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February 2020

In this month's update...

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New on NetRegs



New eLearning coming soon!

NetRegs will be releasing a new set of eLearning courses in the next few months.

The new eLearning courses cover:

- Oil storage
- Soils on construction sites

Keep an eye on the NetRegs website for updates.

In the meantime, you can [access our existing eLearning courses here >>>](#)

New Legislation



The Environment Bill

The Environment Bill was introduced into parliament on 15 October 2019. It was re-introduced to parliament following a general election on 30 January 2020. The Environment Bill 2020 sets out how the UK Government plan to protect and improve the natural environment in the UK.

The Bill covers:

- Environmental governance
- Resources and waste management
- Improving air quality
- Sustainable water resources
- Chemicals regulation
- Local environmental action

You can [read more here >>>](#)

Consultations



Waste Prevention Programme for Northern Ireland 2019

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs is seeking views on the Waste Prevention Programme for Northern Ireland 2019, aimed at maintaining a downward trend in waste arisings, which in turn will have a significant impact on meeting the EU landfill diversion targets. The programme is also aimed at supporting and promoting resource efficiency and the sustainable use of resources in Northern Ireland, whilst ensuring a shift towards a more circular economy.

This Consultation closes on **18 March 2020 at 17:00**

You can [read the full Consultation and how to respond here >>>](#)

Consultation – Significant Water Management Issues (SWMI) in Northern Ireland

A new report has recently been published by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA), which highlights how our water environment remains under pressure from human activity, with the main pressures coming from agriculture and waste water related impacts. This report presents the significant water management issues facing Northern Ireland in the third cycle river basin management plan based on analysis by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency.

Through this Consultation you, all stakeholders and members of the public are invited to give your views on:

- What you think are the significant water management issues in Northern Ireland?
- How you think we can all work together to address these issues for the overarching benefit of all the citizens of Northern Ireland?
- What measures you think should be progressed and how these measures (actions) can be delivered?

The Consultation closes **22 June 2020 at 23:59**

You can read the Consultation and associated documentation here <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/consultations/planning-third-cycle-river-basin-management-plan-2021-2027-consultation-significant-water-management>

Updates

2020 Nutrients Action Programme (NAP) derogation are now open

Applications for a derogation up to 250kg of Nitrogen per hectare per year have now opened under the Nutrient Action Programme (NAP) NI 2019.

The exemption is subject to farms meeting designated requirements. However, once these have been approved, farms may operate above the 170kg limit to a maximum of 250kg hectare per year for grazing livestock manure.

Changes to the nitrogen excretion rate values for some livestock types as of January 1, 2020, means that some farms who previously did not require a derogation, may now require one in order to continue operating at existing stocking levels and to avoid incurring a penalty under cross-compliance rules.

The closing date for new applications and 2019 account submissions will be 31 March 2020

Further Information <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/news/2020-nutrients-action-programme-nap-derogation-are-now-open>

Contact: Derogation@Daera-ni.gov.uk



Nitrates Derogation Fertiliser Account Guidance

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs has published guidance on how to apply for a derogation or submit a derogation fertilisation account. The guidance contains information on how to:

- Create a New Farmer or Agent account
- Log In
- Submit a New Application
- View Previous Applications
- Submit a Fertilisation Account
- View Previous Fertilisation Accounts

You can view the guidance here <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/nitrates-derogation-fertilisation-account-guidance>

Cross Compliance 2020

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs has published new verifiable standards booklets setting out the requirements that must be met under each of the Statutory Management Requirements (SMR) and Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition (GAEC). As these standards may change from year to year it is important, if you are affected, that you read these documents to familiarise yourself with the requirements.

Recent changes include:

Nitrates Action Programme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014 (as amended) and the Phosphorus (Use in Agriculture) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014 have now been replaced by the Nutrient Action Programme Regulation (Northern Ireland) 2019 (as amended). Revisions have been made to SMR1 and GAEC1.

SMR6: Pig Identification and Registration.

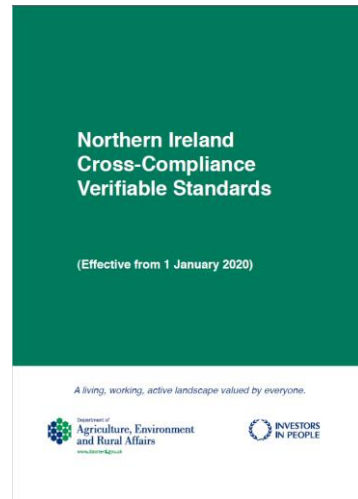
SMR7: Cattle Identification and Registration.

SMR8: Sheep and Goat Identification and Registration.

You can read the **2020 Cross Compliance and Variable Standards Full and Summary Booklets** here.

Minister Poots announces that 24 Environment Projects across Northern Ireland will share £2.2 million of monies generated by the Carrier Bag Levy

The Environment Fund 2020/21 uses the proceeds of the carrier bag levy, which was introduced in 2013, to enable not-for-profit organisations and councils to deliver key environmental outcomes across Northern Ireland. Among the initiatives to be funded are



projects to recruit and train volunteers for large scale bird monitoring surveys; carry out habitat and species conservation activities; maintain and promote long-distance walking routes and encourage recycling.

You can read more here <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/news/poots-announces-ps22million-environmental-projects-carrier-bag-levy-money>

Minister Poots welcomes Coca-Cola Hellenic Bottling Company's commitment to reducing CO2 emissions

Minister Poots has welcomed an innovative Prosperity Agreement Between the Department's Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) and Coca-Cola Hellenic Bottling Company (HBC) Ireland and Northern Ireland, to protect the Environment.

This is the ninth Prosperity Agreement Between NIEA and NI businesses, and encourages organisations to improve their overall environmental performance in ways that create prosperity and well being.

<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/news/poots-welcomes-coca-cola-hellenic-bottling-companys-commitment-reducing-co2-emissions>

For more information about Prosperity Agreements and the eligibility process see <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/prosperity-agreements>

Events



Time for action: setting net zero targets - Webinar

When: 11th March 2020, 11:00 – 12:00.

The opportunity and the need for companies and investors to show leadership on climate change is more compelling than ever before.

This free webinar will share best practice on target setting and explain what companies need to do to align to a net zero world.

[Read more and register here >>>](#)



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