



environmental
services
association

ESA PRESS STATEMENT

Budget 2016: ESA urges Chancellor to preserve Landfill Communities Fund

LONDON, 14 March 2015: The Environmental Services Association (ESA), the voice for the UK's resource and waste management industry, today called on the Chancellor of the Exchequer to safeguard the future of the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) by allowing community projects to continue to use third party contributions to make up the 10% funding shortfall under the scheme.

ESA's Executive Director, Jacob Hayler said:

"The Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) has supported over 50,000 community and environmental projects across the UK with funds totalling £1.2 billion. If HM Treasury proceeds with the previously proposed change to third party contributions, it would be catastrophic for the scheme. This vital funding source for local projects would be potentially jeopardised, while jobs at the administering Environmental Bodies would also be at stake.

Bringing in these changes now would provide landfill operators with little time to budget, particularly when their planning timescales tend to be around five years in advance and when some individual operators are facing unforeseen annual costs of almost £1 million.

ESA has urged HM Treasury to retain third party contributions as part of the Landfill Communities Fund, which would preserve the future of the scheme and ensure that local communities continue to benefit. We hope that the Budget includes a positive announcement to this effect."

ENDS

Notes to editors:

1. The **Environmental Services Association** (ESA) is the trade association for the UK's resource and waste management sector. We work with our members to transform waste and resource management across the country. This work helps enable our members to turn Britain's waste into valuable resources, whilst continually protecting the environment.
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 quadruple the UK's household recycling rates over the last 10 years.
4. **The sector at a glance**
 - Total turnover: **£11 billion**
 - Direct Employment: **95,000 people**
 - Municipal waste handled each year: **over 26 million tonnes**
 - Energy generated (from waste combustion and landfill gas) each year: **approximately 6,700 GWh**, 1.5% of the UK's total electricity supply and around 20% of our 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

For further details please visit www.esauk.org

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