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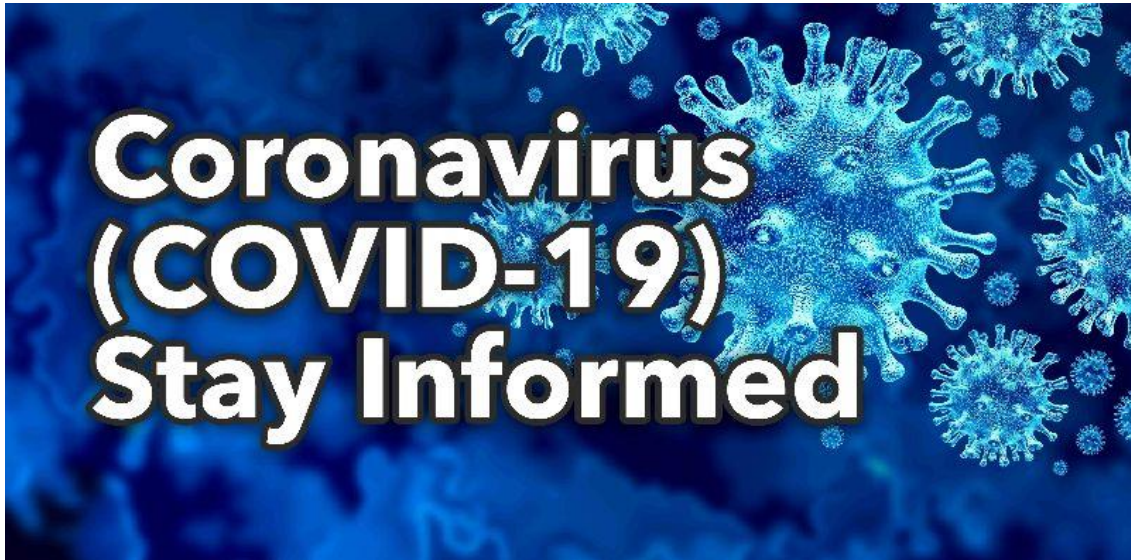


July 2020

In this month's update...

[COVID-19 update](#), [New on NetRegs](#), [New Legislation](#), [Consultation](#), [Updates](#) and [Funding](#)

(COVID-19) Stay Informed



Covid-19 guidance and sources of support

There are a number of sources of guidance for the current situation, including:

Coronavirus (COVID-19): what you need to do

See the UK government instructions and guidance related to the Covid-19 outbreak, here:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

DAERA and Coronavirus (COVID-19)

See information from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) related to the COVID-19 outbreak, here:

<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/landing-pages/daera-and-covid-19>

New on NetRegs



New Blog

Top three tips to reduce your business water consumption

Here are some actions your business can take to reduce its water consumption.

[Read More](#)

New Guidance - Is it pollution on the seashore?

This short guide looks at common things you might see at the seaside. Most have natural causes and are not the result of pollution.

[Read the guidance here >>>](#)

New Legislation



The Waste (Fees and Charges) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020

These Regulations came into operation on the 15th July 2020. They increase fees and charges in relation to the processing of applications for the registration of brokers, dealers and carriers of waste and the processing of applications for the registration of exemptions from waste management licensing. The purpose of the fees and charges is to recover the costs incurred by NIEA in carrying out its function in relation to processing applications for these registrations.

[You can read the Regulations in full here >>>](#)

Consultation



Reforms to the tax treatment of red diesel and other rebated fuels

At Budget 2020, the government announced that it will remove the entitlement to use red diesel from April 2022, except in agriculture (as well as forestry, horticulture and fish farming), rail and for non-commercial heating (including domestic heating).

The consultation seeks views on whether the government has overlooked any exceptional reasons why other sectors should be allowed to continue to use red diesel beyond April 2022.

This consultation closes at 11:45pm on 1 October 2020.

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

Updates

DAERA joins the UK Plastics Pact

Environment Minister Edwin Poots has announced that DAERA has joined the UK Plastics Pact. The Pact is a trailblazing, collaborative initiative by WRAP (the Waste and Resources Action Programme) in partnership with the Ellen MacArthur Foundation. The initiative is unique because it unites governments, local authorities, non-government organisations (NGOs) and businesses involved in producing, selling, collecting and reprocessing plastic, to deliver ambitious targets for change.



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

Further information on the **UK Plastics Pact** can be found on the [WRAP UK website](#) or on social media by following/using [#UKPlasticsPact](#)

General Guidance for Applying for Waste Management Licencing Complex Exemptions



The Northern Ireland Environment Agency has publicised a list of documents outlining guidance and the respective fees that apply when applying for a 'complex exemption' under the Waste Management Licensing Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003.

[You can view the documents here >>>](#)

Applying for a Derogation to Remove a Hedge

In Northern Ireland, if a farmer in receipt of the Basic Payment Scheme wants to remove a hedge, written approval from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs is required, otherwise they will be in breach of Cross-Compliance.



[Information on applying for hedge removal is available here >>>](#)

Waste Prevention Action Programme for Northern Ireland – Stopping Waste in its Tracks

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs has published this Programme, which encompasses a range of policies and actions, which will be beneficial to the environment and the economy.



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

Funding



The Sustainable Innovation Fund: SBRI phase 1

Organisations can apply for a share of up to £10 million, including VAT, to help UK businesses and the public sector recover from COVID-19 in a sustainable manner.

The Innovate UK Small Business Research Initiative (SBRI) programme provides innovative solutions to challenges faced by the public sector. SBRI competitions are open to all organisations that can demonstrate a route to market for their solution. The SBRI scheme is particularly suited to small and medium-sized businesses. Developments are 100% funded and focused on specific identified needs, increasing the chance of exploitation.

The deadline for applications is 11am on 5 August 2020.

[Read more here >>>](#)

Missed last month's update?

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