



environmental
services
association

ESA PRESS STATEMENT

ESA welcomes waste industry recognition in government's Clean Growth Strategy

LONDON, 12 October 2017: The Environmental Services Association (ESA), the voice for the UK's resource and waste management industry, today welcomed the Government's Clean Growth Strategy and the recognition it has given to the work the industry has done in reducing emissions.

ESA Executive Director Mr. Jacob Hayler said:

"The Government's Clean Growth Strategy rightly recognises the impressive work of the waste and resource industry in helping the UK transition to a low carbon circular economy.

Emissions from the sector have reduced by 73% since 1990, recycling rates have quadrupled over 15 years, and the equivalent of 2.3 million homes are powered by renewable electricity generated from waste.

We welcome the Government's plans to go even further in reducing carbon emissions, and look forward to an ambitious Resources and Waste Strategy with real, tangible measures that will help our members invest in greater resource efficiency and deliver clean economic growth for the UK plc."

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Notes to editors:

1. The Clean Growth Strategy can be downloaded here:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/651232/BEIS_The_Clean_Growth_online.pdf
2. The **Environmental Services Association** (ESA) is the trade association representing the UK's resource and waste management industry, which is leading the transformation of how the UK's waste is managed.
3. We work with all levels of government, regulators and the public to deliver a more sustainable waste and resource management solution for the UK. ESA's recent Circular Economy report '*Going for Growth – A practical route to a circular economy*', which outlines how a Circular rather than a linear economy can help manage resources sustainably, can be downloaded [here](#).
4. ESA's Members manage waste on behalf of the whole of society and we are recovering more than ever before. For example, the industry has helped quintuple the UK's household recycling rates over the last decade.
5. **The sector at a glance**
 - Total turnover: **£11 billion**
 - Direct Employment: **106,000 people** (*including waste collection, treatment and materials recovery*)
 - Municipal waste handled each year: **27 million tonnes**
 - Energy generated (across landfill gas, anaerobic digestion and energy from waste) each year: **approximately 11,867 GWh**, which is 3.5% of the UK's electricity
 - **9,083 GWh of that was renewable electricity** (taking out non-biodegradable portion of EfW) which is **11%** of UK's renewable electricity
 - Greenhouse **gas emissions down by 70% since 1990**.
 - The **top seven companies account for approximately 40% of turnover**. Many hundreds of SMEs provide either localised or more specialised services
 - Waste & recycling is the **most highly rated of all council services** by the public (2016 survey)

For further details please visit www.esauk.org

Press Contact

Toni Waters – Communications and Membership Officer

ESA Press Office - (0207) 591 3219 (DD - (0207) 591 3206)

Mobile - (07841) 572 834

Email - t-waters@esauk.org / press@esauk.org