



environmental  
services  
association

## **ESA PRESS COMMENT**

# ***ESA reacts to the result of the General Election – political turmoil must be resolved as quickly as possible***

**LONDON, 09 June 2017:** The Environmental Services Association (ESA), the voice for the UK's resource and waste management industry, today reacted to the result of the General Election.

ESA's Executive Director, Jacob Hayler, said:

*"The outcome of the General Election is yet another result that no one saw coming. The danger for everyone is the additional uncertainty that it will bring just when we need the opposite.*

*The clock is ticking on Brexit negotiations so this latest political turmoil will need to be resolved as quickly as possible.*

*We look forward to working with the new Government when it is in place. In order to secure maximum stability and growth for the resource and waste management industry, we would like to see it prioritise the four key recommendations ESA made in its Resourceful manifesto:*

- 1. Transfer resource ownership from the public to sector to product supply chains by reforming Extended Producer Responsibility.*
- 2. Build resilient recycling and recovery markets by stimulating demand for secondary raw materials.*
- 3. Realise economies of scale through greater joint working.*
- 4. Drive waste crime out of the sector. ESA and ESA Educational Trust's latest report Rethinking Waste Crime makes a series of recommendations for tackling this issue.*

***By addressing these areas, the new Government can help deliver thousands of new green jobs, provide stable economic growth, and create a healthier, more resource efficient environment.”***

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## **ENDS**

### **Notes to editors:**

1. 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.
2. 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](#).
3. 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.
4. **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](http://www.esauk.org)

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