

## Environmental and Waste Management Group



### October 2019 Newsletter

#### **LEGISLATION, REGULATORS, GUIDANCE & CONSULTATIONS**

##### **Health and Safety Executive's (HSE) new CEO**

Sarah Albon has taken up her post as the new chief executive of Britain's workplace health and safety regulator. Ms Albon's past roles includes roles as director of Strategy and Change at Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunal Service, director of Civil Family and Legal Aid Policy and deputy director of Criminal Legal Aid Strategy at the Ministry of Justice. She has also served as principal private secretary to two Lord Chancellors. You'll be able to follow Sarah on Twitter at [@CEO\\_HSE](https://twitter.com/CEO_HSE)

##### **Defra given £432m for post-EU enviro-standards**

Defra has been given £432m as 'leaving the EU provides an opportunity to set world leading environmental standards', according to Chancellor Sajid Javid announcing the Spending Review. (Read more: [environment-analyst.com](https://www.environment-analyst.com))

##### **How to access waste management data for England**

The Environment Agency (EA) collects waste management data in England, using the data to make sure operators comply with their environmental permits. The data is publicly available for waste planning, reporting and information purposes. (Read more: [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk))

##### **Ofgem must facilitate UK's decarbonisation**

That's the call from Dermot Nolan, CEO of Ofgem, speaking at Energy UK's annual conference. He stressed that while the regulator needs to ensure the energy market moves towards cleaner and greener business models, it also needs to avoid becoming a policymaker because it doesn't have the mandate to do so. (Read more: [energylivenews.com](https://www.energylivenews.com))

## **INCIDENTS AND PROSECUTIONS**

### **Director of waste company convicted**

The director of a waste management company in Poole, Dorset, has been ordered to carry out 120 hours of unpaid work after an employee was critically injured in 2017 when he was trapped between a telehandler and a gate post at the company's yard. HSE inspector Ian Smart said: "...[the director] was well aware of the unsafe condition of the telehandler yet allowed it to be used by an inexperienced employee ...the law requires mobile machinery to be in safe working order at all times. Maintenance is not optional. This accident could easily have been prevented." (Read more: [hse.gov.uk](https://www.hse.gov.uk))

### **Northern Ireland recycling firm handed £25,000 fine**

A recycling company in County Antrim, Northern Ireland has been fined £25,000 after an employee was crushed between a refuse collection vehicle and a mini digger at its processing plant in 2017. An investigation by Health and Safety Executive Northern Ireland found the company had failed to implement a suitable management system for segregating pedestrians and vehicles onsite. (Read more: [ioshmagazine.com](https://www.ioshmagazine.com))

### **Company fined over Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Regulations breach**

Northern Compliance, a WEEE producer compliance scheme, has been ordered by South Tyneside Magistrates to pay £50,900 in compensation following its failure to meet its obligations under the WEEE Regulations. Northern Compliance had its approval to operate as a scheme withdrawn in January 2019. The case related to Northern Compliance's failure to pay its contribution towards the WEEE Compliance Fee Fund for 2017 – payments which could have totalled £1,108,862. (Read more: [letsrecycle.com](https://www.letsrecycle.com))

### **BP company fined after an oil leak**

BP Exploration Operating Company Limited has been fined £400,000 following an uncontrolled release of approximately 3.8 tonnes of extremely flammable, unstabilised crude oil to the ground at the Sullom Voe Terminal, Mossbank, Shetland, in 2012. An investigation by HSE found that between 12 November and 13 December 2012 the company had failed to take all measures necessary to prevent major accidents and to limit their consequences to persons and the environment. (Read more: [hse.gov.uk](https://www.hse.gov.uk))

### **Anglian Water ordered to pay £156,000 for sewage pollution**

Anglian Water has been ordered to pay more than £156,000 for polluting a Northamptonshire brook with sewage in 2016. (Read more: [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk))

## **OTHER TOPICS OF INTEREST**

### **We're presenting**

IOSH EWMG Committee's **Dave West** shall be presenting on '**Violence and aggression towards waste collection operatives**' at the APSE Waste Management, Refuse Collection and Street Cleansing Advisory Group's meeting in Oxford on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

The meeting is for APSE members only, although the organiser may be able to make limited exceptions for local authority officers. (Read more: [apse.org.uk](http://apse.org.uk))

And with Dave West, IOSH EWMG Committee's chair elect **Dave Thomas** shall be presenting on '**Kerbside vehicles: combatting the risks**' at the Health & Safety in the Waste and Recycling Sector Conference 2019 in Leicester on 21<sup>st</sup> November. (Read more: [healthandsafetyconf.com](http://healthandsafetyconf.com))

### **Barhale launches range of "culturally appropriate" safety wear**

Barhale company BCS Group has launched a new range of Personal Protective Equipment tailored to support religious diversity within the workforce. It forms part of a broader collection of new workwear designed specifically for women including a line of maternity clothing. (Read more: [constructionenquirer.com](http://constructionenquirer.com))

### **New resources body to give Scotland's small operators a "greater say"**

A new body designed to give smaller operators a greater say within Scotland's vital resource management sector has been launched at the Scottish Resources Conference 2019; the Resource Management Association Scotland (RMAS) has been set up in response to what it calls "the growing need" for representation from the SMEs at a time of significant political, economic and legislative change and uncertainty. Jointly, hundreds of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises throughout Scotland will be given a "greater say" on priority issues, the new body says. (Read more: [circularonline.co.uk](http://circularonline.co.uk))

### **ClientEarth threatens councils with court over 'collective failure' of clean air and climate plans**

The campaign group which successfully challenged the government's plans to cut air pollution has told 100 English local authorities that they have eight weeks to explain how they will "set evidence-based carbon reduction targets" in their emerging local plans or face legal action. (Read more: [airqualitynews.com](http://airqualitynews.com))

### **COP26**

COP26: Glasgow to host major UN climate change summit next year. (Read more: [bbc.co.uk](http://bbc.co.uk))

## **HSE Innovation in Battery Technology**

HSE Training and Events will be hosting 'Innovation in Battery Technology – Safely Enabling the Industrial Strategy' on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019 in central London. This one-day event will bring together industry, academia, government and regulators to share knowledge, experience and insight into current lithium ion battery safety research and to discuss how the latest evidence base can be used to overcome the health and safety challenges of innovating and regulating this growing area of technology. (Read more: [hsl.gov.uk](http://hsl.gov.uk))

## **Battery Recycling Europe 2020**

A Battery Recycling Europe conference will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020 in London. The event is described as bringing together battery recycling industry experts, collection scheme operators and battery manufacturers to learn, share and discuss the current and emerging topics in the battery recycling industry. (Read more: [wplgroup.com](http://wplgroup.com))

## **Health and Safety Worker Engagement and Leadership in the Waste and Recycling industry**

Described as an event for managers, supervisors, safety representatives and operatives from all areas of the industry this free to attend WISH event will include speakers from the industry and the Health and Safety Executive. The event will be held in Manchester on 21<sup>st</sup> November.

At the heart of the event will be facilitated table discussions, where delegates can talk freely about their experiences of leadership and worker engagement in their workplace, explore good practices and discuss barriers to effective implementation. (Read more: [eventbrite.co.uk](http://eventbrite.co.uk))

## **CL:AIRE 20th Anniversary Conference**

Contaminated Land: Applications in Real Environments (CL:AIRE), an independent not-for-profit organisation established in 1999 to stimulate the regeneration of contaminated land in the UK by raising awareness of, and confidence in, practical and sustainable remediation technologies, is holding its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019 in London. (Read more: [claire.co.uk](http://claire.co.uk))