



Sustainability West Midlands Green Business Clubs Network In Partnership with Groundwork West Midlands EBS



Environmental Legislation Update

April 2018

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Keep up to date!

If you'd like to know what's new in environmental or H&S legislation for an affordable price just sign up for the Groundwork WM EBS legal update service! Contact us at: WMEBS@groundwork.org.uk

Legislation Update

[The Energy Information \(Amendment\) Regulations 2018 No. 255](#)

[The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment \(Amendment\) Regulations 2018 No. 102](#)

[The Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases \(Amendment\) Regulations 2018 No. 98](#)

[The Environmental Permitting \(England and Wales\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2018](#)

[The Capital Allowances \(Energy-saving Plant and Machinery\) Order 2018](#)

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

[The Waste Enforcement \(England and Wales\) Regulations 2018](#)

What's new in environmental legislation?

Like the spring that has taken so long to finally arrive, our Spring Newsletter also comes with a bit of delay but as usual provides you with an overview of recent environmental media topics, an update of the latest environmental legislative changes and a reminder of compliance obligations.

Tackling the plastic problem

In the [25 Year Environmental Plan](#), the government has pledged to achieve zero avoidable plastic waste by the end of 2042. It has opened a [consultation](#) on the possible introduction of charges or a tax system aimed at reducing the amount of single-use plastic waste produced. The closing date for responses is 18 May 2018. The consultation also looks for solutions to the plastic issue across the whole supply chain, from

production and retail to consumption and disposal. A large proportion of the total plastic waste produced in the UK is plastic drink bottles with 13 billion used every year, of which only 57% are recycled. In March the government announced plans for a [deposit return scheme \(DRS\)](#) for single-use drinks containers (plastic, glass or metal) to increase recycling rates and reduce the amount of waste polluting the land and seas. A deposit return

scheme could involve asking consumers to pay an up-front deposit when buying a drink, which is redeemed on return of the empty container, or alternatively offering a cash reward for returning drinks containers without an upfront deposit.



2017 UK Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy has estimated that UK net emissions of carbon dioxide in 2017 were 366.9

million tonnes (Mt), 43% lower than 1990 and 3.2% lower than 2016. The achievement is mainly due to the switch to renewa-

bles in the electricity fuel mix. In 2017 renewable energy accounted for 29.4% of electricity demand in the UK, up from 25% in 2016.

Find your local West Midlands
Green business club

Free events

Fast-Track to ISO 14001:2015 - Implementation Overview

26/04/2018, 9:00–13:00
Aston University,
Birmingham

Edie Live 2018

22-23/05/2018
NEC Birmingham

Low Carbon Vehicle Event 2018

12-13/09/2018
Millbrook Bedfordshire

Achieving continual energy performance improvement with ISO50001

Carbon Trust webinar

Training

Environmental Awareness

1/2 day course providing an awareness of key environmental concepts that can be customised to provide specific information on your company's EMS system.

31/05/2018, 9:00—13:00
Groundwork West Midlands, Tipton

Are you a downstream user under REACH & CPL?

Companies or individual workers who use chemicals (typically paints, metals, adhesives, solvents and cleaning agents) are called downstream users in

REACH and CLP. These companies are affected by REACH and CLP Regulations even if chemicals are not the main element of their business. Visit the

[ECHA website](#) to see the responsibilities for downstream users



Quick updates

Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard:

from 1 April 2018 landlords of privately rented domestic and non-domestic property in England or Wales must ensure that their property has a minimum EPC rating of E before granting a new tenancy.

Construction Waste Guidance:

The Civil Engineering Contractors Association (CECA) has published new guidance on construction waste.

Susdrain SuDS Awards

2018: The Awards have been launched by CIRA and are open for entries from

the construction industry to showcase innovative sustainable drainage projects.

Waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) in the UK:

the government has published an updated report on the amount of EEE placed on the market and WEEE collected in the UK under the WEEE Regulations.

New Health and Safety Standard: ISO 45001

The new Health and Safety Standard was published on the 12 March 2018. ISO 45001 replaces OHSAS 18001 and current users of OHSAS 18001 have 3 years

to update their systems to the new standard.

Guidance for Pollution Prevention (GPPs)

GPP 20: Dewatering underground ducts and chambers has been updated.

Waste carrier, broker and dealer registration renewals.

The Environment Agency is upgrading the system to allow customers to renew online. The new registration system will not be ready until June 2018, renewals due after 25 March 2018 will be extended by 3 months while the system is upgraded.

There's still time to apply for funding...

The Low Carbon Growth Support Project, part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund, can provide grants of around 40% towards the cost of energy saving projects, up to £25,000, to help SMEs in the Black Country and Greater Birmingham and Solihull areas to identify, purchase



LOW CARBON GROWTH SUPPORT *FUNDING YOUR EFFICIENCY*

Free support and grants to help eligible SMEs in the Black Country and Greater Birmingham & Solihull reduce energy costs and cut carbon



ENQUIRE NOW!

and install energy efficient equipment. Funding is limited. To secure your grant apply now. For more information visit www.lowcarbonbcgbs.co.uk

or contact 0121 530 5507. To find out about other available grants and support, visit [Sustainability West Midlands](#) website.



CHANGING PLACES
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Phone: 0121 530 5527

Fax: 0121 530 5501

E-mail:

WMEBS@groundwork.org.uk

www.groundworkwmebs.co.uk



Business Energy Efficiency Programme



Business Futures Forum
efficient ♦ profitable ♦ sustainable

Meres & Mosses Business Environment Network

herefordshiregreenlinks

business & community working together for a healthy environment and secure local economy