

# The Environment Act: How will the Act contribute to climate change actions within local councils?



**Wednesday 23 February**

Microsoft Teams

# Programme

10:00 Session 1

## Welcome from the Chair

**Paul O'Brien, APSE Chief Executive**

### The New Office for Environmental Protection

- The Office for Environmental Protection: A new public body
- What is the role of The OEP – a body created in November 2021, under the Environment Act 2021
- What should local authorities expect from the OEP?

**Richard Greenhous, Chief of Staff, The Office for Environmental Protection**

### The importance of access to Green Infrastructure for people and places

- The why, what and how principles of good green infrastructure
- Levelling up access to green infrastructure for all citizens
- The Beta Green Infrastructure Mapping Tool providing a baseline of GI across England.

**Clare Warburton, Principal Adviser, Natural England**

### Biodiversity Net Gain: A new requirement for developments

- What is Biodiversity Net Gain?
- How can we improve land development projects?
- Mandatory improvement of biodiversity by at least 10%
- Using planning to avoid unnecessary disturbance to land and species

**Rebecca Moberly, Principal Consultant, Environment, Planning Advisory Service, Local Government Association**

### Audience question and answer session

11:30 Virtual Coffee Break

11:45 Session 2

### The 25 year Environment Plan

- The national ambitions with global impact
- Cleaner air and water; plants and animals which are thriving
- A cleaner, greener economy
- Where does the Environment Act fit into the 25-year plan?

**Rosily Jones, Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Team Leader, DEFRA**

### Improving air quality: Developing Clean Air Zones

- The impact of ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) and nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>) emissions from intensive farming practices and fossil fuels.
- How can these be reduced to improve air quality and support biodiversity?
- The Plantlife report for Wales: Lessons for the UK
- Restoring wildlife species and habitats

**Jenny Hawley, Policy Manager, Plantlife**

### Audience question and answer session

13:00 Virtual lunch break

13:45 Session 3

### Reducing waste: Supporting a circular economy

- Recycling consistency
- How can we limit waste production using producer responsibility?
- Ensuring recycling consistency through manufacturers and retailers
- Working across sectors to achieve change

**Tim Walker – ARC21 and Environment Agency, Advisory Committee on Packaging**

### Deposit Return Schemes: What are the lessons from Scotland?

- The purposes of a DRS
- What materials / containers are covered
- The practicalities of implementation
- Issues for local authority waste and recycling collections

**Charlie Devine, Service Manager – Waste Partnership, Dundee City Council**

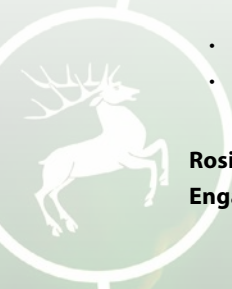
### Food and Garden Waste; Where to now in preparation for statutory changes?

- Reducing waste
- The plans for unified collections
- Increasing recycling
- Food and Garden Waste – What is now expected of councils?

**Tara Dumas, Waste and Recycling Manager, Environment, Denbighshire Council**

### Audience question and answer session

15:00 Seminar close



# Seminar Objectives

## About this Event

The Environment Act 2021 received Royal Assent in November 2021. It has been trailed as legislation that will 'protect and enhance our environment for future generations'.

The new Act has a focus on clean air, restoring natural habitats, increasing biodiversity, reducing waste and make better use of our resources, including improving recycling and introducing a Deposit Return Scheme.

Whilst the Act applies to England on the whole there are some reserved areas which could apply to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Nevertheless, the Act remains significant because all of the UK administrative areas have adopted or are adopting many of the approaches contained in the Act. Scotland for example is already ahead in its proposals for a Deposit Return Scheme, whilst the Wales (Environment) Act 2016 also seeks to preserve and advance a more circular economy and protection of biodiversity and species habitats. In Northern Ireland there are many developments including legislative programmes to tackle the environment.

Understanding this new legislation will therefore be essential to those working in a range of council areas and roles.

## Who should attend?

This seminar will be suitable for:

- Chief Executive and Council Leaders
- Directors and Heads of Service
- Cabinet members and executive members for the Environment as well as planning committee members
- Senior managers with responsibility for Green Infrastructure and Parks
- Housing, planning and regeneration including biodiversity net gain policy development
- Air quality matters, walking and cycling routes
- Refuse, recycling and disposal
- Waste policy development including Deposit Return Scheme issues and food and garden waste collection systems
- Environmental services and directorates

## About the Seminar

This event will be hosted on MS Teams. All delegates will be asked to follow our [online protocols](#) to ensure fair access and enjoyment for all delegates. APSE will ensure timely breaks for delegates and presentations will be shared following the event by email. If any delegate needs a certificate of attendance for their personal development portfolio we would be happy to provide one upon request.



# Booking Information

## Delegate Packages Exclusive of VAT

### What's included?

*The delegate fee covers attendance, delegates' documentation, lunches and light refreshments.*

APSE member delegate fee:	<b>£99 + VAT</b>
Non member delegates fee:	<b>£155 + VAT</b>
Commercial delegates:	<b>£255 + VAT</b>

Click [here](#) to reserve your place on this event

**CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY:** Reservation is a contract. Substitution of delegates is acceptable any time in writing by email to **MEgerton@apse.org.uk**. Cancellations must be made in writing at least 10 working days before the event, and will incur a 20% administration fee. No refunds can be given for cancellations received less than 10 working days before the event or for nonattendance. In the unlikely event of cancellation by the organisers, liability will be restricted to the refund of fees paid. The organisers reserve the right to make changes to the programme, speakers or mode of delivery should this become necessary. If due to emergency action by UK Governments/Administrations or Public Agencies this event is postponed, for example for reasons of public health and safety, the organisers will transfer your booking to the replacement event or provide a credit voucher against a future event booking.