closes 10 December 2019

View the consultation documents here:
The Deposit and Return Scheme for Scotland Regulations 2020: accompanying statement and proposed regulations

Have you voted for your 'Best of VIBES' winner?

Check out VIBES – Scottish Environment Business Awards latest case studies about the 2019 "Best of VIBES" Finalists and cast your vote for who should be VIBES2019 "Best of VIBES" worthy winner.

For more details, visit the VIBES: Scottish Environment Business Awards website.

Historic Environment Scotland launched A Guide to Climate Change Impacts

Historic Environment Scotland have published a new guide on adapting Scotland's historic places to the impacts of climate change. This guide aims to open up conversations about climate change adaptation solutions, demonstrating the resilience and adaptability of our historic environment
The guide identifies many of the risks and hazards of climate change that are facing Scotland's historic environment and offers owners, local communities and carers of historic sites routes to take action, to implement adaptation measures and enhance resilience to climate change.

Read more here >>>

An SME guide to financing energy efficiency projects

This **21-page guide** brought to you by the Carbon Trust introduces the main financing mechanisms available to help you

invest in energy efficient equipment, allowing you to save energy, cut costs and increase profit margins.

Read more here >>>

Reducing Climate Change Risks for Universities and Colleges

EAUC and HEBCoN (the Higher Education Business Continuity Network) have worked together, with the support of AECOM, to provide a guide on making the case and taking action to reduce climate change risks for universities and colleges. An accompanying guide provides a detailed account of how to integrate climate change risks into existing risks and business continuity procedures at your organisation.

Read more here >>>

Scottish Government News:

Green Investment Programme - Support for projects tackling climate emergency

The Scottish Government have opened a Green Investment Programme aimed to help Scotland transition to a net-zero economy.

The Green Investment Portfolio will give local authorities, developers and third sector organisations the opportunity to pitch for large scale investment to support projects reducing Scotland's emissions in areas like renewables, waste, transport and the circular economy.

Read more here >>>

Agricultural support outlined - £80 million package announced.

Active farmers and crofters will benefit from the first instalment of convergence funding that the Scottish Government has long campaigned for.

The initial £80 million will be distributed to support active farming, with a focus on those who farm in our marginal uplands, hill farms and island areas.

Read more here >>>

SEPA News:
Businesses asked to help shape new UK electronic waste tracking service

The four UK governments and environment agencies are working together to develop an electronic waste tracking service that will capture information on all movements of waste in the UK.

The project is progressing well and in October 2019 two companies received GovTech funding of up to £500,000 each to develop a prototype waste tracking service over a 12 month period. You can read the latest information about the project here.

As the project moves into this next phase the project partners are keen for businesses to help shape waste tracking to ensure that it meets their needs by joining a user panel which will provide the opportunity to take part in user research and test software as it is developed. The majority of user panel activity will take place online, via email or in the workplace and signing up does not commit businesses to anything.

You can sign up to join the waste tracking user panel here.

You can also sign up for a forthcoming newsletter here or via the user panel link.

Safety Groups UK Awards

The SGUK Awards celebrate the efforts of individuals in individual Safety Groups who provide outstanding service to the Safety Groups movement.

The award categories are:

1. Innovation Awards – Any organisation who raises the standard of health & safety
2. Excellence Awards – For Safety Groups
3. Outstanding Service Award – For an individual nominated by a Safety Group
4. Development through Education – Any organisation, for any project that advances health & safety in the sphere of education

Entries can be submitted up to the deadline of **Friday 22nd November 2019**. The Awards Ceremony will be held in the Gladstone Library of the **Royal Horseguards**, Whitehall Palace, London on **Monday 24th February 2020**.

For more information, visit the SGUK website.

Events

Become a CPD-certified Green Champion for free and lead the way in growing a greener more profitable business

When: 06 November 2019, 10:00 - 16:00
Where: Perth Racecourse, PH2 6BB

Rising energy, water and raw material costs and increasing consumer pressure continue to challenge the way that businesses across Scotland manage their environmental performance.

Resource Efficient Scotland's online Green Champions training course is already helping organisations across Scotland prepare for this challenge by providing knowledge, tried-and-tested techniques, best practice examples, and free tools and templates.

Book your free place now

Can Do Innovation Summit – Discover. Imagine. Explore.

When: 20 November 2019
Where: Glasgow Science Centre

Is your business future-ready? Tickets for Scotland's national innovation summit #CANDOSummit are now available!

Meet the innovators, entrepreneurs, academics and investors that can help you adopt new technologies, futureproof your workforce and access the right support to maximise your potential.
30+ world-class speakers | 30+ inspiring exhibitors

Sign up here >>>

Missed last month's update?

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

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