



environmental
services
association

ESA PRESS STATEMENT

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ESA Chairman outlines his priorities for the Association

LONDON, 24 November 2017: The Environmental Services Association (ESA), the voice for the UK's resource and waste management industry, today hosted its Annual Lunch for ESA Members and key industry stakeholders.

In his speech, ESA Chairman, Dr Stewart Davies, outlined the Association's achievements and priorities for the past year:

- ensuring that the need for *investment in capacity for processing residual waste* – that is left after recycling and landfill – is clearly quantified and understood
- supporting recycling through *extended producer responsibility*
- tackling *waste crime*

During his speech, Dr. Davies highlighted ESA's close working with Defra, BEIS and the Environment Agency in the past year, and welcomed the recent Budget announcements on plastics and an additional £30 million government funding to fight waste crime.

In his speech at the annual event, Dr. Davies said:

***“Sparing no blushes the ESA is a great partner for Defra’s strategy work, with our capability to provide robust evidence, to convene world-class experts from across its Members to develop and test ideas, and its track record as a sector that has made investments through the economic cycle.*”**

We look forward to the closest of working relationships as the Resources and Waste Strategy is developed over the next 12 months.”

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

For further details please visit www.esauk.org

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