

10 THINGS WE HAVE DONE FOR OUR MEMBERS IN 2022

1 Held the Environment Agency to account to improve performance
Permitting delays are continuing to hamper investment. We have lobbied senior decision-makers and Government, leading to a significant increase in resources allocated to the permitting function of the Environment Agency, and we have been assured their performance should improve. If not, we will continue to lobby for improvements.



2 Continued to press for fast-track reforms to tackle waste crime
Waste crime undercuts legitimate businesses, damages the environment and impacts the health of people. As a priority, we have engaged with the Government Select Committee inquiry and a National Audit Office investigation into waste crime. Our lobbying has highlighted the impact of waste crime and helped Government develop measures to tackle it.



3 Brought sense and flexibility for managing Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)
ESA proactively engaged with the Environment Agency and Defra, successfully influencing them to improve their approaches to management of waste streams containing POPs. ESA's evidence continues to play an important role in influencing the way that the EA regulates hazardous and difficult waste streams in a more proportionate and practical way.



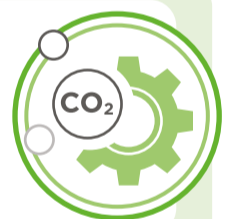
4 Influenced recycling policy development with practical evidence
Working with our members, we developed a detailed picture of the potential implications of the Resources and Waste Strategy reforms on MRFs and sorting facilities. This evidence and insight was shared with Defra to help inform and shape better, more evidence-driven future policy.



5 Led on health and safety culture and performance
Our health and safety working groups have continued to develop industry-leading guidance and support. Health and safety performance of ESA members continues to out-perform that of non-members, meaning fewer accidents and injuries, and better and safer places to work.



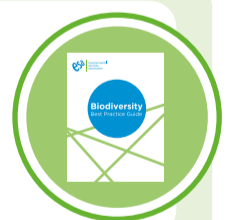
6 Helped to secure eligibility of carbon capture funding for Energy-from-Waste (EfW)
Working with members and external partners, we have secured Government funding for EfW providers that are investing in carbon capture technology, via the Industrial Carbon Capture Business Model. We continue to work with BEIS to ensure EfW waste contracts effectively support early investment in CCS.



7 Promoted the value of industry supported heat networks
Working with industry stakeholders and members, we highlighted the economic value EfW heat networks can offer the UK. We showed how vital the industry would be in the decarbonisation of heat through the development of a joint heat network report with BEIS and by publishing our Heat Network Directory.



8 Created best practice guides for social value and biodiversity protection
We have highlighted the important role the waste and resource industry can play in identifying practical ways to protect, restore, and enhance biodiversity, whilst embedding social value into procurement and contract management, through the development of two best practice guides: "Biodiversity Best Practice Guide" and "Social Value Framework".



9 Represented the industry in Wales
We continued to regularly engage with Natural Resources Wales and the Welsh Government on consultations on regulatory fees and charges as well as new recycling regulations for non-domestic premises, to ensure that the sector's expertise and perspective is properly taken into account in waste and resources policies and regulations in Wales.



10 Represented the industry in Scotland
We ensured our members' views and their activities were represented and considered in policy-making in Scotland through engagement with Scottish Government and key stakeholders. We provided challenge, insight, and evidence to matters such as Circular Economy Bill, Commercial Waste Zoning, Scottish Government Incineration Review and management of persistent organic pollutants.

